Renewable Heating and Cooling in the European Energy Transition

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• ~ 50% of final energy consumption in EU is in the form of heat today

• RES heat represents ~ 50% of total EU RES consumption today

• By 2030, RES H&C can provide 50% of total EU heating and cooling consumption – for a sustainable, secure, and affordable heat supply
What is the situation today?

- The heating and cooling sector is largely dominated by coal, oil and gas, leading to fossil fuel imports, vulnerability of the consumers and increased GHG emissions.

- Subsidies to fossil fuels much higher than for RES H&C: unlevelled playing field.

- Energy security crisis = heat crisis.
  - 70% of gas consumption is used as heat in residential and industrial sector.
  - We don’t need different sources of gas, we need different sources of energy.
What is the situation today?

- RES heat technologies are mature
  - They provide affordable heat for households and businesses
  - They are delivering today and can deliver more tomorrow!

- Investing in RES H&C brings net benefits:
  - For the economy: 500 000 jobs, decrease of energy dependency
  - For the environment: reduction of harmful emissions

- Electrification of heating in buildings is not a desirable solution
What is needed?

- Create a **level playing field**:
  - Phase out fossil fuel subsidies
  - Set a carbon tax and/or support emerging technologies

- **The RES directive should be implemented** properly:
  - Integration of RES H&C in building renovation and new buildings (art. 13.4). In a near future, this measure should become mandatory.
  - Leadership role of public sector in using RES for heating their buildings (art 13.3)
  - Education/training/certification of installers (art. 14)

- **Energy Efficiency** should be combined with **RES** as financial tools are very similar. Building renovation should integrate both EE and RES from the beginning.
What is needed?

- **Energy Security**: Coming revision of Regulation (EU) No 994/2010 on security of gas supply → require Member States to establish a strategy to switch from gas to RES.

- **Communication and awareness actions** at national / regional level, supported by the EU.

- Set an **expert group** to support the Commission in its coming work on a EU heat strategy?

- Addressing the challenge of financing **consumers’ higher upfront investment**
Thank you for your attention!