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New impetus for climate policy:
making the most of Germany's dual presidency

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Summary for Policy-Makers

- 1. Climate protection: Swift action is essential**
- 2. Transforming the world's energy systems: The cornerstone of climate protection**

Lighthouse Project 1 A European Supergrid

A trans-European high-capacity power grid is proposed as a technological lighthouse project. This grid, with a transmission capacity of around 10 GW, would carry power to wherever it is needed in Europe and thus help safeguard an affordable supply in line with the Lisbon Strategy. This high-capacity grid is also needed in order to smooth the substantial fluctuations in feed-in, e.g. from wind farms, and to make the output of Norway's large hydro storage power plants available to the rest of Europe. It would also provide links to other grids (e.g. in North Africa) and make a major contribution to European grid stability. The connection to major offshore wind farms and high-capacity marine energy systems in Northern Europe could thus be achieved at affordable cost; the same applies to hookups to on-shore wind farms in regions of Africa with very high wind speeds or to solar thermal plants in regions with intense solar irradiance.

- 3 Implementing and developing the Climate Change Convention**
- 4 Agreeing an innovation pact with Road Atlas at the G8 summit**
- 5 Strengthening the EU's leading role.**