

## Session SBI46 (2016)

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Exported from Session final result section  
Multilateral assessment  
Questions and answers Russian Federation

Question by European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Policies in LULUCF

What policy action is planned to prevent the gradual reduction of forests' GHG absorption capacities?

Answer by Russian Federation, Friday, 28 April 2017

To prevent the gradual reduction of forests' GHG absorption capacities in the Russian Federal Forestry Agency a new forest policy as a part of long-term development strategy with low GHG emissions up to 2050 is developing. Currently some proposals for the national plan to reduce GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, enhancing conservation measures, sustainable management and increasing carbon stocks in forests are discussed. For the Russian Federation State Program "Development of forestry" for 2013-2020 a specific climate change indicator will be developed. The following measures are considered:

- Guaranteed reproduction of forests on the basis of compensatory measures when converting lands of Forest Fund into lands of other categories due to the implementation of infrastructure and settlements development plans;
- Support of reforestation for any type of forest use;
- The inclusion in the Forest Fund lands of other categories those are suitable for sustainable forest plantations in order to increase the total forest area;
- To ensure the reproduction of forests located in borders of settlements, with the aim to reduce GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation;
- Monitoring of forest regeneration in the boundaries of settlements and borders of forested green belts around settlements;
- The establishment of a comprehensive agro-forestry land, including forest plantations;
- The creation of economic incentives and motivations of tenants for the use of innovative technologies of reforestation those reduce time of cultivation and ensure the quality of forest plantations;
- The obligation for the authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation to place in the Internet the information on reforestation with the aim to create a public control mechanism on activities for planning and implementation of forests reproduction measures;
- Ensuring public control over the implementation of forests reproduction measures using modern media, Internet technologies, remote sensing, photo and video recording;
- Targeted funding of the reconstruction previously created state shelterbelts in the steppe and forest-steppe areas;

- Protection of forests from fires by increasing the level of timely detection and extinguishing of forest fires;
- The further development of a remote monitoring system for forest fires;
- Development of a system to inform public about fire danger in forests and forest fires;
- Reclamation and revegetation of land subjected to the negative anthropogenic impact as a result of economic activities with the aim to reduce GHG emissions and increase carbon accumulation in forest plantations;
- The development of the domestic bioenergy market, including by promoting the use of wood as fuel in industrial and municipal power engineering;
- Improving the legal framework for the use, protection and reproduction of forests on lands not included in Forest Fund, as well as creating incentives for efficient land use and positive impact of forests on the ecological state of the territory in zones of active forests use;
- Improvement of normative legal acts for the effective implementation of a mechanism to facilitate reduction of GHG emissions and support sustainable development in the forestry sector by attracting investments from business in order to implement projects to increase carbon sinks in the forest sector on the basis of market and non-market approaches;
- Support of measures for carbon sink and accumulation in forests by means of implementation.

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[Question by](#) European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) Energy efficiency policies

According to the information reported in BR2, GHG emissions from the energy sector constitute more than 80 per cent of the total national GHG emissions of the Russian Federation, and the Party focuses its economic and regulatory measures on the energy and transport sectors.

- Could you provide more information regarding measures aimed at energy efficiency improvement that are being currently implemented or planned? What is their expected quantified impact on the GHG emissions?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Saturday, 29 April 2017

The on-going revision of Energy Strategy of Russian Federation envisages growth in the share of high-quality, environmentally friendly energy production. To achieve this target by 2035, it is planned to reduce energy and electric intensity of the gross domestic product

(GDP) and environmental pollution, enhance the investments in the development of renewable energy and shift to best available technologies in fuel and power complex.

Energy Efficiency and Energy Development Programme (2014) envisage measures on energy efficiency improvement. Their effects are assessed through the amount of fuel consumed per unit of electric power production. It is a quantitative indicator that displays the efficiency of fuel use and consequently, the decrease in greenhouse gas emissions in power generation sector.

Thus, the improved generation facilities enabled for consistent decrease in fuel consumption rate for power generation. Being 330.4 grams of coal equivalent (g c.e.) per KWh in 2012, it reduced to 325.1 g c.e. per KWh in 2014. It should be noted that this is an average rate, while in a number of federal districts fuel consumption efficiency is even higher. In general, fossil fuel consumption at power plants has decreased by 6.1 per cent, being 282.2 Mt c.e. in 2012, and 261.6 Mt c.e. in 2014. Specific fuel consumption for heat generation decreased from 158.2 g c.e. per Gcal in 2012 to 157.5 g c.e. per Gcal in 2014. The decrease in fossil fuel consumption for a specified period amounted to 3.3 Mt c.e.

The planned indicators for specific fuel consumption by 2020 are as follows:

- 298.8 g c.e. per KWh for electric power production (10.6 per cent below the 2012 level),
- 150.5 g c.e. per Gcal for heat generation (5.1 per cent below the 2012 level).

In 2015-2020, the decrease in specific fuel and energy consumption in energy-intensive industries is envisaged by:

- 16.5 per cent in iron and steel industry (from 650.2 kg c.e. per t in 2015, to 558.1 kg c.e. per t in 2020);
- 30.8 per cent in cement production (from 176.9 kg c.e. per t in 2015, to 135.2 kg c.e. per t in 2020);
- 11.2 per cent in petrochemical industry (from 953.9 kg f.e. per t in 2015 to 857.6 kg c.e. per t in 2020).

Implementing policies to improve the use of associated petroleum gas (instead of its flaring) provided a reduction in flaring from 26% in 2005 to 23% in 2012, 12% in 2015 and 10% in 2016.

Russian Federation supports transition to low-carbon and renewable energy. The hydropower generation accounts for 17 per cent of total electricity production. The electricity production from renewable energy sources is expected to increase from 2 to 29 billion kWh by 2035. In 2015, Russian Federation joined the International Agency for Renewable Energy (IRENA). The IRENA membership enables the outreach to best practices and latest advances in global renewable energy developments.

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Question by European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Policies and measures

According to the review report of the BR2, the extent of the contribution of PaMs towards the attainment of the economy-wide emission reduction target could not be assessed, as their impacts have not been quantified by the Party.

- Can the Russian Federation provide information regarding which economic sectors are expected to contribute most to planned reductions in the GHG emissions? Could you provide information regarding the quantified effects of the policies and measures?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Saturday, 29 April 2017

The quantification of effects of policies and measures can be illustrated by a few examples, where a decision on their implementation does not interact with other policies. An example is the decision of the Government of the Russian Federation on the reduction of associated petrol gas flaring and the enhancement of its efficient utilization. The reduction in flaring from 23% in 2012, to 10% in 2016 was achieved.

Another example of implementation of policies and measures in a single sector, where the performance indicators are not distorted by the influence of other factors, is the replacement of gasoline and diesel fuel with compressed natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas within the frameworks of the Transfer Road, Rail, Air-borne and Water-borne Transport to Gaseous Fuel sub-programme of the Transportation System Development State Programme of the Russian Federation and under Automobile Industry sub-programme of Industry Development and Competitiveness Enhancement State Programme of the Russian Federation. In accordance with decision of the Government of the Russian Federation (March 17, 2015, No. 242), the purchase of vehicles running on gaseous fuel is subsidized by the Government of the Russian Federation. In particular, 3 bln. Roubles were allocated from the federal budget for these activity in 2015.

The Energy sector, including energy production, transformation and consumption, is expected to contribute most to planned reductions in the GHG emissions.

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[Question by](#) European Union at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) Projections

During the review, Russian Federation explained that the projections reported in the BR2 are based on a compilation of scenarios developed by several independent research groups using different models, activity data and assumptions.

- Could you provide more information on how is the interaction between economic growth and GHG emissions modelled in the official emissions forecasts? Is it a top-down (overall correlation between GDP growth and total emissions) or bottom-up (sum of contributions from individual sectors) method? Do forecasts include already any specific measures planned to be implemented?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Saturday, 29 April 2017

Top-down method as well as bottom-up method was used by different research groups. The bottom-up method is applied mostly to the subsectors of the Energy sector. Due to the fact that scenarios included in BR2 are averaged over the families of scenarios corresponding to the definitions "without measures", "with measures" and "with additional measures", the results obtained by top-down and bottom-up method were both taken into account in the BR2. Of course, not only forecasts of GDP growth but many other factors were taken into account by research groups, such as forecasts of the energy efficiency growth rates, number of population, changes in the structure of fuel consumption (shares of fuels in the energy balance), the scenarios of oil and natural gas production and export (related to the forecasts of the global oil and gas consumption and prices) and other.

"With measures" and "with additional measures" projections include already measures planned to be implemented, most notably in the Energy sector. "With additional measures" projection takes into account possible fiscal and market measures.

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[Question by](#) China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) factors and activities of the projections

As pointed out by the ERT, Russian provided limited information on factors and activities of the projections. Could Russian provide more information on the key assumptions and main factors?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Saturday, 29 April 2017

The projections included in the BR2 are based on a compilation of scenarios developed by several independent research groups using different models, activity data and assumptions. The sets of factors and assumptions used by different groups were not completely identical. Among main factors it could be mentioned the rates of the GDP growth and of the energy efficiency growth, number of population,

changes in the structure of fuel consumption (shares of fuels in the energy balance), scenarios of oil and natural gas production and exports (related to the forecasts of the global oil and gas consumption and prices). Direct or indirect effects of mitigation policies and measures was taken into account as appropriate.

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**Question by** China at Tuesday, 28 February 2017

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 28 February

**Title:** ambition of the target

Under the convention, Russian Federation made a commitment to reduce its GHG emission by at least 25% below the 1990 level by 2020. In 2014, Russian has already overachieved its 2020 target. Would Russian consider to enhance the ambition of the 2020 target to stimulate domestic low-carbon transition?

**Answer by** Russian Federation, Friday, 28 April 2017

At the present moment enhancing the ambition of 2020 target is not under consideration by the Russian Federation.

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**Question by** Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 28 February

**Title:** GHG Emissions 2020: updating projections

Regarding tables 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c) the GHG emissions projected for 2020 are the same in BR1 and BR2. Please, explain the reasons for not updating the projections.

**Answer by** Russian Federation, Friday, 28 April 2017

In accordance with the schedule of measures adopted by the Government order, the updated GHG emissions projections were finalized in the end 2016. At this time the BR2 was already developed and submitted.

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[Question by](#) Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

[Category:](#) All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) GHG Emissions 2020

In tables 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c) the GHG emissions projected for 2020 were more than 100 times bigger “without LULUCF” than “with LULUCF”.

Could Russia please explain the reasons for this huge difference?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Friday, 28 April 2017

This was a result of a mistake in data entry. The Russian Federation has chosen to report on the projected total equivalent GHG emissions without LULUCF, and the line “with LULUCF” in CTF tables 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c) should be left blank.

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[Question by](#) Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) CTF Table 3: current estimates

Regarding “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](#) Russian Federation, Saturday, 29 April 2017

In accordance with the Report on the implementation of Energy Efficiency and the Energy Sector Development State Programme of the Russian Federation, the basic indicator, “Reduction of GDP Energy Intensity” totaled 7.04 per cent in 2016 (to 2007 level), being in exceedence of the programme target (5.68 per cent). Given significant correlation between the greenhouse gas emissions and the energy intensity rate, one can note a positive impact of the programme on emission reduction, if compared with “business as usual” scenario.

However, the two thirds of the effect of measures leading to achievement of the target for GDP energy intensity reduction (which is 40 per cent below the 2007 level by the year 2020) is outside the framework of the State Programme and is implemented in the energy consumption sector or is a consequence of structural changes in the economy.

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[Question by Brazil](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

**Category:** Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 28 February

**Title:** CTF Table 3: Lessons learned and barriers

In “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, 7 mitigation actions were listed, while in BR1 they were not reported. Congratulations for this progress. However, only one mitigation impact was quantified for 2020. Please, inform the reasons for not doing so for other mitigation actions. What are the difficulties?

[Answer by Russian Federation](#), Saturday, 29 April 2017

The policies and measures included in CTF table 3 are in some cases of multi- and (or) cross-sector nature (i.e. the sectors involved are Energy, Transport, Industry etc.). Besides, they envisage the use of a combination of instruments (i.e. Information/ Regulatory/Fiscal and Education). Furthermore, the majority of policies and measures have different implementing entities. Some implemented policies and measures, in addition to the goal of mitigation, are aimed at achieving other goals (e.g. economic or environmental). In fact, it is difficult to provide quantitative estimates for such combined policies and measures. That is the reason why mitigation impacts of such policies and measures were not provided, and the notation keys were used instead. NE was used in case the quantitative estimation was not possible due to complexity of the policy/measure concerned. NA was used if the quantitative estimate was not possible due to the nature (type) of the policy/measure.

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[Question by Brazil](#) at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

**Type:** Before 28 February

**Title:** Translation

Could Russia please explain the reasons for presenting its BR only in Russian, and not in

English?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Friday, 28 April 2017

In accordance with the UNFCCC Guidelines the Biennial Reports are to be submitted in one of the official UN languages. Based on the principle of equity all UN languages we did not submit BR in languages other than Russian. Parties may wish to translate it to any other language e.g. English or Portuguese for their convenience.

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[Question by](#) Thailand at Wednesday, 22 February 2017

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

**Type:** Before 28 February

**Title:** PROGRESS IN ACHIEVEMENT OF QUANTIFIED ECONOMY-WIDE EMISSION REDUCTION TARGET AND RELEVANT

In Section 4.1.1.4.2.4, what is the meaning of 2013÷2020 in “National Strategy on Climate Change 2013÷2020”?

[Answer by](#) Russian Federation, Friday, 28 April 2017

It is the period of implementation the Strategy.

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Session closes at 30-04-2017  
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