Party:	Pollutant(s):
European Union	Primarily: SO <sub>X</sub> , NO <sub>X</sub> , NMVOC, PM <sub>10</sub> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> ,
	O <sub>3</sub> , NH <sub>3</sub> and black carbon
	Also: carbon monoxide, benzene, heavy metals
	(Cd, Hg, Pb, As, Cr, Cu, Ni, Se and Zn and their
	compounds) and POPs (total PAHs,
	benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(b)fluoranthene,
	benzo(k)fluoranthene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene,
	dioxins/furans, PCBs, HCB, dioxins/furans)
Protocol(s):	Sector:
1999 Protocol to Abate Acidification,	Multi-sector approach including agriculture,
Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone and its	industry, transport, energy.
2012 amended version	
1998 Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants	
(POPs) and its 2009 amended version	
1998 Protocol on Heavy Metals and its 2012	
amended version	
Type of strategy, policy or measure and the	Method used for the current analysis:
level of implementation:	Qualitative assessment
Dialogue and awareness-raising	

What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented?

The **EU Clean Air Forum**, which stems from EU clean air legislation, is a major clean air policy event supporting implementation of EU clean air legislation and policies. The Forum includes high-level interventions, panel discussions, and expert exchanges.

The Forum is a meeting place bringing together several hundreds (on site, and high numbers on line) of clean air stakeholders and interested parties including competent authorities of the Member States at all relevant levels, the European Commission, industry, civil society, and the scientific community for two days of intense dialogue and discussions on a wide range of topics of relevance to EU clean air policy. It takes place every two years at different locations in the EU.

The main objective of the measure is to engage the key stakeholders in dialogue and information-sharing, to inform about and promote good practices and to inspire to more ambitious commitments to air pollution reduction measures. It is an EU-wide measure but also including speakers and participants from outside the EU.

The first implementation of the measure was in 2017, at the first Clean Air Forum in Paris, France. The second Clean Air Forum was held 2019 in Bratislava, Slovakia.

The third Clean Air Forum was held 2021 in Madrid, Spain.

The fourth Clean Air Forum is planned for 23-24 November 2023 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

## **Background and driving forces:**

The measure is part of the overall European Union environmental policy and the Zero Pollution Ambition under the European Green Deal.

The European Commission's 2013 Clean Air Programme for Europe<sup>1</sup> included the Commission commitment to set up a European Clean Air Forum to facilitate the coordinated implementation of this Strategy and bring together all relevant stakeholders every two years. The Clean Air Forum offers an opportunity for bringing all major stakeholders together for a high-level event with open

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Commission Communication: A Clean Air Programme for Europe, COM/2013/0918 final, <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52013DC0918">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex%3A52013DC0918</a>

discussions, mobilising partnerships across sectors and government levels.

Each Forum focuses on the key pollutants and themes of importance, based on latest analysis and assessment.

# **Description of the strategy, policy or measure:**

The Clean Air Forum is organised as a two-day event, sometimes with additional side events or back-to-back meetings.

The Forum comprises a high-level segment as well as more topic-specific sessions to discuss more in-depth.

In addition, information materials are produced for the Forum meetings (e.g. brochures, videos, reports) ensuring that the impact of the Forum goes beyond these two days and provides added value in the longer time frame.

The event is organised in close cooperation with the hosting city and Member State.

## Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

Member States volunteer for co-hosting the EU Clean Air Forum. Travel costs for participants are covered by each organisation. The European Commission covers certain costs of the event organisation and provides the human resources to prepare the agenda and Forum sessions.

#### Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Impacts are not quantified. However, outreach obtained through social media accounts is assessed. As an example, during the week of the third EU Clean Air Forum, from 15 to 22 November 2021, the hashtag #CleanAirEU reached close to 27 million Twitter and Instagram accounts globally. Outcomes from the Clean Air Forum include information exchanges and shared experiences / lessons learned between the up to 400 on-site participants (and several hundred online participants). Information materials such as brochures, fact sheets, videos and reports remain available after the event and are promoted e.g. via the Commission website and social media accounts.

## **References/Further information:**

https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/air/clean-air-forum\_en

**Contact:** 

Name: Susanne Lindahl Organisation: European Union

Address: European Commission, DG Environment, Brussels

**Telephone**: +32 2 299 5089

Email: Susanne.lindahl@ec.europa.eu

## **Additional comments:**

N/a