

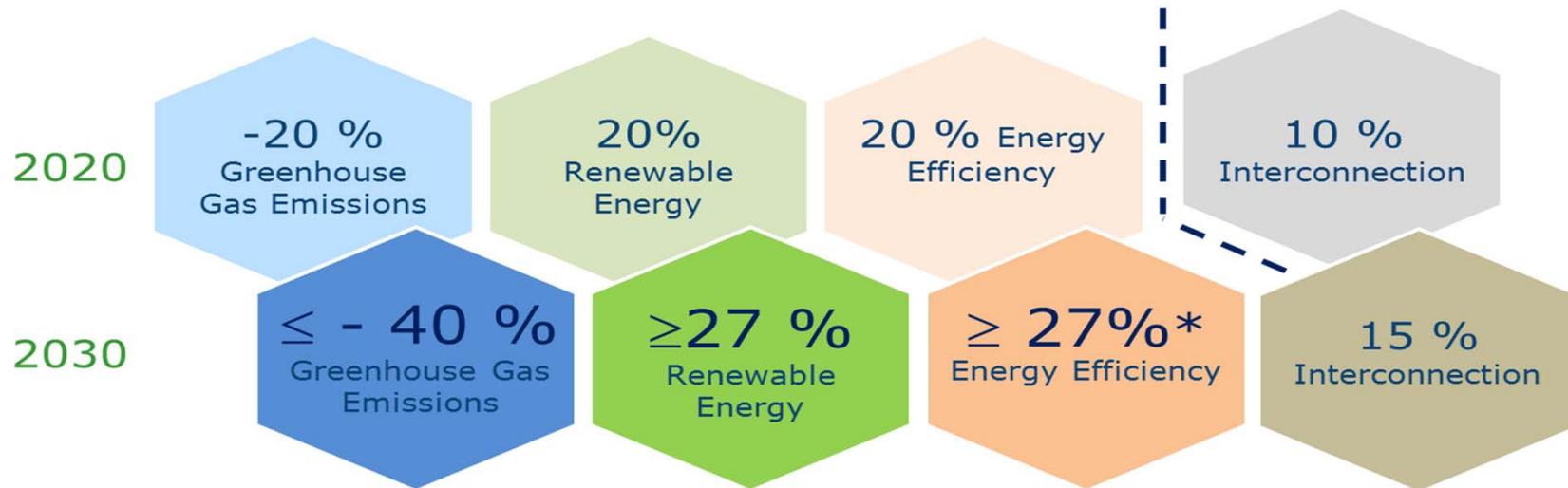
# Just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent quality jobs: the EU experience

Doha, October 2016

# Context

- Transition to a low-carbon economy has been a long-term priority for the European Union – post-Paris it's a priority for all Parties
- Making the transition presents economic and societal challenges, but also offers opportunities to create sustainable growth and new jobs
- Just transition of the workforce, and the creation of decent quality jobs an important issue for the EU – and a key part of the work plan of the improved forum on Response Measures

# EU climate policy framework



# Opportunities in the green economy

- In 2013, 4.2 million jobs in environmental sectors, up from 2.8 million in 2000
- €699bn output, €284bn value added
- Up to 6.5m jobs created or retained by 2020 in renewables, energy efficiency and reinvested ETS revenues – for example, retrofitting buildings to improve energy efficiency offers significant opportunities in the construction industry
- Knock-on supply chain benefits mean employment potential likely to be far greater

# Skills needs in the green economy

Carbon capture and storage	technically more complex operations will involve workers with a very different skill set
Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• due to energy-efficient equipment higher-skilled, higher-paying employment;</li> <li>• jobs are likely to be performed by workers who already work in the building sector. However, they will be redefined in terms of new skills, training, and certification requirements;</li> <li>• potential for highly skilled researchers and engineers. Extensive training needs in three main areas: diagnostic techniques, knowledge of renewable energy, installation, organisational skills (i.e. town planning).</li> </ul>
Cement	jobs are expected to require higher levels of skills.
Wind power industry (renewable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• many positions will require highly-skilled people;</li> <li>• universities need to consider offering entirely new study fields and majors due to technology development.</li> </ul>
Climate change	climate information and forecasting, research and development into crops adapted to new weather patterns could create specialised and high-skill employment.
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• jobs for agricultural skilled workers, clerks and craft and related trades workers will decrease;</li> <li>• requirement for skilled agricultural and fishery workers about 2.2 million in 2015</li> </ul>
Electricity	probable that, together with technical competences, management skills will be required.
Rail sector	a dangerous shortage of skilled workers is emerging. This shortage might take place by 2030.
Waste treatment and recovery/recycling	rapid technological changes are increasing the demand for new skills.

# Supporting the transition

- 20% of EU budget to be spent on climate action
- Focus on jobs and growth
- Action at EU and Member State level to support industry and workforce
- Learning from experience of previous transitions

# Two examples

## European Structural Funds

- European Social Fund support reforms in education, training and skills development, up-skilling of the labour force and creation of new jobs
- The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) promotes energy efficiency in small- and medium-sized enterprises, housing and public buildings; production and distribution of renewable energy

## Reform of the European Emission Trading System

- Proposal encourages use of auction revenues to promote skill development and reallocation of labour affected by the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Example of policy cohesion, with focus on jobs and growth

## ...and three more

UK: Low Carbon Skills Fund supports training of employees in renewables, energy efficiency, waste management and carbon management

Germany: Policies at national and local level to promote environmental awareness and adaptability of workforce; skills programmes delivered by employers

Poland: projects to improve conditions for growth of low carbon sectors , promote partnerships between government, employers and trade unions and provide skills training to workforce

# Supporting the global transition

## switchasia

- EU-funded grant programme running since 2007 with €300m funding
- 16 developing countries in Asia, >80 projects
- 9 sectors including manufacturing, agriculture, construction and tourism

The logo for switchafrica GREEN features a green outline of the African continent. The word "switchafrica" is written in blue lowercase letters, with the "i" in "switch" having a dot. The word "GREEN" is written in green uppercase letters below "africa".

switchafrica  
GREEN

- 4 year programme in 6 countries
- Covering Agriculture, Tourism, Manufacturing, Waste Management and cross-cutting themes incl. energy efficiency
- Partnership with private sector, government, local authorities and civil society

# Learning from others



**United Nations**  
Framework Convention on  
Climate Change