

Session SBI45 (2016)

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[Question by](#) Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

[Category:](#) Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) CTF Table 3

Regarding mitigation actions referred to in “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, are there any current estimates of mitigation impacts since the respective years of implementation?

[Answer by](#) Belgium, Tuesday, 18 October 2016

Studies commissioned to evaluate the impacts of policies and measures have quantified *ex-ante* and, when possible, *ex-post*, the impact of federal measures in terms of greenhouse gas emission reductions for the period 2008-2012.

Moreover, the studies provided an evaluation of the effect of the federal measures on expected emission reductions up to 2020 and estimated the remaining impact up to 2035, assuming the measure concerned being abolished after 2020.

As the time frame for the evaluation is 2008-2020/2035, part of the assessment was *ex-post*, while the biggest part of it was *ex-ante*.

New assessments are expected on March 15, 2017 in the framework of EU reporting.

[Question by](#) Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

[Category:](#) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) MRV of mitigation actions

Regarding “Greenhouse Gas Saving (ktCO₂ eq)” in “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, how the actions are being measured, reported and verified?

[Answer by](#) Belgium, Tuesday, 18 October 2016

Policies and measures are firstly categorized in different areas, along the lines of the National Climate Plan. Within each area, PAMs are classified in groups or clusters according to their complementarities (either they have the same target or their impact is on the same sources of emissions). Regional and federal policies and measures are monitored and their impact is evaluated by each authority (federal state, regions), and the results are exchanged and compiled in the context of the National Climate Commission (Working Group PAMs).

Belgian authorities (Regions and Federal state) periodically evaluate the impact of their policies and measures (GHG emission reductions). Methodologies vary depending of the type of policies, the sector, the target, the availability of data, etc. To the extent possible, these methodologies are harmonized in order to ensure transparency and comparability, allowing among others to identify the most efficient measures.

When possible, the impact of measures is evaluated based on existing statistics and indicators related to energy or climate change policies, including:

energy efficiency improvement indicators (and their CO₂ counterparts) monitored in the context of benchmark and energy efficiency agreements in industry;

Statistics on green electricity production, green and CHP certificates;

Statistics on subsidies delivered to support energy saving investments in households;

Statistics on public transports (train and buses): use and fuel consumptions.

Evaluation of emission reductions is not possible for all types of measures (for example awareness campaigns).

In some cases, information is just lacking.

In several circumstances however, if the impact of individual measures cannot be estimated, the global impact of clusters of measures, all aiming at a common objective, can be evaluated. For instance, promoting public transport includes a series of measures aiming at improving the offer of public transports (comfort, speed, connectivity, etc.), others improving parking conditions around train stations for cars and for bicycles, installing walkways and sidewalks in industrial areas, but also restricting and taxing parking conditions in downtown areas. The impact of each individual measure considered cannot be seized, but the whole cluster of measures contributes to a rise in use of public transport that can be measured. This clustering is one way to identify and limit risks of double counting.

More information on methodologies and principles underlying the estimate of the impact of federal mitigation measures on GHG emissions can be found in a dedicated study by VITO and ECONOTEC: <http://www.climat.be/evaluation-PAMs> .

More information on institutional, legal and procedural arrangements established for reporting on policies and measures can be found in Belgium's national system for policies and measures and projections (2015) (http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/be/eu/mmr/art04-13-14_lcds_pams_projections/envvfldug/).

Question by Brazil at Wednesday, 31 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: BR1-BR2 differences

It was noted that the amount of mitigation actions reported in BR2 increased with respect to BR1, however, many of these actions have had their names changed, making it difficult to have a comparative analysis. It was also noted that some of the mitigation actions launched in BR1 have names related to the actions launched in BR2, however, the starting year of the implementation is different in BR2.

Are the mitigation actions launched in BR2 CTF report new? Were the actions reported in BR1 revised and renamed in BR2? Were there changes in its initial years for the beginning of the actions? Finally, considering these questions, how can the BR1 CTF report be compared with BR2 CTF report on the differences noted?

Answer by Belgium, Tuesday, 18 October 2016

The names of a very limited number of mitigation actions reported in BR1 changed in BR2 (1 out of 113). This change was done in order to apply EU guidance for the reporting of Policies and Measures under the EU Monitoring Mechanism (Regulation (EU) No 525/2013) recommending to use the name of the specific policy used by the Member State instead of the name of EU Directive that the policy implements.

Nevertheless, codes of the measures are still unchanged, so actions can easily be tracked from BR1 to BR2.

The change of the starting year for some measures is related to recommendation of the ERT after the in-country review of the BR1: previously, the date of decision making had been filled in, rather than the date of implementation.

Question by China at Monday, 29 August 2016

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 31 August

Title: updated information on climate PaMs

As indicated by Belgium in its BR2, most entities have been in the process of defining their climate policies after the 2014 election. Could Belgium provide updated information about the progress on those decision-making processes and key elements of newly published climate plans?

[Answer by Belgium](#), Tuesday, 18 October 2016

Since 2014, the following progresses have been made :

At national level, a political agreement was reached in December 2015 on the internal burden sharing of the climate and energy objectives of Belgium for the period 2013-2020. The political agreement on the Belgian burden sharing covers:

1. greenhouse gas emissions reduction objectives, for sectors that are not covered by the EU ETS ("non-ETS" sectors)
2. renewable energy objectives
3. share of the auctioning revenues of ETS emissions allowances
4. contribution to international climate financing

This agreement will be enforced by a (legally binding) cooperation agreement between the regions and the federal state, currently in preparation in the context of the National Climate Commission. This cooperation agreement will be approved by the respective parliaments. It will contain not only the commitments of the political agreement, but will also describe implementation modalities and responsibilities.

In the context of the Energy Union, Belgium will develop national, integrated climate and energy plans contributing to the objectives of the European climate and energy package for 2030, such as the national non-ETS target, the EU's renewable and energy efficiency target, the interconnection target, The plans will focus on 2030, but need to provide an outlook to 2050 as well.

Brussels Capital Region

In order to meet all the challenges related to energy, renewable energy, climate change, air quality, the Brussels-Capital Region has developed an integrated approach. This approach has already been declined into a regulation document (Brussels Air, Climate and Energy Code - COBRACE) and into a planning document (Air, Climate, Energy Plan = PACE).

Concerning the regulatory part, the COBRACE includes among others energy performance standards for

buildings, environmental performance standards for vehicles of public authorities, restrictions on parking lots in company buildings, and the dispositions related to the emissions trading system. What is also remarkable is the creation of a climate fund to implement GHG emissions reducing measures.

Recently, and as already mentioned, the Brussels Region has adopted an air, climate and energy plan: the PACE is dedicated to ensure that Brussels achieves its 30% reduction (40%/capita) of CO₂ emissions between 1990 and 2025. It describes the Brussels Capital Region long term objectives and measures to be implemented for the 5 forthcoming years concerning notably energy - including renewable energy -, climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The numerous actions (144) make use of different types of instrument: regulations, taxations and subsidies, but also, households and professionals guidance and also communication campaigns.

The Government has recently adopted its Regional Circular Economy Programme (RCEP), the aim of which is to replace the current linear economic model (extract – produce – consume - throw away) by a circular economy (recover – produce – consume - reuse).

The RCEP includes 106 measures in 4 fields (transversal, sectorial and territorial measures + governance) aiming at :

- Transform environmental objectives into economic opportunities
- Relocate the economy in Brussels: produce locally when possible, reduce travels, optimize land use and create added value for the Brussels citizens
- Contribute to job creation.

Walloon Region

In April 2016, the Walloon Government has adopted an air, climate and energy plan (PACE). The objective of this plan is to achieve the 30% of reduction in greenhouse gas emission in Wallonia between 1990 and 2020.

The PACE includes 142 measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase air quality, improve energy efficiency and adapt Wallonia to the impacts of climate change.

All activity sectors are concerned: agriculture and forestry, industry, transport, tertiary, households and waste.

The PACE is the instrument to achieve the objectives of Climate decree. In this decree there are two main objectives: -30% GHG emissions between 1990 and 2020 and – 80 to 95% GHG emissions between 1990 and 2050.

Flemish Region

As stated in BR2, Flanders adopted its “Flemish Climate Policy Plan 2013-2020” in June 2013. This plan consists of an overall framework and two separate but closely related sections: the Flemish Mitigation Plan and the Flemish Adaptation Plan. An English summary is available on <https://www.vlaanderen.be/nl/publicaties/detail/the-flemish-climate-policy-plan->

2013-2020-1. A first progress report has been reported to the Flemish government (Dutch report) containing several additional measures.

Flanders started stakeholder consultations in 2016 in view of the development of a climate policy plan for the period 2021-2030 and a 2050 vision as part of the integrated climate and energy plan. The participative process will continue in 2017 and 2018 until the integrated plan is finalized.



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