

Negative emissions: Our 5 demands for the new Federal Government



Negative emissions – Made in Germany

With its strengths in mechanical and plant engineering, its start-up ecosystem and its cutting-edge research, Germany has the potential to become a pioneer in negative emissions. With 190,000 jobs and annual turnover of 70 billion euro, this new industry offers enormous potential. We call on the new Federal Government to champion negative emissions at the international level. In concrete terms, it should set specific targets for negative emissions as part of the EU climate targets for 2040 and push for joint promotion at G7/EU level and in the Climate Club.

Resolutely pursue climate targets

Without negative emissions, there can be no climate neutrality. The Federal Climate Change Act (Klimaschutzgesetz, KGS) already firmly enshrines a target for natural sinks. Our forests are currently developing in the wrong direction, however. Instead of storing more CO₂, they are increasingly becoming sources of emissions. We call on the new Federal Government to introduce concrete measures to achieve the targets enshrined in the Federal Climate Change Act.

Set targets for technical processes

Germany needs a specific target for the removal and storage of CO₂ through technical processes. This will give private stakeholders the necessary planning security while getting their activities up and running and ensure that negative emissions do not lead to a weakening of reduction targets. We call on the Federal Government to adopt the long-term strategy for negative emissions (LNe) currently being developed, with separate targets for natural and technical sinks.

Promote market ramp-up

Germany must invest in negative emissions. We can make decisive progress by 2030 with just 0.2% of the federal budget. Countries such as Denmark and the US are ahead in this area – we need initial market-based support programmes and market incentives in 2025 in order to close the financing gap.

5 Provide infrastructure

Building the necessary carbon infrastructure requires streamlined approval processes and good coordination between all parties involved. We call on the Federal Government to swiftly implement the Carbon Management Strategy and to coordinate public and private stakeholders in a targeted manner within the framework of a Carbon Infrastructure task force.

Let's make Germany an attractive location for the use and export of CO₂ capture and storage processes.