

## Session SBI59 (2023)

Session starts: 01-09-2023 00:00:00 [GMT+1]

Session ends: 30-11-2023 23:30:00 [GMT+1]



Exported from Session final result section

A compilation of questions to - and answers by - Spain [exported on 02-12-2023] by the UNFCCC secretariat

Question by New Zealand at Saturday, 30 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: Spanish Forest Plan

New Zealand was interested to read of the Spanish Forest Plan in Spain's NC8. Could Spain provide any insights on the development of this plan? We would be particularly interested in how adaptation and mitigation outcomes have informed the plan, and if there are intentions to measure the mitigation and/or adaptation impacts of the plan?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

The **Spanish Forest Plan** was approved in 2022 and constitutes the implementation during the first 10 years of the **Spanish Forest Strategy, Horizon 2050**.

Most of the measures included in the Plan are actions whose concretion and development must be carried out in the regional forestry plans.

In terms of climate change mitigation and adaptation, the Spanish Forest Plan includes two indicators:

1. **Carbon stored in forests:** Carbon stocks and changes in living biomass, soils and harvested wood products, in forest land.
2. **Forest area subject to active forest management** (ha)

These indicators, like most of the Plan's indicators, are pending methodological development that will be carried out in coordination with the Public Administrations and the forestry sector, within the framework of the coordination and participation bodies provided for in the Plan.

It should also be considered that the Forest Plan fully addresses the assessment, measures and goals of the NECP and the National Adaptation Plan 2021-2030 with regards to the forestry sector, so they are not repeated in the Spanish Forest Plan.

Question by Canada at Friday, 29 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: How is atmospheric measurement data considered in your GHG inventory?

Improved measurement technologies in recent years have resulted in the advancement of emissions data derived from atmospheric measurements which can be compared to emissions/removals data reported to the UNFCCC. Could you please share information about how atmospheric measurement data are considered in the development of your GHG inventory, including any plans to incorporate such measurements into inventory methodologies?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

Spain is aware of the great advances in atmospheric measurement technologies that are being made recently, and their application to emissions estimation or spatial allocation.

However, for the moment, Spain has not incorporated these approaches into the inventory, waiting for guidance from the IPCC Guidelines and the alignment with the methodologies used by the rest of the European Union countries.

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Question by United States of America at Friday, 29 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: Tracking Progress of mitigation efforts

How will Spain assess the effectiveness of national and subnational institutional arrangements for tracking progress of mitigation efforts? Is there a standardized system of evaluating Spain's subnational emissions reduction capacity/impact?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

Climate change planning at the national level is complemented by the plans and strategies implemented by the regional administrations, which are aligned with national planning, and

respond to the specific circumstances of their territories.

The mitigation efforts resulting from the implementation of different policies and measures are reflected in the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory. They are estimated using the methodologies of the Spanish Inventory System, applied to each activity, providing the data by categories or activities at the national level. In addition, the System provides the Autonomous Communities with disaggregated data on their respective territories.

On the other hand, the emissions projections are a crucial tool to know the trends and for assessing the potential effect of the mitigation measures for 2030, and other long-term scenarios.

Coordination, development and monitoring of the achievement of the objectives assumed by Spain are carried out through the institutional framework on climate change existing in the country. The main coordination body with the territorial administrations is the Climate Change Policy Coordination Commission, with several working groups (WG): WG on emissions trading, WG on impacts and adaptation and the WG on mitigation and inventories. You can see the details of the operation of these WGs in section 4.2.1 of the NC8.

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Question by United States of America at Friday, 29 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: MITECO

Reporting indicated that since the submission of its NC7, Spain has made significant institutional changes relevant to climate action, including the establishment of Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO). Could you discuss how this change differs from previous institutions, as well as how MITECO impacts the Party's current climate efforts?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

The establishment of **Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO)** has meant a reinforcement of its institutional structure in terms of

climate change for several reasons. In addition, the minister is the third vice president of the government, which highlights the relevance of the matter in the government structure.

The Ministry has a **State Secretary for the Environment** that runs and coordinates the formulation of climate change policies, among other issues; these competences are executed, through the **Spanish Office for Climate Change**. The Ministry also has a **State Secretary for Energy** that directs and coordinates the execution of competences in relation to the formulation of energy policies, and the development of energy planning and strategy, within the framework of the commitment to long-term climate neutrality. This structure is supported by a coordination system consisting of the **Interministerial Commission for Climate Change**, the **National Climate Council**, and the **Climate Change Policy Coordination Commission**.

This new structure of the Ministry and its Coordination Bodies has facilitated the adoption of a Strategic Framework on Climate Change constituted by the Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy transition, the National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) and the Spanish 2050 Long Term Strategy (ELP), has also approved the Just Transition Strategy to ensure a just transition that leaves no one behind and maximizes economic opportunities for all. This strategic framework has also facilitated the performance of the coordination bodies, and the preparation of a governance and public participation framework.

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Question by Japan at Friday, 29 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: Sensitivity analysis

Spain has conducted sensitivity analysis by sector and by scenario (WEM, WAM), and the results of the analysis reported are very interesting. How are the results of the sensitivity analysis used in future policy making? Also, if there are any lessons learned in conducting sensitivity analysis, could Spain share them with us?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

The results of the projections, including the sensitivity analysis are made available to the Ministries and units responsible for each sector so that each one can use this information for their emissions reduction policies and measures.

We have observed that the results of the sensitivity analysis depend closely on the approach adopted for estimating the projections, and as that approach varies, the sensitivity analysis will also vary, even if the input data do not vary. For this reason, it is important to maintain contact with the units responsible for each sector so that the sensitivity analysis is more refined and effective.

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Question by Japan at Friday, 29 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: Emission projections for the Agriculture Sector

It is reported in the NC8 that the WAM scenario includes additional measures of the long-term decarbonization strategy starting in 2030. On the other hand, the emission projections for the agricultural sector under the WAM scenario show a slowing downward trend in emissions after 2030. What is causing this change in trend?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

The current Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan, that is being drafted during the current year, forecasts a 18% GHG decrease in the agricultural sector for 2030 (in relation to 2005 levels). The two key data sources for this sector emissions are livestock herds and fertilizer consumption in agriculture.

- According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, livestock herd trend shows a decrease until 2030 and it then becomes more stable. Besides there are new regulations in force related to enteric fermentation and manure management systems that will decrease emissions as they become in place.
- Emissions projections from cultivated soils mainly depend on the total amount and the distribution techniques of the main inorganic fertilizers applied. In this case, there is also a new regulation in force for sustainable fertilisation that will decrease both, the total amount of fertiliser applied, and the emissions derived from its application. New Common Agricultural Policy will also work in this sense. But these reductions are also expected to be higher at the first instance after becoming in place and then, they will have a less steep decrease. At last, and according to IPCC (2019 Refinement), there has been a recalculation of the N<sub>2</sub>O Emission Factor for the Mediterranean climate that has, only initially, decreased emissions from our agricultural soils as well.



Question by United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Friday, 22 September 2023

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

Type: Before 30 September

Title: Question to Spain on its emission reduction

Thank you, Spain, for the opportunity to comment on your 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Report and 8<sup>th</sup> National Communication. Table 2 in Section 3.2 on your emissions reductions between 2013 and 2020 shows a steady reduction.

Your goal was to achieve a 10% emissions reduction by 2020, compared to levels in 2005. What was the actual percentage reduction (as it seems well above 10%)? And in which sectors were the biggest emissions reductions seen?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 16 November 2023

Table 2 in 5th Biennial Report shows Spain's annual emissions allocations (emissions commitments) for the period 2013-2020, for non-EU ETS sectors, to achieve the 10% reduction target in 2020.

**3.2. Contribución de España al objetivo de la Unión**

Como se ha explicado en el apartado anterior, cada Estado miembro se ha comprometido a cumplir con un objetivo de reducción de emisiones de los sectores difusos. En el caso de España el objetivo consiste en alcanzar en 2020 una reducción del 10% respecto a los niveles de 2005. La senda anual de cumplimiento de España es la siguiente:

Tabla 2 Asignaciones anuales de emisiones para España (2013 -2020)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
AEAs (ktCO <sub>2</sub> )	227.564	225.648	223.733	221.817	218.263	216.306	214.348	212.390

Table 4 in 5th Biennial Report shows the verified emissions in Spain in non-EU ETS sectors in the period 2013-2020 <sup>(1)</sup>

Tabla 4 Emisiones verificadas en España en sectores no RCDE UE

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EMISIONES (ktCO2)	196.153 <sup>1</sup>	198.472 <sup>2</sup>	201.107 <sup>3</sup>	203.030 <sup>4</sup>	201.879 <sup>5</sup>	184.188 <sup>6</sup>

The total emissions in 2020 amounted to 184,188 kt CO<sub>2</sub>eq, which means a 25.9% emissions reduction compared to 2005. That is, 64,245 kt of CO<sub>2</sub>eq less emitted in 2020 compared to 2005. Of this amount: 44.6% correspond to the transport sector; 37.7% to Others; 8.8% to F-gases sector; and 8.6% to RCI sector. In this "Others" the activities with the greatest weight and reduction of emissions are: the manufacturing and construction industry, the chemical industry and fugitive emissions.

(1) You can find original data in de UE website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/clima/ets/transactionsCompliance.do?languageCode=en&esdRegistry=ES&esdYear=&search=Search&currentSortSettings>

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