

### Biofuel binge

- 1 EUROPE's biofuel plans will produce more greenhouse emissions, not less. So says the first independent analysis of how Europe's 2020 targets will be met.
- 2 To grow biofuel crops as well as Europe's food, millions of hectares in Africa would have to be cleared. This would release more than twice as much carbon as Europe's cars would produce if they stuck with petrol.
- 3 The European Union decided in 2007 to cut greenhouse emissions by 20 per cent by 2020, partly by replacing 10 per cent of transport fuel with biofuel. Now 23 of the 27 EU countries have released their energy plans to meet the 2020 target, but they did not 41.
- 4 The Institute for European Environmental Policy calculates that 80 to 167 per cent more carbon emissions will be released from 2011 to 2020 than if the EU sticks to fossil fuels – the equivalent of another 12 to 26 million cars on the road. Despite this, the process of growing biofuel crops has started.

adapted from *The Times*, 2010