

Citizens' summary

EU communication – using technology for energy efficiency

WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

- Because information and communication technologies are now so embedded in European society, they can be the key tool that **helps the EU meet its emissions and energy savings targets for 2020**
- These technologies can help reduce energy use and carbon emissions across the economy, **reducing total carbon emissions by some 15% by 2020**
- The amount of energy they can save could **outweigh the energy they consume by five to ten times**

HOW CAN TECHNOLOGY HELP?

- by **helping all of us precisely measure our energy consumption**, so we can make informed decisions on whether and how to change habits and lifestyles.
- by providing **technological solutions** that help all sectors of the economy save energy – e.g. holding videoconferences rather than meeting in person.

WHAT DOES THE COMMUNICATION SAY?

- Action must be taken by everyone – not just the technology sector but also governments and public authorities, industry in general and users
- The barriers that hamper the deployment and use of technological solutions must be removed
- There is a need for common ways of measuring energy performance so that the effectiveness of technological solutions can be reliably assessed

Specific actions (with a **clear timetable** and subject to **progress assessment**):

- the technology sector should **set itself ambitious targets** to show what is possible
- **other sectors should use technology solutions** to help reduce their carbon footprint
- the technology industry should provide **tools to measure energy savings, costs and emissions reductions** – to help businesses and consumers change their behaviour.

WHY IS IT RIGHT FOR THE EU TO ACT?

- Energy saving is an issue that **affects all countries**
- It is a **complex** problem that requires work in **many different sectors**

- This **requires a coordinated approach**, at EU level.

The Commission will encourage its member countries to coordinate their efforts and share best practice among themselves.

Data for search engines	
Title tag (<i>± 70 characters with spaces</i>)	Technology and energy efficiency - EU communication (summary)
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