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A compilation of questions to - and answers by - the European Union
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Question from: United States of America at Tuesday, 28 October 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Double counting prevention

How do you plan to prevent double counting with the host countries of projects that generated CERs that your country plans to use towards meeting its pledge in the pre-2020 period?

If a host country refuses to adjust its reporting towards its progress to its targets to reflect CERs it exported, do you still plan to count them?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Net international transfers from market based mechanisms should be appropriately deducted from or added to a pledge. That is, when a Party acquires mitigation outcomes from another Party to meet its commitments, these should be credited to the acquiring Party (additions) and debited from the originating Party (subtractions). In this way, the integrity of the pledge is maintained. Allowing for such additions and subtractions while respecting agreed standards is the fundamental purpose of an accounting system for flexible mechanisms.
Parties agreed on exactly such a system under the Kyoto protocol which provides a robust accounting framework for market based mechanisms including the generation and use of CERs. The EU will follow these rules from 2008 until the end of the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period in 2020. This means that all EU accounting towards UNFCCC commitments is underpinned by transparently measured, reported and reviewed emissions and supplementary information on transactions. The measurement, reporting, review, recording and tracking of this information is in accordance with UNFCCC agreed rules undertaken in UNFCCC certified registry systems.

Question from: Egypt at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: ambition target in the BR1 technical review report (TRR.1/EU, Para. 57 p. 15), it was stated that

The EU-28 2020 target is a GHG emissions reduction of 20 per cent by 2020 below the 1990 emissions level. The EU plans to achieve the target by implementing the climate and energy package, which includes the EU ETS, the ESD (for non-ETS sectors), renewable energies and energy efficiency legislation, and legislative proposals on 2020...

Q: would you kindly explain how to you consider that as ambition target

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The European Union (EU) and its 28 Member States, both individually and jointly, have been implementing domestic and international actions against climate change now for a considerable number of years, which resulted in significant emission reductions. EU GHG emissions have decreased by 18% between 1990 and 2012 while the EU GDP has grown by 45%. As a result of the decoupling between economic growth and GHG emissions, the GHG emission intensity was reduced by almost half over the period (see the latest EU Progress Report for more detailshttp://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/docs/kyoto_progress_2014_en.pdf). Furthermore, emissions are projected to further decrease: projected 2020 emissions based on existing measures are estimated at -21% below 1990 levels. This would result in 8.8 tCO2e emissions per capita compared to 12 tCO2e emissions per capita in 1990 (reduction of 27 % between 1990 and 2020).

The EU is continuously developing additional policies and measures to further reduce its emissions and to meet its emission reduction targets under the Kyoto Protocol and the UNFCCC.

Under the Convention, the EU and its Member States are committed to an independent quantified economy-wide emissions reduction target of 20% by 2020, compared to 1990 levels.

For the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol, the European Union, its Member States and Iceland have inscribed a joint emission reduction commitment of 80 (reducing average annual emissions by 20% compared to base year emission levels during the years 2013 – 2020) in an amended Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol, based on the understanding that these commitments will be fulfilled jointly.

The 2009 'Climate and Energy package' forms the basis for the EU's international obligation in the second commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. Based on the Climate and Energy package, the EU and its Member States are already implementing a 20% emission reduction by 2020. This allowed them to implement their commitments under the Kyoto Protocol's second commitment period as of its start on 1 January 2013. The EU is on track to meet all its international obligations.

In addition to its 20% reduction commitment, the EU stands by its conditional offer to move to a 30% reduction by 2020 compared to 1990, as part of a global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012 and provided that other developed countries commit themselves to comparable emission reductions and that more advanced developing countries contribute adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities. This offer remains on the table.

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that more advanced developing countries contribute adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities. This offer remains on the table.

Question from: United States of America at Tuesday, 30 September 2014

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

Title: Question #3 for EU

In the planned measures scenario – the "with additional measures" scenario, the EU projects it will reach 26% below 1990 levels by 2020, or 6% beyond its 2020 target. This scenario is described as "a scenario where all measures are considered to be fully and timely implemented." What constitutes timeliness for the different measures? What standards does the EU consider for evaluating whether these additional measures are on track in terms of timeliness?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

Member States submit to the Commission their projection data under two scenarios, in accordance with the UNFCCC reporting guidelines for national communications

-With existing measures (WEM): A WEM projection encompasses currently adopted policies and measures at the time of the projection compilation and that following these adopted policies and measures can be assumed to be implemented in the projected years.

-With additional measures (WAM): this scenario encompasses the currently adopted policies and measures (as in the WEM scenario) and includes planned policies and measures that have not yet been adopted but are expected to be adopted, implemented and take effect from a specific future year onwards. Under this scenario, it is assumed that all the measures are to be "fully and timely implemented", meaning that they take full effect by 2020 at the latest. This leads to -26% emissions reduction by 2020 below 1990.

Projections reported by Member States to the Commission are subject of a Quality Assessment /Quality Control process review, performed by the European Environment Agency (EEA). The Agency, among other checks, reviews whether the policy impacts (linked to policies and measures) have been rightfully included in a determined policy scenario (with existing measures –WEM- or with additional measures –WAM-), depending on the status of the policy itself. The EEA carries out an annual update of the projections and Policies and Measures reported by Member States. This allows for the monitoring of the status of implementation of the measures, including the additional measures encompassed in 'with additional measures scenario'.

Question from: United States of America at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Question #2 for EU

The EU's BR states that given current renewable energy growth rates, 2020 targets for renewables will not be reached in 2020. What additional policies is the EU planning in order to make progress towards these targets?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

According to the latest progress report related to renewable energy, the share of renewable energy (measured as share of gross final energy consumption) was 14% in 2012 in the EU.
Based on current trends and the progress achieved so far, it is expected that the EU will by 2020 meet its overall renewable target of 20%, with a share of renewable energy rising to 21%.

Question from: United States of America at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Question #1 for EU

In its next biennial report, will the EU incorporate the review team's encouragement to include additional summary information presenting a more transparent representation and description of the target, including a breakdown of the target by member States?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The EU welcomes the suggestion of the expert review's team. The EU will provide more information in the next biennial report on how the EU target is designed, including information on individual Member States targets under the EU legislation.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Black carbon in Accounting

Page 372:

“The IED affects climate change in two ways:
• directly by regulating non-CO2greenhouse gases (CH4, N2O, fluorinated gases) to the extent they are not covered by the ETS and short-lived climate forces such as black carbon; and” (…)
Black carbon is not a greenhouse gas. Please, provide information if the substance is part of the assumptions and methodologies regarding the GHG emissions accounting. It is not clear if the UE includes black carbon in its target or not. Could the UE provide further information on this issue?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The black carbon emissions are not included in the greenhouse gas accounting of the EU. The EU applies the rules of the Kyoto Protocol, including the gases covered by the Protocol which does not cover black carbon.
Beside its climate legislation, the EU is now considering new legislation related to air quality based on a proposal by the European Commission (revised National Emission Ceilings (NEC) Directive) that would prioritise emission reduction measures for black carbon when taking measures to achieve national emission reductions for particulate matter. The draft legislation would include the requirement to establish and report emission inventories and projections for black carbon. As such the revised NEC Directive would implement in EU law the commitment made by the EU under the Gothenburg Protocol of the UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution. The proposal by the Commission is still under decision-making procedures of the Council and the Parliament.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Expanding the target

In December 2009, the European Council reiterated the conditions for EU to move from 20% to a 30% reduction by 2020 compared to 1990 levels. In the BR there is not an explanation why or if such conditions have been fulfilled by the Union.

Please, explain the reasons for keeping 20% as the target.

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The EU and its Member States reiterated their conditional offer to move to a 30% reduction by 2020 compared to 1990, as part of a global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012 and provided that other developed countries commit themselves to comparable emission reductions and that more advanced developing countries contribute adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities. The offers remain on the table.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: iLUC

Page 357:
“It is planned that both the Fuel Quality Directive and the transport-related section of the RES Directive will be amended because GHG emissions related to indirect land use changes (ILUC) are not taken into account under the current legislation. Indirect land use change can reduce the GHG savings associated with the use of biofuels and bioliquids.”

“The proposed Directive aims at limiting the contribution that conventional biofuels (with a risk of ILUC emissions) make towards attainment of the targets in the Renewable Energy Directive.”
Considering that there is no consensus regarding assumptions and methodologies related to iLUC across the world, could you explain this policy implementation? Please, provide details about assumptions and methodologies regarding iLUC.

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

Directive 2009/28/EC on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (the "Renewable Energy Directive") established mandatory targets to be achieved by 2020 for a 20% overall share of renewable energy in the EU and a 10% share for renewable energy in the transport sector. At the same time, an amendment was adopted to Directive 98/70/EC ("the Fuel Quality Directive") which introduced a mandatory target to achieve by 2020 a 6% reduction in the greenhouse gas intensity of fuels used in road transport.

The contribution towards these targets from biofuels is expected to be significant. Whilst both Directives (hereafter referred to as the Directives) include sustainability criteria including minimum greenhouse gas saving thresholds, the greenhouse gas emissions associated with changes in the carbon stock of land resulting from indirect land-use change are not subject to reporting requirements under the current legislation.

The Directives require the Commission to review the impact of ILUC and, if appropriate, propose ways to minimise it. In order to deliver on this mandate the Commission launched a number of studies in 2009, 2010 and 2011 on indirect land-use change. One of these, the IFPRI-MIRAGE-BioF model, was found to be the most suitable one to estimate ILUC emissions in the EU context and formed the basis of the Commission's impact assessment accompanying the ILUC proposal. This impact assessment provides details of the assumptions and methodologies regarding ILUC that formed the basis of the ILUC proposal, specifically in Annexes IV and V and can be found

at:http://ec.europa.eu/energy/renewables/biofuels/doc/biofuels/swd_2012_0343_ia_en.pdf.

Scientific work indicates that emissions from ILUC can vary substantially between feedstocks and negate some or all of the greenhouse gas savings of individual biofuels relative to the fossil fuels they replace. In order to mitigate ILUC the Commission introduced a proposal to start the transition to biofuels that deliver substantial greenhouse gas savings when also estimate ILUC emissions are reported. The proposal is under discussions within the European Institutions.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Target changes 2

Page 355:
"Member States were allowed to set their own targets, but indicative targets were set at a 2% biofuel share by 2005 and 5.75% by 2010. The Commission's progress report COM(2009)192 assessed the progress made towards achieving the 2010 targets set by Directive 2003/30/EC and showed that in 2007 the use of biofuels in road transport was below the target, namely at 2.6% for the EU as a whole. Therefore, the Directive was repealed on 31.12.2011 by the Renewable Energy Directive (see section 4.3.3), which sets mandatory targets".
Taking the example regarding page 355 above, is there any other specific or general target under other sectors that has been changed? Could it occur in the future?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The EU legislation sets the following binding targets in the field of renewable energy to be attained by 2020: a share of 20% of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption, a 10% target for the share of renewable energy in the transport target and a reduction of the greenhouse gas intensity of the fuels used in vehicles by 6 %. There are no other specific or general EU renewable energy targets for other sectors. The EU is continuously evaluating progress towards targets and implications thereof.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Target changes

Page 334:

"The Directive set indicative targets, which were different for each Member State, for renewable electricity consumption in 2010, which should lead to an **indicative target** for the EU-15 of 22.1% renewable electricity in total".
"The Commission's Progress Report in 2006 showed that only a few Member States had met their indicative targets, many were behind schedule and the overall contribution of renewables to total electricity consumption in the EU-27 was only 15.7% in 2006. The biofuel targets in the transport sector were not achieved either; the result was only 1% in 2005 instead of the indicative target of 2%. For this reason, the European Commission published a new long-term strategy for renewable energy in 2007". Is there any other specific or general target under other sectors that has been changed? Has the indicative target changed to mandatory target?
Page 336:
"At present, with a share of 12.7% of renewable energy, the EU Member States are still on track to achieve the 2020 targets but the growth ofrenewables is slower than expected. Given the current growth rates, the targets will not be reached in 2020. The report states that any disruption of investment policies will have significant impacts in the future and that at present more effort and further measures will be necessary on the part of Member States to achieve the 20% target."
Taking the example regarding page 334 above as well as the text contained in page 336, is there any other specific or general target under other sectors that has been changed? Could it occur in the future?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The EU legislation sets the following binding targets in the field of renewable energy to be attained by 2020: a share of 20% of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption, a 10% target for the share of renewable energy in the transport target and a reduction of the greenhouse gas intensity of the fuels used in vehicles by 6 %. There are no other specific or general EU renewable energy targets for other sectors. The target changes of the Renewable Energy Directive referred to in the question actually provide for an increase in ambition (current target is related to the EU as a whole, while the previous target only referred to EU-15). The EU is continuously evaluating progress towards targets and implications thereof.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Results from CDM

Page 322:
"In total, up to 1.4 billion CERs or ERUs could have been used by all participating countries in the second trading period. This corresponds to 14 % of the total free allocation (in all 30 countries) in the second trading period".
Does the the EU recognize the relevance of CDM? In case of positive answer, how could the relevance of CDM be more emphasized in the BR?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The EU applies the rules of the Kyoto Protocol with regards to the use of Kyoto mechanisms, including CDM.

The EU reports on holdings and retirement of units to meet its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol in the supplemental information supplied with national inventories on an annual basis. Furthermore, the EU has reported on the use and intended use of CERs and other units in its first Biennial Report and the 6th National Communication. The information provided in these reports demonstrates the relevance of the CDM and other mechanisms to the EUs use of market mechanisms and more broadly.

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: International Aviation

Page 320
"However, in 2012 only flights within the EU Member States, Norway, Iceland, Liechtensteinand between closely related territories were covered. This "stopping the clock" decision was taken in order to facilitate negotiation of a global agreement on aviation emissions, which should be decided in autumn 2013 by the General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)". It is not adequate to refer to a global agreement on aviation emissions under ICAO.
EU is prejudging that it is not going to occur under the UNFCCC. Considering that there is no consensus regarding assumptions and methodologies related to emissions from international aviation, please, provide details about assumptions and methodologies regarding this sector. It is not clear if the EU includes international aviation in its target or not. Could the EU provide further information on this issue?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The EU is fully involved in the on-going ICAO negotiations aimed at agreeing on a global market based mechanism for international aviation by 2016 as agreed by the General Assembly of the ICAO in 2013. The EU hopes that the ICAO process will deliver a robust and workable outcome in due time. Both IPCC and UNEP recently confirmed the need for this sector too to deliver its fair share of GHG emission reductions if we are to stay on track towards the below 2°C objective. ICAO should make a contribution in that regard, without prejudice to the complementary role to be played by UNFCCC on international aviation and maritime.
As regards the scope of the EU targets the following summarise the situation:
a) the EU legislation for an 20% overall reduction emission reduction below 1990 levels includes emissions from international flights departing from airports in the EU, which therefore includes emissions from flights within the EU. In addition, in order to

allow time for agreeing on a global market-based measure under the ICAO by 2016 as agreed by the 38th ICAO General Assembly, the EU ETS has been amended so that airlines' responsibility is only for emissions from intra-European flights up to 2016.
b) the commitment under the Kyoto Protocol follows the scope of the Protocol. As a result, only domestic aviation is covered. For the EU, this means aviation activities within each individual Member State, not between Member States (the latter being reported as memo item and not part of the GHG inventory totals).

Question from: Brazil at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: CDM and LULUCF

Page 313:
“The use of carbon credits from international market-based mechanisms is explained in the EU submission from 2012”. What is this submission? Could be more precise, and provide more complete information regarding the use of carbon credits from international market-based mechanisms?
"With regard to the role of Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), the EU pledge does not include emissions/removals from LULUCF". Could you provide the assumptions and conditions related to the decision? Could you explain this decision in the political and technical contexts?

Answered by: European Union at Monday, 24 November 2014

The submission referred to relates to the additional information relating to the quantified economy wide emission reduction targets contained in document FCCC/SB/2011/INF.1/Rev.1 submitted by the EU and included in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.1.

This submission provides the following information on the use of carbon credits from international market-based mechanisms:
"The Climate and Energy Package allows Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) and Emission Reduction Units (ERUs) to be used for compliance purposes, subject to a number of restrictions in terms of origin and type of project and up to an established limit. In addition, the legislation foresees the possible recognition of units from new market mechanisms.
Under the EU ETS the limit does not exceed 50% of the required reduction below 2005 levels. In the sectors not covered by the ETS, annual use shall not exceed to 3 % of each Member States’ non-ETS greenhouse gas emissions in 2005. A limited number of Member States may use an additional 1%, from projects in LDCs or SIDS subject to conditions. The exact number of units that can be used during the period 2013-2020 can only be determined following the availability of final data concerning the use of

these units during the period 2008-2012 and relevant greenhouse gas emissions data."
Under the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, the estimated use of Kyoto mechanisms amounts to a net acquisition for the EU-28 of 0.6 billion units (Gt Co2 eq).
The final assessment of compliance of the EU and its Member States for the first commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol will follow the UNFCCC review of the 2014 inventory, which includes emission data up to 2012, and the additional true-up period. The EU and its Member States will be able to use Kyoto mechanisms until the end of the completion of the compliance assessment.

Preliminary information on credits used during CP1 is available in the retirement accounts and is provided together with the NIRs. The latest information on the use of Kyoto mechanisms under the first commitment period can be found in the Technical Annex of the EU submission related to the Ambition Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol (http://www4.unfccc.int/submissions/Lists/OSPSubmissionUpload/50_62_130447028521532014-20140430_eu_technical_annex.pdf) and in the Commission's Progress Report (http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/docs/kyoto_progress_2014_en.pdf).

The EU decided to leave Member States to develop and implement LULUCF mitigation policies and not to cover this sector under the 2009 Climate and Energy package. The reasons for such a decision are summarized in the impact assessment performed at the moment of designing the 2009 Climate and Energy Package (http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/package/docs/climate_package_ia_annex_en.pdf,p37):

"Building on the reporting of projections by Member States, estimates on the scope of mitigation through this sector can be made but these are substantially influenced by the choice of activities that will be included after 2012 as well as the future accounting rules that will be applied. Therefore estimates of what the contribution of the LULUCF sector could be by 2020 are still very uncertain.

National mitigation policies specifically developed for the LULUCF sector have been limited in Member States. Therefore existing projections often express baseline scenarios. The extent to which these projections will be influenced due to additional policies to be put in place by the year 2020, is still unclear.
Given all these elements, a too high uncertainty remains on the level of GHG mitigation that can be expected from the LULUCF sector in the EU by 2020. Therefore it was opted not to include the LULUCF sector in this Impact Assessment."
However, LULUCF is part of the joint binding commitment of the EU, its Member States and Iceland under the second commitment of the Kyoto Protocol. The EU and its Member States apply all the relevant rules related to LULUCF under the Kyoto Protocol.

Furthermore, the EU adopted EU legislation in 2013 related to the accounting rules on emissions and removals on LULUCF.

Question from: Japan at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Enhancement of measures

What kind of systems and processes work to improve existing policies and measures in response to the progress towards the achievement of emission reduction target?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

A process of setting up, operate and seeking to continuously improve the systems for reporting on policies and measures and for reporting on projections is key. Those systems include the relevant institutional, legal and procedural arrangements established for evaluating policy and making projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks. The EU legislation (the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation, no 525/2013) provides an obligation for the EU and its Member States to set up such national systems for reporting on policies and measures and projections. This helps ensuring a better tracking of the progress on implementation of policies and measures towards reaching the targets. Furthermore, the Commission adopts each year a P rogress Report (http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/docs/kyoto_progress_2014_en.pdf) assessing the progress made towards the targets as well as providing a state of implementation of EU climate change policies.

Question from: Japan at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Frequency of revision of GHG projectionsHow often are GHG projections revised?

It would be helpful if the party could describe the institutional arrangement and process for the revision of projections and policies and measures.

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Under EU legislation, Member States have to report every two years to the Commission their national projections on GHG emissions and information on policies and measures that limit or reduce GHG emissions and enhance removals by sinks. Furthermore, in years that such obligation does not exist, the Member States have to communicate to the Commission any substantial change to the projections and policies and measures reported. This system ensures that every MS reports the most up-to-date information available, and as a result, GHG projections at EU level are revised on a yearly basis.

The European Environment Agency (EEA) assists the Commission with monitoring and reporting work, performing a Quality Assurance/Quality Control analysis (QA/QC) of the reported Member States' projections and providing aggregated EU projections updated every year.

The policy making process of the EU, including the roles of the European Institutions in policy making at EU level was briefly explained in the EU's 6th National Communication.

Question from: Japan at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Major drivers for GHG emission trends

What are the major drivers of decrease of total GHG emissions compared to 1990? It would be helpful if the party could also describe the contribution of each driver to total reduction.
In addition, what are the most effective policies and measures for each driver?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The text below offers a summary of the analysis done on emission trends (excluding LULUCF) by the European Environment Agency, on the main drivers behind emission reductions during the period 1990-2012. The full analysis can be accessed here: http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/why-are-greenhouse-gases-decreasing.
Total GHG emissions (excluding LULUCF) in the EU-28 decreased 1,082 million tonnes since 1990 (or 19.2%) reaching their lowest level in 2012. In 2012, the EU emitted 4,544 million tonnes of CO2 eq., accounting for less than 10% of global GHG emissions. GHG emissions decreased in the majority of sectors between 1990 and 2012, with the notable exception of transport, including international transport. At aggregate level, reductions were largest for industrial sectors (combustion and processes), electricity and heat production, and residential & commercial combustion. A combination of factors explain lower emissions in industrial sectors, such as improved efficiency in restructured iron and steel plants, substantial improvements in the carbon intensity of this sector, with emissions from solid fuels

more than halving in 22 years, and structural changes of the economy with a higher share of services and a lower share of industry in total GDP. The economic recession that began in the second half of 2008 and continued through to 2009 also had a substantial impact on emissions from this sector in the last years.
Emissions from electricity and heat production decreased strongly since 1990. In addition to improved energy efficiency there has been a move towards less carbon intensity fuels at EU level. Between 1990 and 2012, the use of solid and liquid fuels in thermal stations decreased strongly whereas natural gas consumption doubled, resulting in reduced CO2 emissions per unit of fossil energy generated. In the last three years there has been an increase in the use of solid fuels, hard coal and lignite, for electricity generation in the EU but this has been offset by lower use of natural gas and higher use of biomass. Emissions in the residential and commercial sectors represented the third largest reduction. Energy efficiency improvements from better insulation standards in buildings and a less carbon-intensive fuel mix can explain lower demand for space heating in the EU as a whole over the past 22 years. These factors have more than offset the effects of a 32 million increase in the population, and in the number and average size of households in the EU. However, CO2 emissions from road transportation increased substantially in the 22-year period.
Other key factors underpinning lower GHG emissions in the EU between 1990 and 2012 have been:
- Lower final energy intensity [less final energy per GDP, e.g. less energy used by end users];
- Lower carbon intensity of fossil fuels [less CO2 per primary energy from fossil fuels, e.g. less carbon-intensive fossil fuels];
- Improved energy-transformation efficiency [less primary energy per final energy, e.g. more efficient electricity production]; and,
- Higher non-carbon fuels effect [less fossil fuels in total primary energy]. This has by and large been accounted for by a larger share of renewable energy sources in the fuel mix, and much less so by nuclear energy which has been declining since 2006.

There were two factors with a negative impact on emissions (i.e. higher CO2):
- The EU population increased by 32 million since 1990; and,
- Higher GDP per capita, with an EU net increase of 36% between 1990 and 2012.

A number of policies have also played a key role in GHG emission reductions, including the EU Nitrates Directive, the Common Agricultural Policy, the EU Landfill Directive, the EU Directive on the Energy Performance of Buildings, the EU Large Combustion Plant Directive and more recently the EU Climate and Energy Package. One of the key European success stories has been the deployment of renewable energy sources by Member States, which started well before the adoption of the Directive setting a common EU framework for the promotion of energy from renewable sources. There has been a strong uptake of renewables for electricity, heating and transport, which have doubled since 1990. The share of renewables in gross final energy consumption (normalised to even out the annual variability in hydro & wind production) stood at 14% in 2012, according to the latest Eurostat figures. Climate and energy policies from the Climate and Energy Package, such as the EU ETS and the Effort Sharing Decision, are projected to have a stronger impact

in the run-up to 2020. It is also important to note that many policies at Member State level are additional to EU policies.

GDP is clearly a significant explanatory factor underpinning lower GHG emissions in the EU between 1990 and 2012, albeit not the only one. The analysis suggests that there is some coupling between annual changes in GDP and changes in GHG emissions between 1990 and 2012 for the EU as a whole. Still, over the whole 22-year period there is absolute decoupling of GDP and GHG emission compared to 1990, with an increase in GDP of 45% alongside a decrease in emissions of 19%. These results show that GHG emission reductions have been possible together with economic growth in the last 22 years across the EU.

Question from: Saudi Arabia at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: The assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures- TRR

During the TRR, the EU has stated that support for adapting to the social and economic consequences of response measures will be provided of demand basis. Can the EU provide more information on a list of their existing and planned support initiatives for Developing Countries to adapt to the social and economic consequences of response measures, that non-Annex I Parties with limited capacity and poverty eradication challenges can consider?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

As reported in both the sixth National Communication and the first Biennial Report, considerations of possible impact of the implementation of response measures form part of the fully transparent process of impact assessments or sustainability impact assessments for EU legislative proposals or trade agreements respectively, such as specific proposals on climate action or cross-border sectoral measures including energy, transport, industry and agriculture.
Furthermore, support to facing specific challenges is provided through the EU development cooperation agreements and projects, which reflect national circumstances and priorities. Apart from tailor-made bilateral programmes developed with the individual developing countries, the EU reported on existing regional initiatives targeting economic diversification, renewable energy and energy efficiency, or socio-economic issues. These include for example the Global Climate Change Alliance, Mediterranean Solar Plan, Latin American Investment Facility, EU-GCC clean energy network, or the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund specifically supporting clean energy in developing countries and economies in transition.

Finally, the EU and its Member States have provided detailed information on the assessment of the impact of the implementation of response measures and on best practices on various response strategies (e.g. economic diversification) under the forum established by decision 8/CP.17. As the forum consolidates all discussions on response measures under the Convention, the forum included discussions on specific issues related to the impact of the implementation of response measures, such as best practices, regional and bilateral cooperation and the experienced benefits thereof, and available programmes and initiatives; the EU presented in detail for example its European Neighbourhood Policy Initiatives, or the South Africa-European Commission Forum on Environment and Sustainable Development.

Question from: Saudi Arabia at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures-assisting non-AnX1

In the EU plan to support developing Countries in addressing the social and economic consequences of response measures, has the EU considered how it will accommodate the unique national circumstances of developing countries and look into variety of suitable options which are consistent with national priorities and indigenous resources? For example: did the EU consider how it could cooperate in creating favourable conditions for investment in sectors where such investment can contribute to economic diversification with developing Countries with low capacity/ capabilities?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

As reported in both the sixth National Communication and the first Biennial Report, considerations of possible impact of the implementation of response measures form part of the fully transparent process of impact assessments or sustainability impact assessments for EU legislative proposals or trade agreements respectively, such as specific proposals on climate action or cross-border sectoral measures including energy, transport, industry and agriculture.
Furthermore, support to facing specific challenges is provided through the EU development cooperation agreements and projects, which reflect national circumstances and priorities. Apart from tailor-made bilateral programmes developed with the individual developing countries, the EU reported on existing regional initiatives targeting economic diversification, renewable energy and energy efficiency, or socio-economic issues. These include for example the Global Climate Change Alliance, Mediterranean Solar Plan, Latin American Investment Facility, EU-GCC clean energy network, or the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund specifically supporting clean energy in developing countries and economies in transition.

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Question from: Saudi Arabia at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: the assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures

Can the EU provide information on how the Impact Assessment (IA) System findings are informing Parties of the UNFCCC on how EU Parties progressing on support programmes to meet the specific needs and circumstances of developing country Parties, with low capacities/ capabilities, arising from the impact of the implementation of response measures assessed by the system?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

As reported in both the sixth National Communication and the first Biennial Report, considerations of possible impact of the implementation of response measures form part of the fully transparent process of impact assessments or sustainability impact assessments for EU legislative proposals or trade agreements respectively, such as specific proposals on climate action or cross-border sectoral measures including energy, transport, industry and agriculture.
Furthermore, support to facing specific challenges is provided through the EU development cooperation agreements and projects, which reflect national circumstances and priorities. Apart from tailor-made bilateral programmes developed with the individual developing countries, the EU reported on existing regional initiatives targeting economic diversification, renewable energy and energy efficiency, or socio-economic issues. These include for example the Global Climate Change Alliance, Mediterranean Solar Plan, Latin American Investment Facility, EU-GCC clean energy network, or the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund specifically supporting clean energy in developing countries and economies in transition.
Finally, the EU and its Member States have provided detailed information on the assessment of the impact of the implementation of response measures and on best practices on various response strategies (e.g. economic diversification) under the

forum established by decision 8/CP.17. As the forum consolidates all discussions on response measures under the Convention, the forum included discussions on specific issues related to the impact of the implementation of response measures, such as best practices, regional and bilateral cooperation and the experienced benefits thereof, and available programmes and initiatives; the EU presented in detail for example its European Neighbourhood Policy Initiatives, or the South Africa-European Commission Forum on Environment and Sustainable Development.

Question from: Egypt at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Technology transfer

how can we build sustained technology transfer bridge to adopt MRVs system and GHG inventory between annex 1 and non annex 1 countries ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Constant sharing of good practices and capacity building between Annex I and non-Annex I Parties has happened during the past 20 years in the framework of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol and also outside this framework. Some examples of capacity building in the framework of the UNFCCC would be the Consultative Group of Experts and also the knowledge sharing during the expert reviews of inventories under the Kyoto Protocol. The newly agreed International Consultation and Analysis is also expected to enhance the knowledge sharing between Annex I and non Annex I Parties.

A solid MRV system is also about the institutional arrangements with other agencies and ministries which collect data in order to ensure that the information needed for the inventory purposes is available. For tracking progress with the actions, depending on the scale of the action (sectoral or cross sectors), more institutions can be involved but a coordinating entity would be needed.

A reliable MRV system is more about the technical expertise of the persons involved and less about the technologies to be used. In this sense, a relatively simple IT tool would be enough to manage and process the data needed for the compilation of inventories or for tracking progress with relevant national mitigation actions implemented. The IT tools for GHG inventories developed by the UNFCCC secretariat can also support the compilation of inventory information.

Question from: Egypt at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: GHG inventories quality control and quality assurance

What are the differences between quality control and quality assurance in assessing the both of National Communications and BUR1 relevant to the GHG inventories ,thus when its cycle occurs through the GHGi inventory preparation and calculation stage and who can do this task ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Annex 1 Parties do not have separate systems for quality control and quality procedures for the preparation of inventories as reported (1) in the annual inventories and (2) National Communications and Biennial Reports.

At EU level, the quality control procedures are performed at several different stages during the preparation and compilation of the Union GHG inventory. These include:
- a range of checks needed to determine the consistency and completeness of MSs data so that they are compiled in a transparent manner at EU level.
- checks carried-out to ensure that the data are compiled correctly at EU level to meet the overall reporting requirements of the Union inventory.
-a number of checks concluded with regard to data archiving and documentation to meet various other data quality objectives.

The Quality Assurance (QA) procedures performed in the European Union's inventory are intended to provide an objective review to assess the quality of the inventory and to identify areas where improvements could be made. The EU National Inventory Report (http://www.eea.europa.eu//publications/european-union-greenhouse-gas-inventory-2014) contains more information about past QA activities.

Question from: Egypt at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: GHG inventory assumption

what are the normal assumptions in transport and agricultural sector related to GHG inventory related to ipcc 1996 guidelines or 2006 guidelines ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

For the annual national inventory submissions made until 2014, including the information presented in the 6th National Communication/1st Biennial Report, the EU greenhouse gas inventory as well as the inventories of its Member States use the Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines.
The use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines will start as from the 2015 GHG inventory submission only and will also be reflected in the next BR/NC.

Regarding methods and assumptions, under the EU national inventory system where the EU inventory is the sum of the inventories of its Member States, it is important to note that the choice of methods and activity data rests with the Member States. The quality of the Union inventory depends on the quality of Member States' inventories.
Member States are responsible for the quality of activity data, emission factors and other parameters used for their national inventories as well as the application of methodologies consistent with the IPCC Guidelines.
Summaries of the methods/activity data/EFs used by EU Member States for the transport and agriculture sectors are available in the EU NIR, more specifically in Chapters 3.2.3/3.8 and 6 (for the EU-15) as well as 18.2.3 and 21 (for the EU-28). Please refer to the latest EU inventory submission for full details:http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/items/8108.php

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Question from: Egypt at Tuesday, 30 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: MRVs system assesment

What is the basic and the first step to set up MRV system (in which sector should be started) to determine accurately the the major emission source to take appropriate action to mitigate emission in it ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

A reliable greenhouse gas inventory for all sectors is needed in order to have a clear and reliable picture of the emissions of the country and to be able to identify the sectors with the main emissions. Once such sectors are identified, options for actions to mitigate emissions can be assessed taking into consideration the costs and the benefits of the policies, how they feed into the sustainable development strategy of the country, their efficiency, etc.

A reliable greenhouse gas inventory can be compiled using the IPCC methodologies and by putting into place the basic structures that allow for gathering of the activity data. Such structures can be agreements with other ministries or agencies in the country which gather activity data for their own purposes, legal or voluntary reporting requirements for the industry.

The EU can provide more information on the set up of the EU's own MRV system, which may provide useful information and inspiration to other Parties. The EU national inventory system is set up in accordance with the requirements of the Guidelines for national systems under Article 5, paragraph 1, of the Kyoto Protocol, laid down in Decision 19/CMP.1. It is important that the national system encompasses all the major entities that are responsible for providing data (activity data or other parameters) relevant for the estimation of emissions in the GHG

inventories. At EU level, those entities and their areas of expertise are described in the EU NIR as well as in the Commission Staff Working Document on the EU national system (http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/monitoring/docs/swd_2013_308_en.pdf). Furthermore, the EU national system is established by law, i.e. in Article 6 of the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (EU/525/2013). It is further elaborated in the Commission Delegated Regulation EU/666/2014. The national inventory system should encompass all source categories of the GHG inventory, providing accurate estimates of emissions - i.e. neither over-estimated, nor under-estimated. The EU national system also contains a quality control and quality assurance (QA/QC) programme, the details of which can also be found in the Commission Staff Working Document as well as in the EU NIR.

Furthermore, one of the key elements for setting up a successful system to mitigate emissions at EU level, is the key categories analysis (KCA). The outcome of this analysis indicates the emission source categories that contribute more to the EU emissions, and therefore indicate the areas where mitigation actions can have a bigger impact. More information on the EU KCA is available in the EU NIR.

Question from: Algeria at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: IAR issues1.

How does the IAR enhance the implementation of the reviews under the Convention, and the mechanisms for review and assessment? Relatedly, are BRs subject to more, or less, strengthened reviews than those currently conducted under the Convention? Is the same mechanism of review to be used for the IAR?
2. How does the IAR bridge the **gap in the implementation of commitments to be reported in Annex I Parties' national communications,** as provided for in Article 12.2 (a) and (b) and **in particular as concerns the implementation of obligations by Annex II Parties under Article 12.3 (which provides that "each developed country Party and each other developed Party included in Annex II shall incorporate details of measures taken in accordance with Article 4, paragraphs 3** (provision of new and additional, adequate and predictable financial resources to developing country Parties and appropriate burden-sharing among developed country Parties), **4 (meetings costs of adaptation** of developing country Parties particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. A listing of these "particularly vulnerable" situations is contained in preambular paragraph 19 of the Convention, and covers situations in ALL developing country Parties), **and 5 (promotion and facilitation of access to and financing transfer of environmentally-sound technologies and know-how to developing country Parties)?**
3. What has to be done in order to bridge these gaps, identified in the syntheses of national communications of Annex I Parties? **Should there be further revisions of guidelines for national communications of Annex I Parties that should be undertaken under the SBI to bridge these gaps**?

4. What is the progress in the work of the SBSTA on a common reporting format for the communication of information related to the implementation of obligations under Article 12.3, **in particular the provision of disaggregated information that would allow comparability of efforts among developed country Parties?**
5. **What are the financial implications of the IAR process to the secretariat?** (Please remember that the budget of the Convention is taken from the assessed contributions of ALL PARTIES and are not donor contributions, so it concerns all of us). How does this compare to the budgetary allocations made for the ICA process for non-Annex I Parties on their BURs?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

1& 2.

The IAR procedures have been established through decision 2/CP.17. The guidelines for reviews of biennial reports have been agreed in Warsaw by decision 23 CP 19 (http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/cop19/eng/10a02r01.pdf). The UNFCCC secretariat is tasked with organizing the technical reviews. The same information submitted by an Annex I Party in its BR, NC and GHG inventory will be reviewed only once, by an expert review team (ERT). Also, a Party's BR is reviewed in conjunction with its NC in the years in which both the BR and the NC are submitted.
For more information on how the IAR enhances the implementation of the reviews under the Convention, the mechanisms for review and assessment, and how the IAR bridges the gap in the implementation of commitments to be reported in Annex I Parties' national communications, more information can be found on the UNFCCC webpage.
http://unfccc.int/national_reports/biennial_reports_and_iar/international_assessment_and_review/items/8451.php
3. The work of revision of national communication guidelines for Annex 1 parties has started at SBI 40 and would need to be completed by SBI 41 (according to Decision 2/CP 17). Relevant information is available on the UNFCCC website: http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_natcom_/items/1095.php
4. The common tabular format (CTF tables) of the information to be reported by Annex 1 parties in their biennial repots was adopted by decision 19/CP 18 (http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2012/cop18/eng/08a03.pdf#page=3). Annex 1 parties used this reporting format for reporting the information relevant for the submission of their first biennial reports. Specific information on the description of quantified economy-wide emission reduction target is included in CTF tables 2(a)-(f)
5. This question can only be answered by the UNFCCC Secretariat. Information on the UNFCCC budget alongside information on how it is utilised is available on the UNFCCC website.https://unfccc.int/parties_and_observers/parties/administrtative_and_financial_matters/items/3009.php.

Question from: Algeria at Monday, 29 September 2014

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

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

[1]. Since there are separate emission reduction targets for sectors covered by EU-ETS and non-ETS, could the EU provide further information on the progress and projection for the ETS covered sectors and non-ETS covered sectors, whether they are in line with respective emission reduction target?
[2]. With existing measures, the EU is going to over-achieve the target, which sectors and policy measures (EU-ETS or ESD), contribute to the over-achievement in comparison with the 20% target scenario?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This is equivalent to -14% compared to 2005.

This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:
(a) 21% reduction in EU ETS sector emissions by 2020 compared to 2005; and
(b) the Effort Sharing Decision sets binding annual emissions allocations for each Member States for the sectors not covered by the EU ETS. This represents for the EU a reduction of around 10% by 2020 compared to 2005 (limitations based on absolute targets at the level of each Member States). The Effort Sharing Decision mainly covers emissions from transportation, buildings, small businesses and services, agriculture and waste.
Total EU emissions against the scope of the Climate and Energy Package (excluding LULUCF and including international aviation) were in 2012 18 % below 1990 level and are estimated to be around 19 % below 1990 level in 2013. According to the projections provided by Member States based on existing measures, emissions would be 21 % lower in 2020 than in 1990. The EU is thus on track to meet its GHG emission reduction target.

The EU ETS is a market based mechanism setting a cap on the total amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted by operators. As a result, emissions cannot exceed this cap. In 2013, total verified emissions were 182 Mt CO_2 eq below the cap for that year. Verified emissions in 2013 decreased by 4 % compared to verified emissions in the year 2012. Compared to 2005 verified emissions (scope-corrected), the reduction achieved in 2013 was about 19 %. Further emissions reductions are projected until 2020.

In the non ETS sector, each Member State has a national emission reduction target. According to Member-States' projections (with existing measures), the EU as a whole will achieve the emission reductions foreseen in the non-ETS sector. According to the projections of Member States, a total overachievement of around 700 $MtCO_2$ eq. can be expected in the non-ETS sector over the period 2013-2020. The transport sector is the largest contributor to GHG emissions in the non-ETS sector and emissions are projected to remain stable with existing measures. Energy efficiency measures in the residential and service sectors (the second largest source of emissions in the non-ETS) are expected to contribute towards three quarters of the projected savings in the non-ETS sectors. Emissions reductions are also projected to occur in other sectors (waste, transport, a share of industrial processes and energy supply and a share of energy use, mostly direct combustion in households/services) but with more limited effect in absolute term. Planned additional measures will mainly deliver reductions in the residential and services sectors and in the transport sector.

The report from the Commission "Progress towards achieving the Kyoto and EU 2020 objectives" (see http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/docs/kyoto_progress_2014_en.pdf) provides every year the progress towards

the Kyoto and EU 2020 GHG emission reduction targets. Further information can be found in EEA publications (http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/trends-and-projections-in-europe-2014)

Question by: Algeria at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified econ

Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
[1]. There is a conditional emission reduction target of the EU to move to a 30% reduction by 2020 compared to 1990 levels. However, it is not clear what the EU means "global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012", and to what extent the EU would recognize that other developed countries have committed themselves to comparable emission reductions and developing countries have contributed adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities. Could the EU provide further information on this issue?
[2]. "Efforts to meet the EU-28 target will be divided among member States in both EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows" could the EU provide an aggregated target for 2020 compared to 2005 based on this division?
[3]. We understand the emission reduction in sectors covered by EU-ETS will be implemented as whole across the EU. However, in order to have a better understanding of comparable efforts made by each member states, could the EU provide further information on the initial distribution of the EU allowances among each of the member states?
[4]. According to the projection, the EU could achieve its target by domestic efforts. Could the EU provide further information on its intension of use market-based mechanisms, especially for those units generated outside the EU bubble boundary?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

[1]
The EU welcomes that more than 90 Parties representing around 80% of global emissions have made 2020 mitigation pledges in order to enhance transparency, comparability of efforts and effective implementation. However, a significant gap still remains to be bridged between the collective level of mitigation ambition up to 2020 and the global emissions trajectory in line with the objective of staying below 2°C. The EU appreciates the efforts undertaken under the ADP's WS2 on further international cooperation on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition. However, the latest UNEP Emission Gap Report from November 2014 give evidence that the pledges we have seen to date are insufficient to be on a cost efficient trajectory in line with the 2°C objective, even when fully implemented by 2020.

Furthermore, the current system remains fragmented with only a few Parties with commitments under the Second Commitment Period of the Kyoto Protocol. As a result, no "global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012" is yet in place for the period 2013-2020.

[2] The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This is equivalent to -14% compared to 2005.

This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:
(a) 21% reduction in EU ETS sector emissions by 2020 compared to 2005; and
(b) the Effort Sharing Decision sets binding annual emissions allocations for each Member States for the sectors not covered by the EU ETS. This represents for the EU a reduction of around 10% by 2020 compared to 2005 (limitations based on absolute targets at the level of each Member States). The Effort Sharing Decision mainly covers emissions from transportation, buildings, small businesses and services, agriculture and waste.

[3] The EU-wide cap under the EU ETS is determined for all EU Member States and the three EEA EFTA States (Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) without reflecting a specific share for each Member State.
The allocation of allowances takes place through auctions and free allocation. The share of allowances auctioned on behalf of each Member State in each year is public and can be obtained from the relevant auction platforms.
However, free allocation is provided on the basis of EU-wide rules to installation operators within a certain limit. For each of the nearly 12.000 installations in the EU ETS, the allocation has been calculated based on the common rules. A breakdown of the amounts per Member State is not available.

[4] According to the latest projections submitted by Member States, the EU emissions are expected to be below the relevant Kyoto target for the second commitment period. However, the use of international credits generated through the Kyoto Protocol's project based flexible mechanisms (i.e. JI and CDM) remains possible in both the EU ETS and non-ETS sectors subject to the qualitative and quantitative limits set out in our legislation. Both ETS operators and governments are currently making use of these mechanisms.

Under the EU ETS, a limited entitlement to use international credits was given to operators. Approximately 1.05 billion CERs and ERUs were used in phase 2 of the EU ETS (these units were directly surrendered), covering the period 2008-2012. A further 0.55 billion can still be used by operators in phase 3 (2013-2020) of the EU ETS (through exchange for an EU allowance).

Additionally, under the ESD, Member States may use international GHG emission reduction credits to implement their obligations in the period 2013-2020. This use is limited to an annual quantity equal to 3% of the GHG emissions in sectors covered by the ESD of that Member State in 2005. Twelve Member States fulfilling criteria set up

in the ESD may use additional credits from projects in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States amounting to 1% of their 2005 emissions.

Question from: Algeria at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targe

All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction targe

[1]. There is inconsistency of the emission in base year as well as in 2011, when comparing the tables regarding GHG emissions in the first biennial report and the national inventory report of the European Union (BR. Table1 vs. Table4 vs. NIR2014 Table ES.3). Could the EU provide further clarification about the inconsistency?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

There are three reasons for the difference between the data provided in the EU first biennial report (BR1) and the EU GHG inventory submission 2014.
First, the data reported in the BR1 is consistent with the 2013 EU inventory submission (see p. 311 of the BR1), not with the 2014 inventory submission. Recalculations have occurred in the meanwhile, such as for example, those stemming from inventory reviews.
Secondly, by the time of the submission of the 1BR Croatia had joined the European Union and hence the EU28 aggregates provided in the 1BR also include Croatia (using its own inventory submission to the UNFCCC). However, Croatia was not an EU Member States in 2012 at the time of the submission of the EU 2014 GHG inventory.

Finally, the data displayed in the EU GHG inventory, in particular the figures concerning the Base Year, refer to the base year as defined under the Kyoto Protocol, which differs from that defined under the Convention (UNFCCC) and which is included in Table 1 of the Biennial Report. Regarding the Convention, the EU and its Member States are committed to an independent quantified economy-wide emissions reduction target of 20% by 2020, compared to 1990 levels. Further information on this target is contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.1.

Question from: **Burkina Faso** at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Rules for LUCUFIs

-it true that rules for LUCUF are not the same for all countries and why?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The accounting rules applied by EU parties for LULUCF under the 2nd commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol are the same. Some EU Member States have, however, elected to include non-mandatory activities (Cropland Management, Grazing Land management, or Revegetation) in their accounts. Nevertheless, the rules applied are those confirmed in CMP Decisions, in particular 2.CMP/7.

Summaries of the methods/activity data/emission factors used by EU Member States for the LULUCF are available in the EU national inventory report, more specifically in Chapters 7 (for the EU-15) and 11 (for KP LULUCF in the EU-15) as well as 22 (for the EU-28). Please refer to the latest EU inventory submission for full details:http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/items/8108.php

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Question from: Egypt at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Binnial Update Report

What are the kind of General notes and comments are taken and remarked by international reviewers by UNFCCC on your first BUR especially in GHGI and MRV and mitigation actions ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The guidelines for review of biennial reports as adopted through decision 23/CP.19 (http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/cop19/eng/10a02r01.pdf) form the basis of the work of the ERTs. The reviewers' findings, recommendations and encouragements reported in the relevant sections of the review report are related to the completeness and/or transparency of the reported information.

The general notes and comments in the GHG inventory section of the EU's first biennial report were aimed at examining the consistency of the annual GHG inventory with the information reported in the biennial report and national communication, but not an in-depth examination of the inventory itself. Such comments were aimed to gain a broad understanding of the inventory, in order to facilitate the assessment of policies and projections. On the section related to policies and measures (PaMs), general notes, remarks and comments from the expert review team were aimed at obtaining a comprehensive picture of the policy context, the policies themselves, the targets, the monitoring and evaluation of PaMs. The expert reviewers made a technical assessment of the information contained in the EU's first biennial report and the 6th national communication and the results of the work, including comments and remarks, recommendations and encouragements from the expert review team are visible in the two review reports published on the

UNFCCC site:
(http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2014/trr/eu01.pdf andhttp://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2013/cop19/eng/10a02r01.pdf).

Question from: Burkina Faso at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Carbon reduction

By now what about the target for Annex I countries to reach 45% of reduction by 2020?
I would like to know if the commitments of developped countries to provide 100 billion dollars by 2030 and 30 billion by 2012 have been acheived?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU welcomes that more than 90 Parties representing around 80% of global emissions have made 2020 mitigation pledges in order to enhance transparency, comparability of efforts and effective implementation. However, a significant gap still remains to be bridged between the collective level of mitigation ambition up to 2020 and the global emissions trajectory in line with the objective of staying below 2°C, as highlighted in the latest UNEP gap report. The EU appreciates the efforts undertaken under the ADP's WS2 on further international cooperation on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition which could enable closing this gap.

The commitment by developed countries to provide USD 30 billion of "fast-start finance" in the period 2010 to 2012 was achieved. In aggregate, developed countries delivered more than USD 30 billion of "fast-start" climate finance during that period. The EU pledged EUR 7.2 billion for that period and delivered more than EUR 7.3 billion.

Developed countries also committed to the goal of mobilising USD 100bn by 2020 from a variety of sources and in the context of transparent and meaningful mitigation actions. A wide range of initiatives has been taken to scale up the mobilisation of climate finance up to 2020. In 2013, developed countries made submissions on their efforts to scale up the mobilisation of climate finance. In 2014, the EU has submitted an update to that document with key messages and a description of the key actions to scale up the mobilisation of climate finance. These documents are available on the UNFCCC website.

Question from: Egypt at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Green economy

what is the importance to the role of the public policy and finance in unlocking private investment in green growth ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

A strong environmental and investment policy framework is central for unlocking private finance for low-emission climate resilient development and green growth. If the overall framework is right, private investment will flow into green technologies. At the same time, finance institutions and access to finance are key to speed up the transformation to green growth and climate resilient development. In this context financial instruments (which generally include a public finance element) can play a catalytic role in mitigating the risk of investments in low-emission and climate resilient technologies, in particular in countries / regions where the respective technologies have not yet been established. For example, the EU set up regional investment facilities that blend public grants with loans to enable investment in such technologies. The EU also established the Global Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Fund (GEEREF), which provides a risk buffer for investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy in developing countries.

Question from: Egypt at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Roadmap to green growth

What is the best practices (key elements) to achieve green growth and submit low emission development strategy in industry & energy sectors to reduce emissions ?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Successful decoupling of economic growth and GHG emissions is a reality in the EU. The current and projected emission reductions, and the resulting potential overachievement, are largely the result of structural policies implemented in the field of climate and energy (in particular policies resulting in improvements in energy intensity of the economy and a higher share of renewables). Such policies have contributed to the majority of the emission reductions between 2008 and 2012.

A cornerstone of the EU's policy to combat climate change is the EU emissions trading system (EU ETS). By putting a price on carbon and thereby giving a financial value to each tonne of emissions saved, the EU ETS has placed climate change on the agenda of company boards and their financial departments across Europe and has contributed to investment in low emission technologies. The broader EU climate policy framework also promotes investments in clean, low-carbon technologies.

In the EU, the Commission has been working on developing long-term projections to inform the debates on green growth. The Commission also carried out an extensive

economic modelling analysis with several possible scenarios showing how the EU could prepare for reductions in its emissions in the long term and looked at how the main sectors responsible for Europe's emissions - power generation, industry, transport, buildings and construction, as well as agriculture - can make the transition to a low-emission economy most cost-effectively.

In the EU, there is also positive experience with mainstreaming climate goals - meaning that actors whose main tasks are not directly concerned with mitigation of, or adaptation to, climate change, also work to attain these goals. Climate policy mainstreaming has begun in the EU by a strategic horizontal signal, including climate and energy targets as headline targets of Europe's 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. This reflects the recognition that tackling the climate and energy challenge contributes to the creation of jobs, the generation of green growth and a strengthening of Europe's competitiveness. Every year, broad EU economic priorities for the year to come are set out, launching an annual cycle of economic policy coordination making sure that Member States keep their budgetary and economic policies in line with their EU commitments, including the long-term growth and jobs targets, which include climate and energy targets. Further mainstreaming of climate change policy into the EU budget and financing programmes is also crucial for turning policy objectives into actual achievements on the ground. In the EU, the budget must demonstrate that it contributes to the objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to help meeting the climate and energy targets. For the period 2014-2020, at least 20% of the EU expenditures will have to be climate related. More information on climate mainstreaming can be found in the 2014 Commission's Progress Report (http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/docs/kyoto_progress_2014_en.pdf). Other best practices are also available. For example, the Low Emission Capacity Building Programme, a joint collaboration of the European Commission, Germany, Australia and the United Nations Development Programme, and the International Partnership on Mitigation and MRV, have developed Global Good Practice Analysis. This Global Good Practice Analysis shows –amongst other things- how Low Emission Development Strategies are being effectively designed and implemented across a wide range of cultural, political and socio-economic contexts. Next to detailed information on individual cases and their success factors, 'Technical Quality Attributes for Low Emission Development Strategies' are identified in the Global Good Practice Analysis. The Global Good Practice Analysis is available at: http://mitigationpartnership.net/gpa. The EU is also supporting the carbon pricing initiative at the UN Secretary-General's Climate Summit in September, which includes a call for governments to "Provide stable, reliable and economically meaningful carbon pricing that helps redirect investment commensurate with the scale of the climate change challenge".

Question from: Egypt at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Title: The difference bettwen BUR and National communications

kindly explain the main difference between Biennial update report and national communication if it were submitted as a one text and can we use the tier one in both to calculate the green house gases in all sectors and what is the feature if BUR was submitted as a separate

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU can share its experience in submitting its first biennial report in conjunction with the sixth national communication.

For Annex I Parties, paragraph 15 of Decision 2/CP.17 on the reporting requirements for biennial reports for Annex I Parties requires "that in the years when the full national communications are submitted, developed country Parties should present the biennial reports as an annex to the national communications or as a separate report."
Thus, the decision allows two options:
1. The preparation of the biennial report as a separate report and the submission of two self-standing reports in the years in which both a national communication and a biennial report is due.
2. The inclusion of the relevant information in an Annex to the national communication.

Furthermore, there are substantial overlaps between the information requirements in both reports with regard to:
- the GHG inventory information,
- information on mitigation actions or policies and measures,
- GHG emission projections and
- information on support.

In addition, for Kyoto Parties, the national communication has to include the supplementary information under Article 7, paragraph 2 of the Kyoto Protocol which is specified in decision 15/CMP.1, part II.

In the light of the above, the EU has decided to submit its biennial report as an annex to the sixth national communication. By including the same information only in one report, duplication could be better avoided and the consistency between the national communication and biennial report was ensured. It also provided more clarity on the structure and content of the EU's reports.

Before drafting the national communication and biennial report, the EU has performed a detailed mapping of all the reporting requirements in the reporting guidelines for national communications and biennial reports in order to ensure that all the reporting requirements were well covered.

Question from: Egypt at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Measuring and verification and reporting system

what is the easy way to built MRV system with low available fund?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The objective of the MRV system is to put together all the data, processes and capacity needed to produce a reliable Greenhouse Gas inventory and to track progress with the implementation of the different actions implemented at national level. A key step in building an MRV system is to map the existing institutions involved in the collection of data (disregarding the primary purpose of that collection) and create synergies between these data streams.Making institutional agreements with the other ministries and agencies involved in the collection of data is a second very important step that can ensure that the greenhouse gas inventory is compiled in an accurate way. The EU has established the Clima South Project to support among others the setting up of reliable MRV systems in the Mediterranean region. The EU implements also individual projects to build capacity in the field of MRV (including national systems) and it is currently focusing on Africa, Egypt being one of the possible beneficiary countries under this project.

Question from: Egypt at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Greenhouse gases management process

how can Egypt establish its institutional arrangement to strengthen systematic base for Greenhouse gas inventory?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU provides capacity building support in the field of MRV system to various non-Annex 1 parties; for example, Egypt is involved in such partnership through the Clima South project (http://www.climasouth.eu/drupal/node/1) and the capacity building opportunity is channelled through such instrument. The EU also welcomes follow-up work with Egypt to support the strengthening of its Greenhouse gas inventory as part of the Clima South project.

As regards the specific experience of the EU with regards to its own MRV system, the institutional arrangements at EU level are described in Commission Staff Working Document 2013/308 final (http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-

gas/monitoring/docs/swd_2013_308_en.pdf). Overall responsibility for the EU national inventory system rests with the European Commission (Directorate-General Climate Action or DG CLIMA). DG CLIMA is assisted by the European Environment Agency in the technical preparation of the EU inventory.

Question from: Brazil at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Use of Flexible Mechanisms

- Information on the use of units from the market-based mechanisms and land use, land-use change and forestry activities (section 4.12)

This section presents information about the "Annual quantities of units which have been included in the retirement account of EU Member States" (2010, 2011 e 2012) and "Use of flexible mechanisms and sinks in the first commitment period"

As conclusion is stated that "In total the estimated effect of the use of flexible mechanisms in CP1 (in the EU ETS and governmental) for EU-28 amounts to 1 056 Mt CO2eq, about 4 % of initial AAU. Carbon sink activities of EU-28 are expected to contribute towards an additional emission reduction of 420 Mt CO2eq in CP1".

Is important to highlight that "Final CP1 compliance actions for sectors which are not covered by the EU ETS will take place when reviewed inventory data will be available for the complete period, in the “true-up” period in 2015. As a result, data on the final use of flexible mechanisms and sinks is not available for the 1st BR".

Does the EU recognize the relevance of CDM? In case of positive answer, how could the relevance of CDM be more emphasized in the BR?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU applies the rules of the Kyoto Protocol with regards to the use of Kyoto mechanisms, including CDM.

The EU reports on holdings and retirement of units to meet its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol in the supplemental information supplied with national inventories on an annual basis. Furthermore, the EU has reported on the use and intended use of CERs and other units in its first Biennial Report and the 6th National Communication. The information provided in these reports demonstrates the relevance of the CDM and other mechanisms to the EU's use of market mechanisms and more broadly.

Question from: Brazil at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Emission reductions and removals from LULUCF

- Estimates of emission reductions and removals from LULUCF (section 4.11)

Basically, this section repeats the information presented in the GHG inventories submissions. Please, provide the assumptions and conditions regarding the sector.

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU decided to leave Member States to develop and implement LULUCF mitigation policies and not to cover this sector under the 2009 Climate and Energy package.
However, LULUCF is part of the joint binding commitment of the EU, its Member States and Iceland under the second commitment of the Kyoto Protocol. The EU and its Member States apply all the relevant rules related to LULUCF under the Kyoto Protocol.

Furthermore, the EU adopted EU legislation in 2013 related to the accounting rules on emissions and removals on LULUCF.

Full information on the assumptions and conditions regarding the LULUCF sector in the EU is provided in the EU's NIR. Summaries of the methods/activity data/EFs used by EU Member States for the LULUCF are available in the EU NIR, more specifically in Chapters 7 (for the EU-15) and 11 (for KP LULUCF in the EU-15) as well as 22 (for the EU-28). Please refer to the latest EU inventory submission for full details:http://unfccc.int/national_reports/annex_i_ghg_inventories/national_inventories_submissions/items/8108.php

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Question from: Brazil at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Brief summary of the impact assessment results on the climate change related PaMs

- An assessment of the economic and social consequences of response measures (section 4.10)

The section present a brief description of the impact assessment mechanisms that the legislative proposals (including the climate change related PaMs) are subject too.

Recommendations/observations: even if a link to "all impact assessments and all opinions of the Impact Assessment Board" is presented; the section could bring a brief summary of the impact assessment results on the climate change related PaMs

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Considering the length of the EU's sixth national communication and first biennial report, some information was included as links to other documents and not necessarily presented in textual form in the body of the NC6 or BR1.

Information on individual impact assessment of legislation has thus either been included as direct links to the impact assessment performed, or as reference to the relevant chapter in the EU's NIR.

The EU will consider in its next reporting how best to include the suggested information on impact assessment, to facilitate understanding of EU climate related policy, while keeping a manageable size of its biennial report.

Full information on the impact assessments performed on all EU legislation is available on:
http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/impact/index_en.htm

Question from: Brazil at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Institutional changes

- Changes in domestic institutional arrangements (section 4.9)

Two main changes are explained: 1) "change to the domestic institutional arrangement for monitoring and reporting of GHG emissions and climate related information in the EU, and evaluation of the progress towards the EU's economy-wide emission reduction target" (Monitoring Mechanism Decision- MMR); 2) "reform of the EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS, cf. section 4.2.2) in Phase III".

Recommendations/observations: the description made is not necessary about institutional changes, i.e. about the new institutions that are responsible and/or new arrangements between actors/institutions. Basically, present a brief description of the 2 main changes. Maybe the section could focus on explain the new institutions (if any) involved in the 2 actions (MMR and EU ETS - Phase III).

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

In order to enhance transparency, the EU will include such information in its next biennial report.

Question from: **Brazil** at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: One single document

Quantified economy-wide emission reduction target (section 3):

EU BR 1 make reference to early submissions from EU (FCCC/SB/2011/INF.1/Rev.1 - 7 June 2011 / FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.1 - 20 March 2012). The target continue to be "20 per cent emission reduction by 2020 compared with 1990 levels"; with possible use of market instruments; but not LULUCF.
Recommendations/observations: BR should present all the necessary information in one single document to avoid having to access other separated documents (which is not always possible/available).

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

Considering the length of the EU's sixth national communication and first biennial report, some information was included as links to other documents and not necessarily presented in textual form in the body of the NC6 or BR1.

In order to enhance transparency, the EU will include such information in its next biennial report. The EU will consider in its next reporting how best to include the suggested information , to facilitate understanding of EU climate related policy, while keeping a manageable size of its biennial report.

Question from: Bosnia and Herzegovina at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Coal based economy

What are methodologies and measures used to assess and reduce GHG emissions in thermo power plants in coal based economies such in Poland?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

All power plants across the EU are subject to the EU ETS and therefore required to monitor and report emissions as well as to surrender each year a sufficient number of allowances to render their emissions. In general, electricity producers are required to buy all the allowances they need. In other words, as a general principle, the

operators of power plants are not entitled to receive free allocation. The carbon price signal thus provides the incentive to reduce GHG emissions. In order to help countries that have a greater effort to make than others to modernise the power sector, the legislative framework of the EU ETS contains an important exception to this rule. It allows for transitional free allocation to be given for electricity production under the condition that investments into the modernisation of the sector are financed through these allowances. For the period between 2013 and 2019, 8 Member States, including Poland, decided to make use of this option.

Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: how to over-achieve the target

As claimed by the EU, it is going to over-achieve the target by using existing measures. Can the EU further clarify which sectors and policy measures (EU-ETS or ESD) will contribute to the over-achievement in comparison with the 20% target scenario?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This is equivalent to -14% compared to 2005.

This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:
(a) 21% reduction in EU ETS sector emissions by 2020 compared to 2005; and
(b) the Effort Sharing Decision sets binding annual emissions allocations for each Member States for the sectors not covered by the EU ETS. This represents for the EU a reduction of around 10% by 2020 compared to 2005 (limitations based on absolute targets at the level of each Member States). The Effort Sharing Decision mainly covers emissions from transportation, buildings, small businesses and services, agriculture and waste.
Total EU emissions against the scope of the Climate and Energy Package (excluding LULUCF and including international aviation) were in 2012 18 % below 1990 level and are estimated to be around 19 % below 1990 level in 2013. According to the projections provided by Member States based on existing measures, emissions would be 21 % lower in 2020 than in 1990. The EU is thus on track to meet its GHG emission reduction target.
The EU ETS is a market based mechanism setting a cap on the total amount of greenhouse gases that can be emitted by operators. As a result, emissions cannot exceed this cap. In 2013, total verified emissions were 182 Mt CO_2 eq below the cap for that year. Verified emissions in 2013 decreased by 4 % compared to verified emissions in the year 2012. Compared to 2005 verified emissions (scope-corrected), the reduction achieved in 2013 was about 19 %. Further emissions reductions are projected until 2020.

In the non ETS sector, each Member State has a national emission reduction target. According to Member-States' projections (with existing measures), the EU as a whole will achieve the emission reductions foreseen in the non-ETS sector. According to the projections of Member States, a total overachievement of around 700 $MtCO_2$ eq. can be expected in the non-ETS sector over the period 2013-2020. The transport sector is the largest contributor to GHG emissions in the non-ETS sector and emissions are projected to remain stable with existing measures. Energy efficiency measures in the residential and service sectors (the second largest source of emissions in the non-ETS) are expected to contribute towards three quarters of the projected savings in the non-ETS sectors. Emissions reductions are also projected to occur in other sectors (waste, transport, a share of industrial processes and energy supply and a share of energy use, mostly direct combustion in households/services) but with more limited effect in absolute term. Planned additional measures will mainly deliver reductions in the residential and services sectors and in the transport sector.
The report from the Commission "Progress towards achieving the Kyoto and EU 2020 objectives" (see http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/g-gas/docs/kyoto_progress_2014_en.pdf) provides every year the progress towards the Kyoto and EU 2020 GHG emission reduction targets. Further information can be found in EEA publications (http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/trends-and-projections-in-europe-2014)

Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: progress and projection for the sectors covered by EU-ETS

Since there are separate emission reduction targets for sectors covered by EU-ETS and non-ETS, could the EU provide further information on the progress and projection for the ETS covered sectors and non-ETS covered sectors, whether they are in line with respective emission reduction targets?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This is equivalent to -14% compared to 2005.

This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:
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Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: use of market-based mechanisms

According to the projection, the EU could achieve its target by domestic efforts. Can the EU provide further information on its intension of using market-based mechanisms, especially for those units generated outside the EU bubble boundary?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

According to the latest projections submitted by Member States, the EU emissions are expected to be below the relevant Kyoto target for the second commitment period. However, the use of international credits generated through the Kyoto Protocol's project based flexible mechanisms (i.e. JI and CDM) remains possible in both the EU ETS and non-ETS sectors subject to the qualitative and quantitative limits set out in our legislation. Both ETS operators and governments are currently making use of these mechanisms.

Under the EU ETS, a limited entitlement to use international credits was given to operators. Approximately 1.05 billion CERs and ERUs were used in phase 2 of the EU ETS (these units were directly surrendered), covering the period 2008-2012. A further 0.55 billion can still be used by operators in phase 3 (2013-2020) of the EU ETS (through exchange for an EU allowance).

Additionally, under the ESD, Member States may use international GHG emission reduction credits to implement their obligations in the period 2013-2020. This use is limited to an annual quantity equal to 3% of the GHG emissions in sectors covered by the ESD of that Member State in 2005. Twelve Member States fulfilling criteria set up in the ESD may use additional credits from projects in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States amounting to 1% of their 2005 emissions.

Additionally, under the ESD, Member States may use international GHG emission reduction credits to implement their obligations in the period 2013-2020. This use is limited to an annual quantity equal to 3% of the GHG emissions in sectors covered by the ESD of that Member State in 2005. Twelve Member States fulfilling criteria set up in the ESD may use additional credits from projects in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States amounting to 1% of their 2005 emissions.

Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: individual target for member States

We understand that the emission reduction in sectors covered by the EU-ETS will be implemented as a whole across the EU. However, in order to have a better understanding of comparable efforts made by each member state, can the EU provide further information on the initial distribution of the EU allowances among each of the member states?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU-wide cap under the EU ETS is determined for all EU Member States and the three EEA EFTA States (Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein) without reflecting a specific share for each Member State.
The allocation of allowances takes place through auctions and free allocation. The share of allowances auctioned on behalf of each Member State in each year is public and can be obtained from the relevant auction platforms.

However, free allocation is provided on the basis of EU-wide rules to installation operators within a certain limit. For each of the nearly 12.000 installations in the EU ETS, the allocation has been calculated based on the common rules. A breakdown of the amounts per Member State is not available.

Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: division of EU targetRegarding “

Efforts to meet the EU-28 target will be divided among member States in both EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows”, can the EU provide an aggregated target for 2020 compared with that of 2005 based on this division?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The Climate and Energy Package sets a 20% GHG emission reduction target for EU-28 by 2020 compared to 1990. This is equivalent to -14% compared to 2005.
This effort is divided between EU ETS and non-ETS sectors as follows:
(a) 21% reduction in EU ETS sector emissions by 2020 compared to 2005; and
(b) the Effort Sharing Decision sets binding annual emissions allocations for each Member States for the sectors not covered by the EU ETS. This represents for the EU a reduction of around 10% by 2020 compared to 2005 (limitations based on absolute targets at the level of each Member States). The Effort Sharing Decision mainly covers emissions from transportation, buildings, small businesses and services, agriculture and waste.

Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: conditions related to the EU target

The EU has made a conditional emission reduction target to move to a 30% reduction by 2020 compared to 1990 levels. However, it is not clear what the EU means "global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012", and to what extent the EU would recognize that other developed countries have committed themselves to comparable emission reductions and developing countries have

contributed adequately according to their responsibilities and respective capabilities. Further details on how the EU decides this is needed.

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The EU welcomes that more than 90 Parties representing around 80% of global emissions have made 2020 mitigation pledges in order to enhance transparency, comparability of efforts and effective implementation. However, a significant gap still remains to be bridged between the collective level of mitigation ambition up to 2020 and the global emissions trajectory in line with the objective of staying below 2°C. The EU appreciates the efforts undertaken under the ADP's WS2 on further international cooperation on enhancing pre-2020 mitigation ambition. However, the latest UNEP Emission Gap Report from November 2014 give evidence that the pledges we have seen to date are insufficient to be on a cost efficient trajectory in line with the 2°C objective, even when fully implemented by 2020.

Furthermore, the current system remains fragmented with only a few Parties with commitments under the Second Commitment Period of the Kyoto Protocol. As a result, no "global and comprehensive agreement for the period beyond 2012" is yet in place for the period 2013-2020.

Question from: China at Monday, 29 September 2014
Category: All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Consistency of emission data

Inconsistencies of emission data exist in the base year as well as in 2011, when compared with GHG emission data in the first biennial report and the national inventory report of the European Union (BR. Table1 vs. Table4 vs. NIR2014 Table ES.3). Further clarification about these inconsistencies is needed.

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

There are three reasons for the difference between the data provided in the EU first biennial report (BR1) and the EU GHG inventory submission 2014.

First, the data reported in the BR1 is consistent with the 2013 EU inventory submission (see p. 311 of the BR1), not with the 2014 inventory submission. Recalculations have occurred in the meanwhile, such as for example, those stemming from inventory reviews.

Secondly, by the time of the submission of the 1BR Croatia had joined the European Union and hence the EU28 aggregates provided in the 1BR also include Croatia (using its own inventory submission to the UNFCCC). However, Croatia was not an EU Member States in 2012 at the time of the submission of the EU 2014 GHG inventory.

Finally, the data displayed in the EU GHG inventory, in particular the figures concerning the Base Year, refer to the base year as defined under the Kyoto Protocol, which differs from that defined under the Convention (UNFCCC) and which is included in Table 1 of the Biennial Report. Regarding the Convention, the EU and its Member States are committed to an independent quantified economy-wide emissions reduction target of 20% by 2020, compared to 1990 levels. Further information on this target is contained in document FCCC/AWGLCA/2012/MISC.1.

Question from: New Zealand at Sunday, 28 September 2014
Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target
Title: Emissions projections assumptions

The 'with measures' (WEM) projections for the EU represent a business-as-usual scenario aggregated from the WEM projections of individual member States. The projections presented by different member States are based on their own individual assumptions. Could the EU please clarify the validity of aggregating the projections of individual member States to present a WEM scenario for the EU, when these individual projections are based on diverse underlying assumptions?

Answered by: European Union at Tuesday, 25 November 2014

The European Environmental Agency (EEA) assists the Commission with monitoring and reporting work, performing a quality assessment and quality control (QA/QC) analysis on the projections reported by Member States. The QA/QC analysis is performed with the aim of assuring an appropriate level of coherence, consistency and homogeneity among the Member States' submissions.

In addition, the Commission provides to Member States common recommended parameters for reporting on GHG projections. The Commission puts forward the recommended harmonised values for ETS carbon prices, international oil and coal import prices, and recommends Member States to use these harmonized values in their projections.

Should a Member State decide to use other values, the reasons for doing so should be provided together with a sensitivity analysis which uses the values of the recommended harmonized parameters.

In view of facilitating a meaningful EU-wide aggregation of projections, Member States are as well invited to use the assumptions provided in by the Commission on trends in international gas prices, population, GDP growth, growth of gross value

added of manufacturing industry, exchange rate US dollar/Euro, unless there are reasons for national deviations and country-specific estimates available (in this case it is suggested to use the provided assumptions for a sensitivity analysis).