

# A SMART AND RESILIENT ENERGY UNION: OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES FOR THE HEAT SECTOR

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The EU Strategy for Heating and Cooling is the result of the increasingly positive attention policy-makers have been giving the Heating and Cooling (H&C) sector, and is a fundamental step in the recognition of its key role in the overall EU climate and energy objectives.

The Strategy has the potential to lay solid and long-lasting foundations. The main objective of the Heat Strategy should be to define a pathway to achieve a sustainable, competitive and secure heat sector for Europe. Existing and upcoming policy initiatives should be developed in a coherent way as exposed in the timeline overleaf.

## Key recommendations for the renewable heat industry:

- **More attention should be paid to the energy system as a whole.** Renewables for heating and cooling are available and are ready to deliver. Their potential needs to be fully reached.
- **A level playing field in the heat sector is not yet in place.** Urgently, fossil fuels subsidies must be phased-out and their externalities priced.
- **Renewable energy and energy efficiency go hand in hand.** They must be addressed at the same time as they face similar barriers and can generate synergies.
- **Special attention should be paid to the correct implementation of existing legislation,** which should be strengthened beyond 2020.
- **Policy makers should also promote awareness** by informing individual, commercial, and industrial consumers as well as local public authorities and installers about all available options.
- **RD&I in renewable heat technologies is needed to reduce costs, enhance system performance, and facilitate their integration.** For the long-term the objective is to reach higher temperatures, which will be essential to decarbonise all industrial sectors.

## RENEWABLE HEATING AND COOLING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS



**Communication Contact:**  
Jean-Baptiste Boucher  
[boucher@aebiom.org](mailto:boucher@aebiom.org)

**Policy Contact:**  
Nathalie Hemeleers  
[Hemeleers@aebiom.org](mailto:Hemeleers@aebiom.org)



**Communication Contact:**  
Alexandra Latham  
[a.latham@egec.org](mailto:a.latham@egec.org)

**Policy Contact:**  
Luca Angelino  
[l.angelino@egec.org](mailto:l.angelino@egec.org)



**Communication Contact:**  
Theresa Doetsch  
[theresa.doetsch@estif.org](mailto:theresa.doetsch@estif.org)

**Policy Contact:**  
Stefano Lambertucci  
[stefano.lambertucci@estif.org](mailto:stefano.lambertucci@estif.org)

# Pathways to a smart and resilient energy union

