# Denmark Launches Livestock Tax to Tackle Methane Emissions in 2030



**Denmark Introduces Livestock Tax to Combat Methane Emissions in 2030**

Starting in 2030, Denmark will become the first country globally to tax its livestock farmers for the greenhouse gases emitted by their cows, sheep, and pigs. This policy is part of Denmark's goal to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 70% from 1990 levels by 2030. The taxation rate will begin at 300 kroner ($43) per ton of carbon dioxide equivalent and will rise to 750 kroner ($108) by 2035. However, due to a 60% income tax deduction, the effective cost will start at 120 kroner ($17.3) and increase to 300 kroner.

Methane, which traps significantly more heat than carbon dioxide, is a major contributor to global warming. Livestock farming is responsible for approximately 32% of human-caused methane emissions. Denmark, where agriculture accounts for a significant portion of national greenhouse gas emissions, aims to become climate-neutral by 2045.

The agreement for the tax was reached between Denmark's center-right government and various stakeholders, including farmers, industry representatives, and unions. The Danish Society for Nature Conservation praised the move as a "historic compromise."

This development in Denmark comes after New Zealand scrapped a similar proposed "burp tax" due to opposition from the agricultural sector and governmental changes. European farmers have expressed mixed reactions to Denmark's plan, calling it bureaucratic and fearing it will hinder green investments unless matched by broader European Union legislation.

The Danish Parliament is expected to approve the policy, setting a precedent for addressing agricultural methane emissions globally.