



### Finding the money

By David Baldock

The EU need not be embarrassed by a reputation for being a global leader on climate change – there is a political record to support such flattery. Whether it remains the case is a different question. At this stage in the approach to Copenhagen it is the willingness of the Union to put money on the table for developing countries that matters most. It has long been clear that this would be a critical issue and that the sums would be large. The Commission has suggested somewhere in the range of €2 to 15 billion per annum and most developing countries regard this as insufficient. Yet the debate on how much should be found and by which means has been left very late and has exposed entirely predictable divisions. These need to be addressed as a matter of urgency and linked to the debate on the future of the EU budget which has proceeded even more slowly during the year. A realistic offer, made before Copenhagen, would be a real sign of leadership.

At the same time there is an opportunity to reflect the low carbon challenge in the EU's own development pathway. This was recognised by José Manuel Barroso in his 'Political Guidelines', outlining for the European Parliament his priorities for the new Commission. The Swedish Presidency helpfully has sought to widen the agenda by emphasising the need for a more comprehensive approach to resource efficiency, stretching beyond carbon management to a more ambitious attempt to reduce Europe's global footprint. This vision has yet to be captured in an operational strategy, but here the timing is fortuitous. The renewal and refreshment of both the Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS) and the Lisbon Strategy are on the political agenda this winter. The time has come to combine an internal and external vision of Europe in a more convincing way and translate this into a series of concrete steps that deserve the name of a strategy.



David Baldock  
Director

*Throughout the summer and autumn IEEP is running an initiative to support MEPs on climate change. This commenced on 15 July with the launch of a letter from a cross-party group of MEPs active on climate calling for the new Parliament to maintain momentum on efforts to combat climate change. The letter and full details of future work can be found at [www.ieep.eu/briefingsonclimate](http://www.ieep.eu/briefingsonclimate).*

---

### In this issue

1. Supporting Europe's Parliamentarians – Maintaining Momentum in Combating Climate Change
2. Future Land Use in Europe: The Environmental Challenge
3. Welcome Package for New MEPs
4. How to Remove Environmentally Harmful Subsidies
5. IEEP presents review of research on Sustainable Development Indicators
6. The EU budget review: making the case for biodiversity

### And also...

- **New!** IEEP relaunches 'the Manual' in 2010
  - IEEP conferences and events
-

## 1. Supporting Europe's Parliamentarians – Maintaining Momentum in Combating Climate Change

In June the citizens of Europe went to the polls to elect their MEPs for the 2009-2014 term. The outgoing Parliament was particularly active and ambitious on climate issues; given that some key figures left the Parliament in 2009 and the unusually high proportion of new MEPs, IEEP saw the need to raise the profile of the Parliament's past successes and support new Parliamentarians in understanding the climate agenda.

IEEP is currently working to support MEPs in understanding climate issues and upcoming priorities. Working with GLOBE EU and a group of active MEPs IEEP has developed a training programme for MEPs and their assistants. In September we launched a briefing pack examining seven key aspects of the climate agenda, from key issues for the UNFCCC's meeting in Copenhagen to understanding 2008's package of climate and energy legislation, next steps and implementation. The full pack is available in 10 EU languages at [www.ieep.eu/briefingsonclimate](http://www.ieep.eu/briefingsonclimate)

On 29 September we held the first in a series of three workshops for MEPs. This session, entitled '*How can MEPs help promote a unified and responsible EU position for Copenhagen?*' was kicked off by Jacquie McGlade, Director of the European Environment Agency and Elise Ford, Head of Oxfam International's Brussels Office. A discussion session followed including formal interventions from Sirpa Pietikäinen in the role of Chair (EPP and President of GLOBE EU), Satu Hassi (Green), Fiona Hall (ALDE), Dan Jorgensen (S&D) and Theodoros Skylakakis (EPP).

Although the session was informal, conclusions could be drawn on three topics: key elements of a future international deal; Copenhagen's place in the broader sphere of climate action (i.e. there are other priorities on the climate agenda that should be taken forward parallel to the international debate); and what MEPs can do now and at the negotiations to help promote an ambitious deal.

IEEP is organising two further events for MEPs. The first, on 3 November, will focus on financing future climate action, including the future EU budget and the role of funding in building low carbon economies. The second will consider actions needed beyond Copenhagen: how the EU will respond to a Copenhagen deal, the options and procedures, how reduction targets can be compared internationally, and what will trigger the promised increase from 20 to 30 per cent emission reductions in the EU by 2020.

MEPs' parliamentary assistants are vital to the effective functioning of the European Parliament, but rarely receive training aimed directly at their needs. To complement the events for MEPs, IEEP will therefore offer training for assistants on climate policy. While the MEP events are politically focused, these training sessions will take a step back and explain the existing legislative requirements, the underlying science, policy processes and needs that are driving the policy agenda. Training sessions will take place every Friday lunchtime from 30 October to 4 December.

For full details see <http://www.ieep.eu/climatebriefings/>

**Contact: Catherine Bowyer**

## 2. Future Land Use in Europe: The Environmental Challenge

A global population of 9 billion by 2050 requiring substantial increases in food production; 4 per cent of global cropland to be used for biofuels by 2030; regional contractions in the agricultural area expected as a result of climate change. All of these trends point to increasing pressures on agricultural land and biodiversity both within Europe and on the global scale. Trade-offs in terms of how much food is produced and the scale of environmental delivery through agriculture in the EU will be unavoidable, but decisions should be taken in the context of some level of strategic land use planning. This provides the context of the debate about the direction of a future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), and the extent to which Europe needs an agricultural policy whose basic rationale is to support farm incomes, or whether the case for European intervention should be predicated on paying farmers to deliver environmental good and services.

Under a pan-European study for DG Agriculture, IEEP is amassing the evidence base for the scale of provision of environmental public goods through agriculture in the EU, the extent of public demand, the policy response, and how the costs of provision are likely to change under a range of economic, policy and climate drivers. The study will be completed at the end of 2009 and is complemented by work IEEP is undertaking for the European Network for Rural Development to translate the analytical thinking on public goods into a policy communication strategy. The debate will run until 2011-2012 when the political horse-trading begins, and compromises are reached in relation to other EU budgetary priorities and agreements under the WTO. Linking the rationale for a future CAP to environmental delivery can only strengthen the case to continue to allocate a sizeable proportion of the EU budget to agriculture.

**Contact: Tamsin Cooper**

### 3. Welcome Package for New MEPs

In June 2009 a new European Parliament was elected for a five year term, which runs from 2009 to 2014. To prepare newly-elected Members of European Parliament (MEPs) that sit on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee, IEEP led a study for the European Parliament to produce a 'Welcome Package' on the Environment. Separate Welcome Packages on Public Health and Food Safety were produced by other contractors. IEEP researchers from across the institute, together with our partners in Ecologic, Bio Intelligence Service and the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), were involved in this extensive study.

The Environment Welcome Package includes an introduction to EU environmental policy and how it has developed over time; provides an overview of key legislative measures proposed or adopted in the 2004–2009 period; suggests issues MEPs may wish to raise at upcoming hearings of the Environment Commissioner-designate; lists possible legislative ideas and suggestions based on previous initiatives of the Parliament that could be taken forward in the new term; reviews implementation of selected items of environmental legislation; and provides an overview of upcoming deadlines and the implementation status of environmental legislation.

The Welcome Package was produced in English, French and German and was distributed to MEPs in the Committee over the summer.

The document can be downloaded at:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/committees/studies/download.do?language=en&file=26671>

**Contact: Sirini Withana**

### 4. How to Remove Environmentally Harmful Subsidies

The EU has a long-standing commitment to removing environmentally harmful subsidies (EHS), which it has reiterated in several key strategies. Removing EHS is a particularly contentious issue and progress has been slow, but recent environmental and economic challenges are providing renewed motivation to address the issue.

The current fiscal crisis presents an opportunity for governments to revise their budgets and increase revenues. The removal of EHS would create revenues, cut CO2 emissions and reduce other environmental impacts. In many cases it would also create opportunities to increase social equity.

On 16 September 2009, IEEP organised a workshop on the identification and assessment of EHS, which was attended by many high-level experts and policy makers. The workshop revealed an emergent interest in EHS reform, prompted by the need to secure increased revenues to tackle the fiscal crisis and the desire for greater transparency in public finances. Member State representatives and Commission officials from DG ECOFIN and DG TAXUD considered the time ripe for action on EHS. Some countries, one example being France, are already identifying EHS to remove or reform for the better.

At the EU level, the upcoming reviews of the Sustainable Development Strategy and the Lisbon Strategy offer opportunities for EHS reform to be set within the EC's policy priorities.

There are also prospects for action at the international level. At the G20 meeting in September, Heads of State approved a US-backed proposal to phase out fossil fuel subsidies in the mid-term, calling on their energy and finance ministers to report on strategies and timelines for implementing this 'critical commitment' by 2010.

It is crucial that policy makers have improved access to tools to identify and assess EHS. To contribute to this, IEEP is currently leading a project for the European Commission to test the OECD tools developed for this purpose. The project will produce operational guidelines for the use of these tools in policy making; the results of the project will be available in December 2009.

The presentations from the IEEP workshop can be found at: <http://www.ieep.eu/whatsnew/newsitem.php?item=207>

**Contact: Carolina Valsecchi**

### 5. IEEP presents review of research on Sustainable Development Indicators

On 30 September, Marc Pallemarts presented the results of an IEEP study reviewing EU-funded research on Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs). The review was commissioned by DG Research and was presented at the conference Research on Sustainable Development Indicators: Taking Stock of Results and Identification of Research Needs, organised jointly by the Sustainable Development Unit of DG Research and EUROSTAT. The Conference was hosted by EUROSTAT in Luxembourg, back-to-back with a meeting of its Working Group on Sustainable Development Indicators. The Working Group brings together experts from the Member States and EU institutions to develop indicators for monitoring progress on the

implementation of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS). The final results of two FP6 projects on SDIs - INDI-LINK and DECOIN - were also presented.

IEEP's report reflected on the research projects carried out so far on SDIs – projects that have been funded under the FP6 and FP7 research programmes in the context of their supporting role for the EU SDS. The report includes a review of over 40 such research projects. The analysis of these projects was also placed within the wider context of other EU and international activities on Sustainable Development Indicators. The purpose of the review was to help DG Research identify future research needs and to prompt discussion on the trends and remaining research gaps at the conference.

The review found that while some areas of the SDS (such as sustainable transport) have attracted numerous research projects, others (such as public health and sustainable consumption and production) have to date been relatively under-researched.

The report can be found on IEEP's website at: <http://www.ieep.eu/publications/publications.php?pub=68552>

**Contact: Camilla Adelle**

## 6. The EU budget review: making the case for biodiversity

Financing from the Community budget forms a very important part of the overall EU funding devoted to biodiversity conservation. However, it is commonly considered that the Community budget's financial contribution to biodiversity remains low, in particular when the threats facing biodiversity at the global and European level are escalating and biodiversity and related ecosystem services continue to be lost.

In 2006 the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed to undertake an extensive review of the EU budget. The budget review reflects the recognition that the recent EU financial frameworks fall short of reflecting current policy objectives and priorities. The budget review provides a valuable opportunity to make the case for increased levels of funding for biodiversity in the future.

However, the bulk of the debate on the future of the EU budget so far has concentrated on a few high profile items such as future financing of the Common Agricultural (CAP) and Cohesion policies. While the focus on certain new environmental priorities such as climate change is to be welcomed, it must not overshadow consideration of other important issues; biodiversity conservation needs to be much closer to the heart of the EU budget negotiations than it is now.

In November IEEP and WWF will be launching a short discussion paper to raise the profile of biodiversity in the context of the EU budget. The paper will highlight the need for greater Community spending in this area in future, with the aim of encouraging biodiversity stakeholders at the EU and Member State level to participate actively in the ongoing budget debate.

**Contact: Marianne Kettunen**

---

## **New! IEEP relaunches 'the Manual' in 2010**

The IEEP Manual for European Environmental Policy is a comprehensive source on EU environmental policy, well known to many in the environmental policy field. Many of the long-standing users will be happy to know that this comprehensive guide is evolving with the times and will be available online in 2010.

The relaunch will give the Manual a new form and structure, additional features, regular updates by an interdisciplinary team of experts, and direct links to relevant EU legislation and communications.

IEEP and the new publisher, Earthscan, plan to take the Manual to new heights in both quality and recognition.

More details and subscription can be found at <http://www.ieep.eu/publications/manual.php>

For more information on the IEEP Manual please contact: **Camilla Adelle**

## IEEP conferences and events

*In the coming months IEEP will organise or participate in the following meetings and events. If you would like to find out more, do not hesitate to contact us.*

### **Training programme on climate policy for MEP assistants – Brussels (Belgium), October-December 2009**

This programme of training is being developed by IEEP and GLOBE, and coordinated by Catherine Bowyer and Megan Lewis. It will be delivered by IEEP's expert team, including Andrew Farmer, Camilla Adelle, Catherine Bowyer, Emma Watkins, Jane Desbarats, Marc Pallemmaerts, Patrick ten Brink, Pernille Schiellerup and Tamsin Cooper, as well as a range of external speakers.

#### **Session 1 - 30 October 2009**

Overview of EU Climate Policy: its development, key dossiers and future priorities, including a focus on comitology in the context of the renewable energy Directive.

#### **Session 2 - 6 November 2009**

Achieving positive outcomes for climate change at Copenhagen and reflections on the role of the EU and Commission.

#### **Session 3 - 13 November 2009**

The UNFCCC, international carbon trading and agreements building towards Copenhagen: examining how the negotiations operate from an EU perspective and anticipated key steps for the EU following Copenhagen.

#### **Session 4 - 20 November 2009**

Adaptation, land use, biodiversity and water: examining the interconnectivity of these issues and how we can deliver EU policy that enables protection and proactive action.

#### **Session 5 - 27 November 2009**

Future of energy efficiency, often known as the 'low hanging fruit' of climate action: how can we deliver efficiency gains and what is the role of key upcoming dossiers?

#### **Session 6 - 4 December 2009**

Future of EU financing: examining the EU budget, the Parliament's role in negotiations, other key economic instruments such as subsidy reform, and key future debates such as valuing environmental services.

Contact: [Catherine Bowyer](#), [Megan Lewis](#)

### **'The Provision of Public Goods Through Agriculture' and 'The Measurement and Pricing of Public Goods' - Arantzazu (Spain), 14-16 October 2009**

Tamsin Cooper will be giving a key-note presentation on the 'Provision of Public Goods through Agriculture in the EU' and Kaley Hart will be presenting a paper on 'The Measurement and Pricing of Public Goods' at a conference organised by Euromontana - "How communities and land management provide positive externalities for European society - related policies and opportunities".

Contact: [Tamsin Cooper](#), [Kaley Hart](#)

### **Seminar on Cohesion Policy and Climate Change - Brussels (Belgium), 26 October 2009**

This workshop is hosted by DG Regio, and is being attended by regional experts from across the EU and from the World Bank. Jane Desbarats is participating as an expert on climate change policy and will deliver a presentation on the potential of cohesion policy to deliver on climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives.

Contact: [Jane Desbarats](#)

### **'Getting into the Right Lane for 2050' - Brussels (Belgium), 30 October 2009**

David Baldock will chair the launch of the 'Getting into the Right Lane for 2050' programme, an initiative by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency and the Stockholm Resilience Centre aiming to contribute to the political debate in 2009 and beyond. The programme elaborated inputs for long-term EU strategies addressing a range of global issues, including climate change, biodiversity loss and energy security. The event will be held at the Swedish Permanent Representation to the EU.

Contact: [David Baldock](#)

### **Workshop: The Future of European Financing for Climate Action – Brussels (Belgium), 3 November 2009**

This is the second in a series of lunchtime workshops for MEPs, organised by IEEP and GLOBE, coordinated by Catherine Bowyer. This session will focus on financing the transition of Europe to a low carbon economy. Questions for discussion will include: 'What are the funding sources?'; 'On what should EU funding for climate be spent?'; and 'What are the priorities for reform?'

Contact: [Catherine Bowyer](#)

***Official Launch of TEEB for Policy Makers report – Brussels (Belgium), 13 November 2009***

The TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) for National and International Policy Makers report will be launched in the Commission press centre to invited environment ministers. This report, coordinated by Patrick ten Brink, communicates the opportunities and urgency of addressing the biodiversity crisis, highlighting the economic effects and policy tools to respond to the challenge.

Contact: [Patrick ten Brink](#)

***Environmental Law and Policy in the European Union: The Legacy of the Treaty of Amsterdam - Amsterdam (The Netherlands), 19 November 2009***

This conference is organised by the University of Amsterdam. Marc Pallemmaerts will chair the morning session, focusing on the links between the Amsterdam and Lisbon Treaties, internal market issues and harmonisation of EU environmental policy. David Baldock will chair an afternoon panel on the future of European environmental law in times of economic upheaval and political change.

Contact: [Marc Pallemmaerts](#), [David Baldock](#)

***Federation of Swedish Farmers (LRF) conference on the future CAP – Stockholm (Sweden), 25 November 2009***

The purpose of this conference is to present and discuss how the CAP can be designed in the future. David Baldock will participate and present some thoughts on how to consider the future of the CAP, in connection to the challenges presented in the CAP Health Check.

Contact: [David Baldock](#)

***Workshop: Responding to an International Deal – Securing EU Ambition beyond Copenhagen – Brussels (Belgium), 1 December 2009***

This is the third and final lunchtime workshop for MEPs, organised by IEEP and GLOBE, coordinated by Catherine Bowyer. This session will address questions fundamental to the EU negotiating position, particularly the level of agreement needed to trigger a shift in the EU commitment to a 20 per cent reduction target by 2020 to the 30 per cent target it proposed.

Contact: [Catherine Bowyer](#)