Industrial Carbon Management Strategy for Europe

The European Union is committed to reaching 'net zero' CO_2 emissions by 2050. While the major part of this effort will come from reducing current emissions levels in the coming years, we will also need technologies that can capture CO_2 or remove it directly from the atmosphere and then store or utilise it. These technologies will focus on sectors where emissions are particularly difficult or costly to reduce, such as the process emissions in cement or waste-to-energy for example. The Commission has therefore adopted an <u>Industrial Carbon Management Communication</u>, which provides details on how these technologies could contribute to reducing emissions by 90% by 2040 and reaching climate neutrality by 2050.

The Commission identifies a set of actions to be taken at EU and national level to enable the deployment of these technologies and the necessary infrastructure to **establish a single market for CO₂ in Europe** in the decades ahead:

The Commission will start preparatory work on a possible future **CO2 transport and storage** regulatory package.

The Commission will also assess the volumes of CO_2 that need to be removed directly from the atmosphere (industrial carbon removals) to meet the EU's emissions reduction ambitions for 2040 and 2050 and assess overall objectives and policy measures to achieve them. This will include an assessment of how removals and permanent storage could be accounted for under the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS).

To help scale up the market for capture and permanent storage of CO₂ emissions, the Commission will establish guidance for project permitting processes and set up an atlas of potential storage sites.

The Commission aims to establish a clear carbon accounting framework for utilisation of captured CO_2 as a resource, which would reflect the climate benefits of using CO_2 as a resource in industrial processes.