

“20-20” and Sustainable Issues: Policy Implications

The European Commission put forward a far-reaching package of proposals that will deliver on the European Union's ambitious commitments to fight climate change and promote renewable energy up to 2020 and beyond. The "Climate action and renewable energy package" sets out the contribution expected from each European Member State to meeting the European targets and proposes a series of measures to help achieve them. Central to the strategy are a strengthening and expansion of the Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), and the contribute of national renewable energy targets proposed for each Member State. These measures will contribute to achieving emissions reductions and will also decrease the European Union's dependence on foreign sources of energy. This article examines the relationship between energy policy and climate change policy, in order to evidence weakness, policy contradiction and policy failure, with particular regard to EU ETS strategy (§2), renewable energy targets proposed (§3) and Strategic Energy Technology Plan (§4). These findings may have important policy implications for environmental and energy issues in Europe.

RES Target and Policy in Italy

The aim of this article is to discuss obstacles and success conditions for renewable energy sources in the Italy. The EU-Directive on the promotion of electricity produced from RES set strong targets to Italy (§2). We find that, beside the external pressure by the EU and other international obligations, these target could be achieved by a strong political support schemes for renewable energies. We discuss the national policies on RES's promotion (§3) and compare them with the framework in Germany (§4). We conclude that additional policies are clearly needed to achieve the ambitious targets set.

Sustainability and Infrastructural Policy

The purpose of this paper is to assess the effects of global financial crises on infrastructures policies. Transport, telecommunication and energy infrastructures are very important for the development of a global economy. Anyway, the recent economic crisis spreads to all sectors of the global economy and infrastructure spending is bound to be affected. We remarks the relationship between development and infrastructure policies (2), especially in Europe and Italy (3). Our opinion is that infrastructure investment policies play an important role in a country development strategy, in Europe and in Italy. (4). The paper concludes with a brief discussion of policies implication.