

# Carbon Pricing: Implementation & Challenges (EU ETS/Germany)

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### **EU ETS Overview**



#### Current - 2016:

#### Germany:

- 1,863 installations
- 453.5 million t CO<sub>2e</sub>
- 0.6 % < 2015

#### Europe:

- 11,000 installations
- 1.75 billion t CO<sub>2e</sub>
- 2.9 % < 2015

**Source:** EEA, Trends and projections in the EU ETS 2017 UBA/DEHSt, VET Bericht 2016



### **EU ETS Phase I - III overview**

#### Gases

Initially, the EU ETS focused on  $CO_2$ N<sub>2</sub>O and PFCs were added in phase III.

Point of regulation

#### Downstream

#### Sectors

**Energy:** Power and heat generation **Industry:** Energy-intensive sectors incl. oil refineries, iron and steel, aluminium, metals, cement, lime, glass, ceramics, pulp, paper, cardboard, acids, and bulk organic chemicals **Aviation** 

#### Thresholds

**Energy:** > 20 MW total rated thermal input **Industry:** Varying thresholds for different sectors; Small installations with fewer than 25,000 tons of  $CO_2e$  may be excluded **Aviation:** 10,000t  $CO_2/year$  **EU ETS: ca. 11** 



C<sub>2</sub>/year EU ETS: ca. 11,000 installations & 45 % GHG emissions.



### **EU ETS Phase I - III overview**

#### Caps from Phase I to Phase III



### **EU ETS Phase I - III overview**





### Establishing an ETS Organizing Support on all Levels

Consultations with ...

- Other Ministries involved e.g. in Germany "Interministerial Committee for Climate"
- Members of Parliament to ensure support by relevant political parties
- Stakeholders from covered sectors

in Germany

- > Working Group on Emissions Trading (AGE):
  - Permanent stakeholder consultation on all questions of ETS
  - including representatives from companies, trade associations, environmental NGOs, trade unions, parliamentary factions of political parties, federal states and agencies
- Complemented by high-level consultations with CEOs of major companies in the implementation phase



### Establishing an ETS Steps to implement the ETS

#### Define key design features

- What kind of system suits best regarding your national circumstances?
- Will existing data suffice for your decisions or do you need to collect additional data?
- How to ensure the ETS will be compatible with systems you envision linking with or beeing part in the future?

#### Legal Basis

Establish legal basis needed for the key design elements

#### Institutional Basis

Define or create institutions responsible for implementing the ETS



### Establishing an ETS Key Design Features

- Coverage : Sectors / Greenhouse Gases
- Cap : Achievable Reduction & Required Contribution to national GHG target
- Allocation : Auctioning / Benchmarking / Grandfathering / Carbon Leakage Protection
- MRV : "a tonne must be a tonne"
- Compliance : Checks to be carried out / Sanctions and Penalties
- **Registry** : **Electronic infrastructure** to facilitate compliance & trading
- Flexibility : Managing supply & demand



### **Establishing an ETS** Institutional Capacity Needs





### Establishing an ETS Pilot Phase - Learning by Doing

Learning is possible only in a "real" system

#### "Hard Framework"

- Clear obligations for covered participant and providing for sanctions to ensure compliance
- Verified data ensure information basis for subsequent more ambitious trading periods

#### "Soft Start"

- Starting with a cap providing for manageable reduction efforts
- Cost free allocation & Phasing-in Auctioning
- Additional policies can reconcile economic impacts (e.g. by developing renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, solutions for carbon leakage)



### EU ETS Achievements

- ETS infrastructure works well, robust database available, high compliance level
- EU-wide harmonization from Phase I to Phase III (e.g. EU-wide cap, allocation rules, MRVA, Union registry...)
- Learned from mistakes (overallocation, windfall profits, criminal actions...)
- Emissions reductions have been achieved
  - EU: 24,2 % in 2015 compared to 2005 in ETS sector
- Behavioral changes within companies higher awareness of carbon costs and inclusion in investment decisions
- Market of emission allowances has matured and performs
  comparably to other markets of related commodities



### EU ETS Challenges: Oversupply

- Accumulated surplus of approx. 1,7 billion allowances in 2016 and decline in CO<sub>2</sub> allowance prices (2008: 25 €; 2016 5 €)
- Surplus caused by ...
  - Financial and economic crisis resulted in reduction of output and emissions, which has not been anticipated
  - Considerable proportion of credits from project-based mechanisms
- Scarcity needs to be restored to give incentives for long-term investments
- EU ETS can not contribute to the 2050 long-term goal of 80 95 % emission reduction



### EU ETS Structural Reform Phase III

- Establishing a "Market Stability Reserve" (MSR)
- Start Date:
  - First publication of "Allowances in Circulation" in 2017: 1.7 billion t CO<sub>2</sub>
  - First transfer of allowances into the MSR in 2019
- Backloading 2014 2016:
  - 900 million t CO<sub>2</sub> to be directly transferred to MSR
- Unallocated Allowances:
  - To be directly transferred to MSR at the end of 3rd trading period

Allowances Issued minus Verified Emissions = Allowances in Circulation (Surplus)





### EU ETS Structural Reform Phase IV

- 9 November 2017: EU legislative bodies agreed on EU ETS reform for Phase IV to strengthen the ETS again, i.a.
  - Cap reduction by 2.2 % p.a. instead of 1.74 %
  - **Doubling MSR intake rate** from 12 % to **24 % between 2019 and 2023** to restore scarcity in the early years of Phase IV
  - 2023: Cancellation of allowances in the MSR exceeding the total amount of allowances auctioned in the previous year (approx. 2 billion EUAs will be invalidated)
  - Avoiding "Waterbed Effect": Member States phasing out coal are enabled to cancel allowances for the installation that ceased operation



### EU ETS What comes next?

- Phase IV reform will strengthen the EU ETS again and will restore its price signal
- Performance and results of the MSR will be reviewed in Phase IV
- Further improvements?
  - Cap reduction of 2.2 % p.a. is still not in line with the 2050 longterm goal for a net ghg neutral economy (- 95 %)
  - Better monitoring and alignment of EU ETS and other climate policies



## Thank you for your attention

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