



# Denmark's climate targets and progress

Multilateral Assessment in relation to Denmark's Fifth Biennial Report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

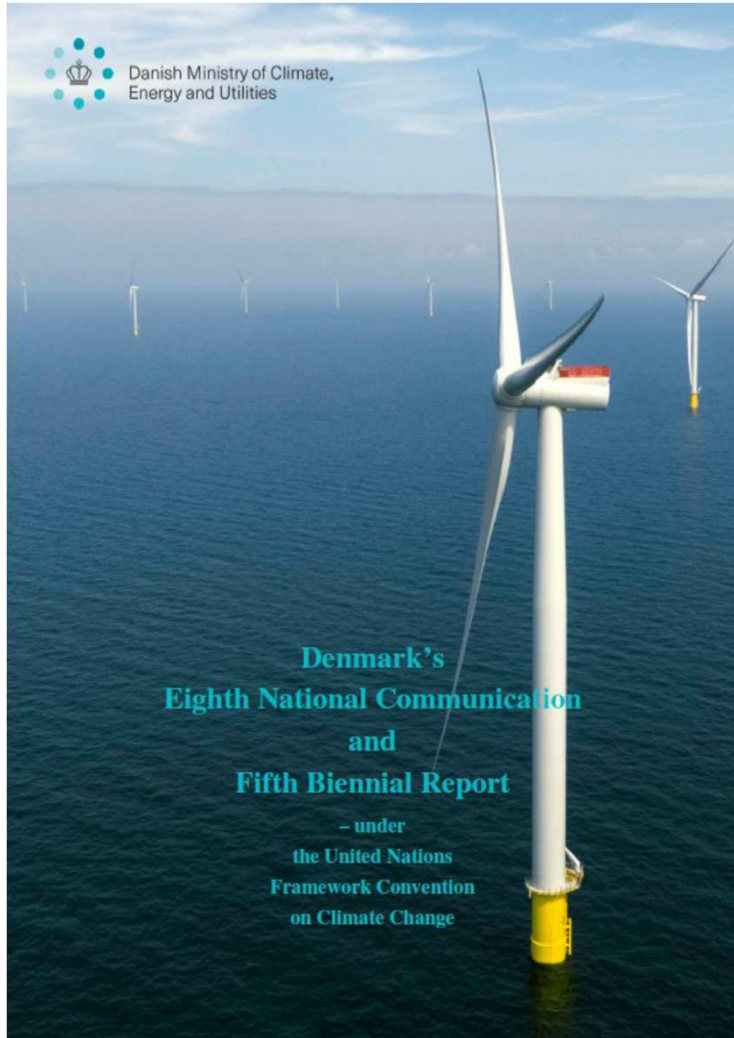
SBI 60, 7 June 2024



Danish Ministry of Climate,  
Energy and Utilities



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SBI 60

**Multilateral Assessment**

7 June 2024

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# Denmark - a Member State in the European Union: the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020 applies

## The EU and its Member States:

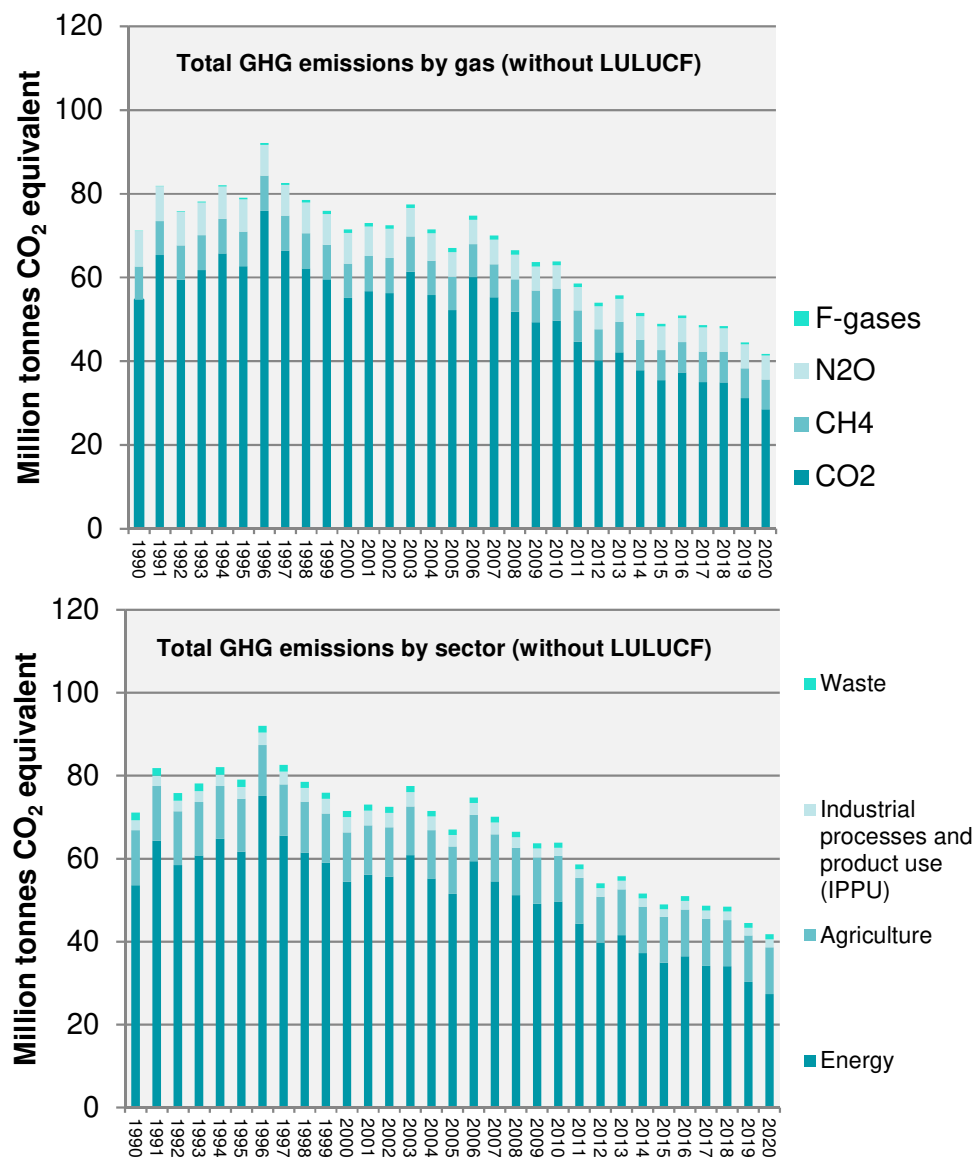
- The EU 2020 pledge under the Convention is an unconditional quantified economy-wide emission reduction target of a **20 % reduction of total greenhouse gas emissions in EU27 and United Kingdom by 2020 compared with 1990.**
- The EU 2020 pledge under the Convention does **not** include emissions/removals from **Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)**. The use of **international credits** generated through the Kyoto Protocol's project based flexible mechanisms (i.e. JI and CDM) was possible subject to qualitative and quantitative limits set out in EU legislation.
- The EU 2020 pledge under the Convention was achieved jointly by the EU and its member states and UK by reaching 34 % reduction. **No individual economy-wide target for Denmark** was included in the joint EU 2020-target under the Convention. Denmark contributed to the achievement of the joint target with 42 % reduction from 1990 to 2020 – primarily in sectors covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, but also in the so-called Non-ETS sectors.
- In accordance with EU legislation, Denmark contributed to the efforts in achieving both the joint EU target under the Convention and the joint EU target under the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol by reducing greenhouse gas emissions in **sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme** with **24 % in 2020 compared with 2005 levels** – an overachievement of Denmark's non-ETS target under the Effort Sharing Decision, which was at least 20 % reduction from 2005 to 2020.

# The "a-b-c" for the MA and Denmark's participation in the joint EU target for 2020

- a) **Greenhouse gas emission** trends in Denmark;
- b) **Assumptions, conditions and methodologies** related to Denmark's contribution to the attainment of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020;
- c) **Progress** in Denmark's contribution towards the attainment of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020.
  
- x) **Additional information** on targets, progress and the national policy framework beyond 2020

# (a) Greenhouse gas emission trends in Denmark 1990-2020

Total (excluding LULUCF cf. the joint EU 2020 target), by gas and by sector, 2022 submission (i.e AR4 GWPs)



GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	1990	2020	Change from 1990 to 2020 (in 2022 submission and NC8/BR5)
	CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent (Million tonnes)		
<b>Total (without LULUCF, with indirect CO<sub>2</sub>)</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>-42</b>
<i>Total (with LULUCF, with indirect CO<sub>2</sub>)</i>	<i>78.0</i>	<i>44.9</i>	<i>-42</i>

GREENHOUSE GAS SOURCE AND SINK CATEGORIES	1990	2020	Change from 1990 to 2020 (in 2022 submission and NC8/BR5)
	CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent (Million tonnes)		
1. Energy	52.4	27.1	-48
2. Industrial processes and product use	2.3	1.9	-18
3. Agriculture	13.3	11.3	-16
4. Land use, land-use change and forestry	6.9	3.1	-55
5. Waste	1.9	1.2	-36
6. Other	NO	NO	-
Indirect CO <sub>2</sub>	1.1	0.2	-76

# **(b) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies**

**related to Denmark's contribution to the attainment of  
the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020**

	<b>Denmark's contribution to the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020</b>	<b>Denmark's contribution to the joint EU target under KP CP2 (2013-2020)</b>
<b>Base year:</b>	1990	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> and N <sub>2</sub> O: 1990 HFCs, PFCs, SF <sub>6</sub> and NF <sub>3</sub> : 1995
<b>Target:</b>	Part of the joint EU target which is a unconditional quantified economy wide emission reduction target of 20% by 2020, compared to 1990 levels.	20 % reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in sectors not covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme in 2020 compared with 2005.
<b>Period for reaching target:</b>	From 1990 to 2020	From 1990 to 2013-2020.
<b>Gases:</b>	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, HFCs, PFCs and SF <sub>6</sub> .	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, HFCs, PFCs, SF <sub>6</sub> and NF <sub>3</sub>
<b>Sectors:</b>	All GHG inventory sectors, excluding LULUCF, including international aviation.	All GHG inventory sectors, where KP LULUCF under art. 3.3 and 3.4 of the KP will be accounted for under the protocol, but not used in relation to the achievement of targets under the EU ETS and the EU ESD (non-ETS).
<b>GWPs:</b>	IPCC 4 <sup>th</sup> AR.	IPCC 4 <sup>th</sup> AR.
<b>Role of LULUCF:</b>	Excluded.	Included in the reporting under the KP (activity-based approach), but not used in relation to the achievement of targets under the EU ETS and the EU ESD (non-ETS).
<b>Use of international market-based mechanisms:</b>	Not planning to use international credits.	Not planning to use international credits.

# (b) Assumptions, conditions and methodologies

related to Denmark's contribution to the attainment of  
the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020

## Denmark's and other EU Member States' non-ETS targets for 2020

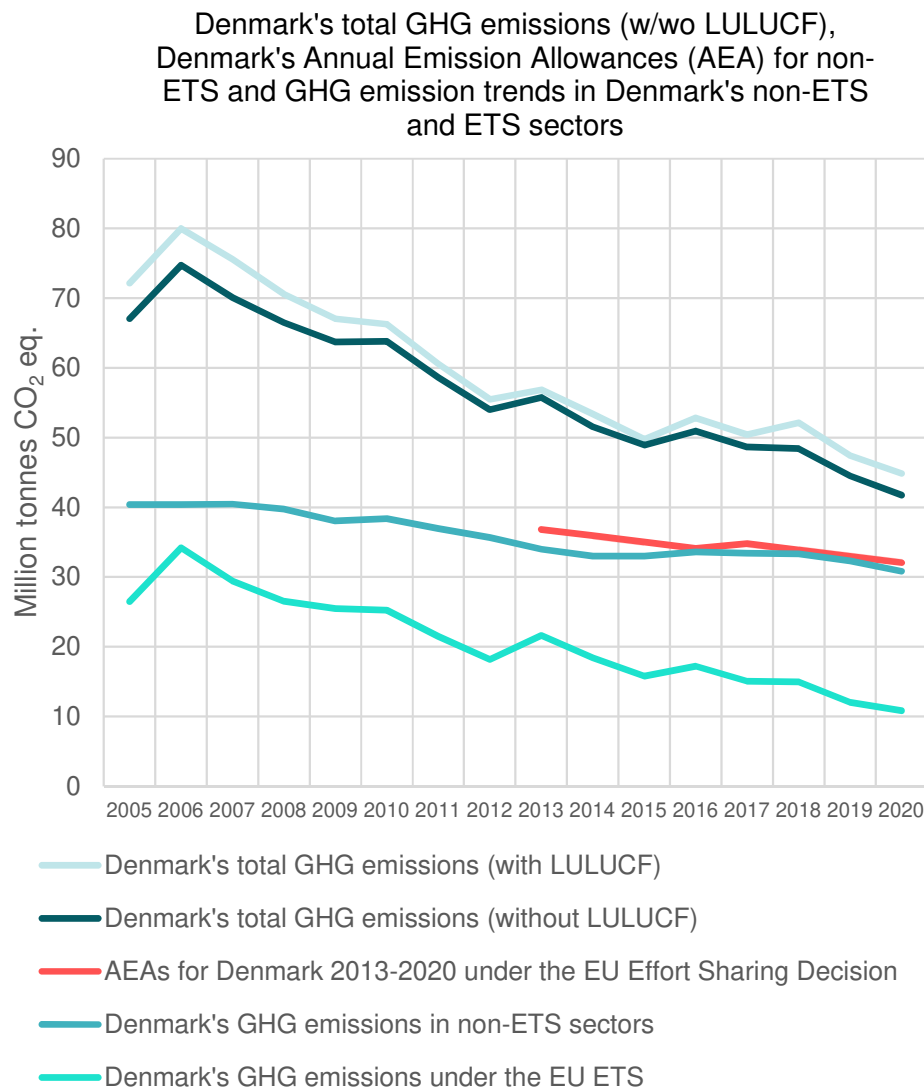


# (c) Progress in Denmark's contribution

to the attainment of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020

Progress - according to the 2022 inventory submission with estimates until 2020 (i.e. AR4 GWPs)

- Denmark's Total GHG emissions without LULUCF **decreased 42 %** from 1990 to 2020.  
From 2005 to 2020 a decrease of 34 % can be seen.
- Denmark's GHG emissions in the non-ETS sectors **stayed below the EU target path for Denmark 2013-2020** under the EU Effort Sharing Decision – including in 2020, where the 24 % reduction from 2005 was below the 20 % reduction target for Denmark.

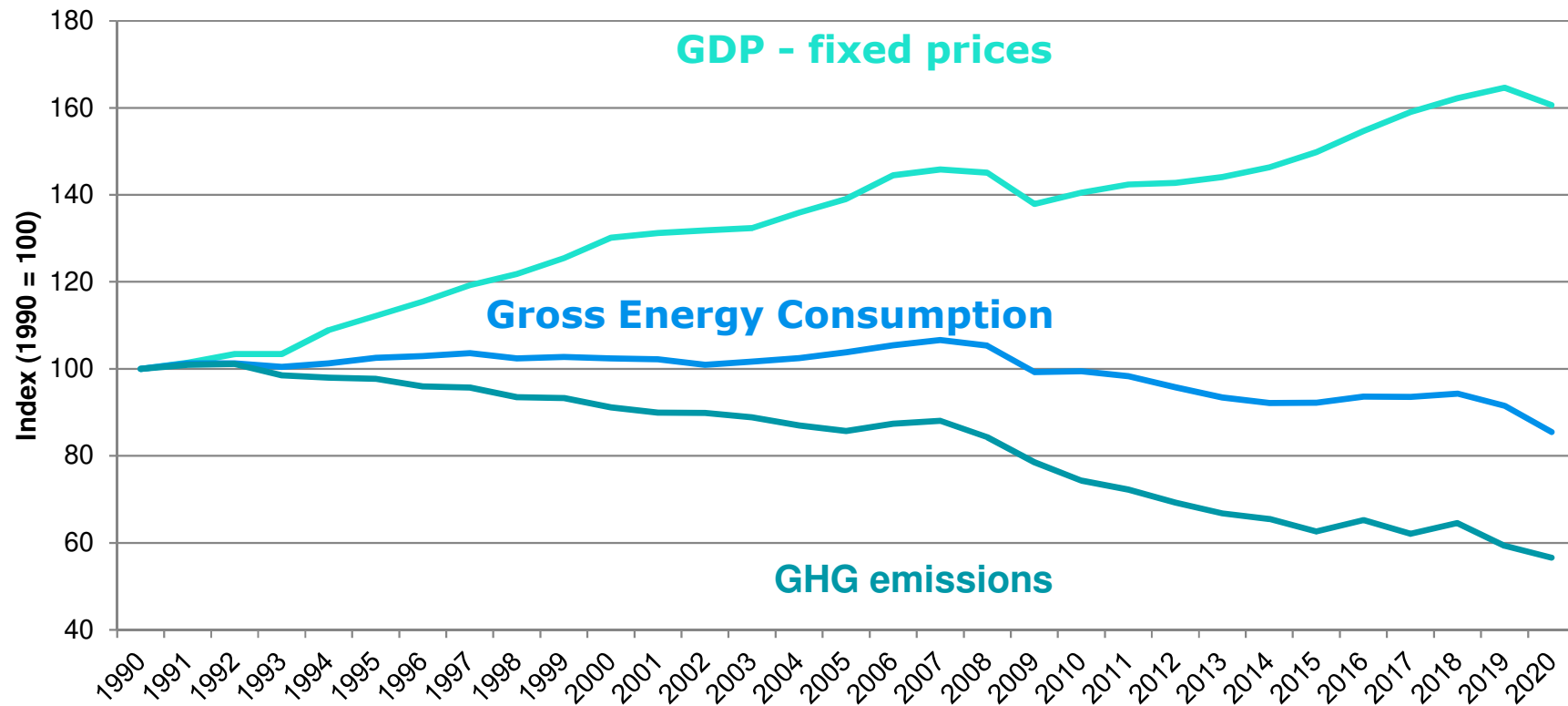




# (c) Progress in Denmark's contribution

to the attainment of the joint EU quantified economy-wide emission reduction target for 2020

## Decoupling of GHG emissions and energy consumption from economic growth



# (x) The policy framework

## for the attainment of Denmark's national targets for 2025, 2030 and 2050

### Key elements of the Danish Climate Act:

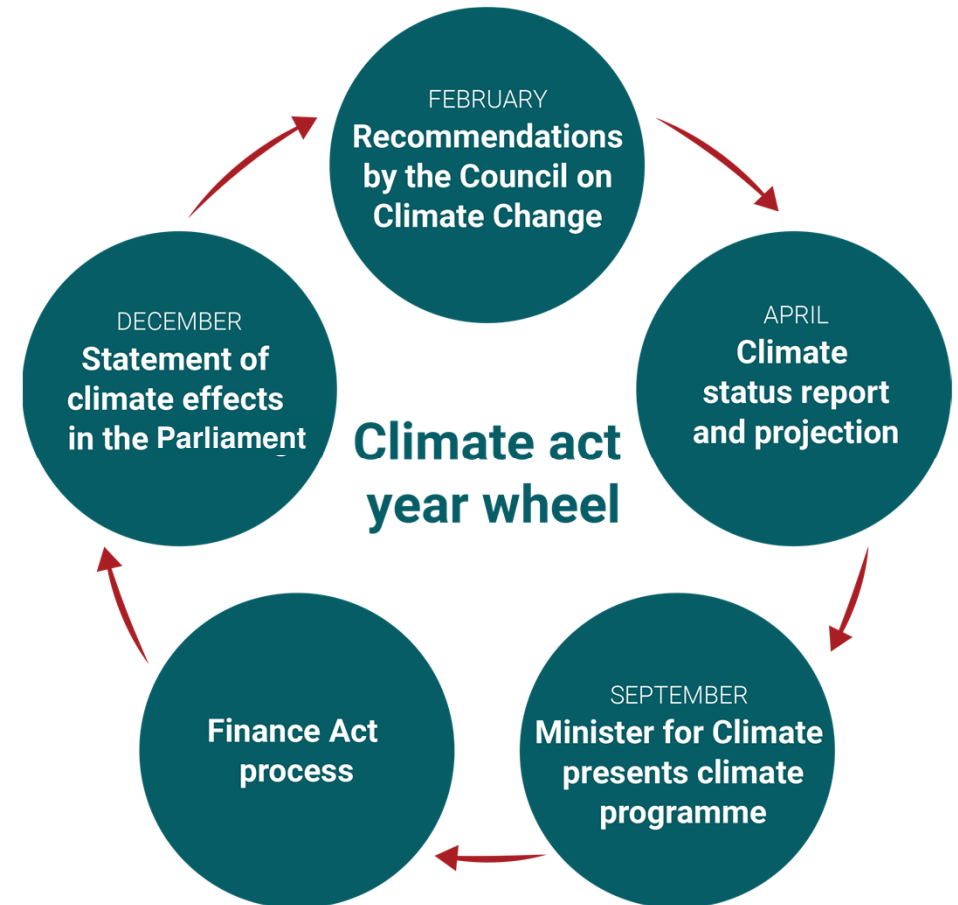
- The Climate Act sets:
  - an **indicative reduction target** for **2025** of **50-54%** compared to 1990;
  - a legally binding target of **70% reduction by 2030** compared to 1990; and
  - a long-term target to become a **climate-neutral society by 2050 at the latest**.
- The Climate Act mandates the setting of a **new national climate target every five years**, with a 10-year perspective. Next time will be in 2025 with a target for 2035.



# (x) The Climate Act year wheel

for the attainment of Denmark's national targets for 2025, 2030 and 2050

- **Annual recommendations from the Danish Council on Climate Change**
- **Climate status and projection**
- **Climate programme**
- **Finance Act process**
- **Report to the Danish Parliament**



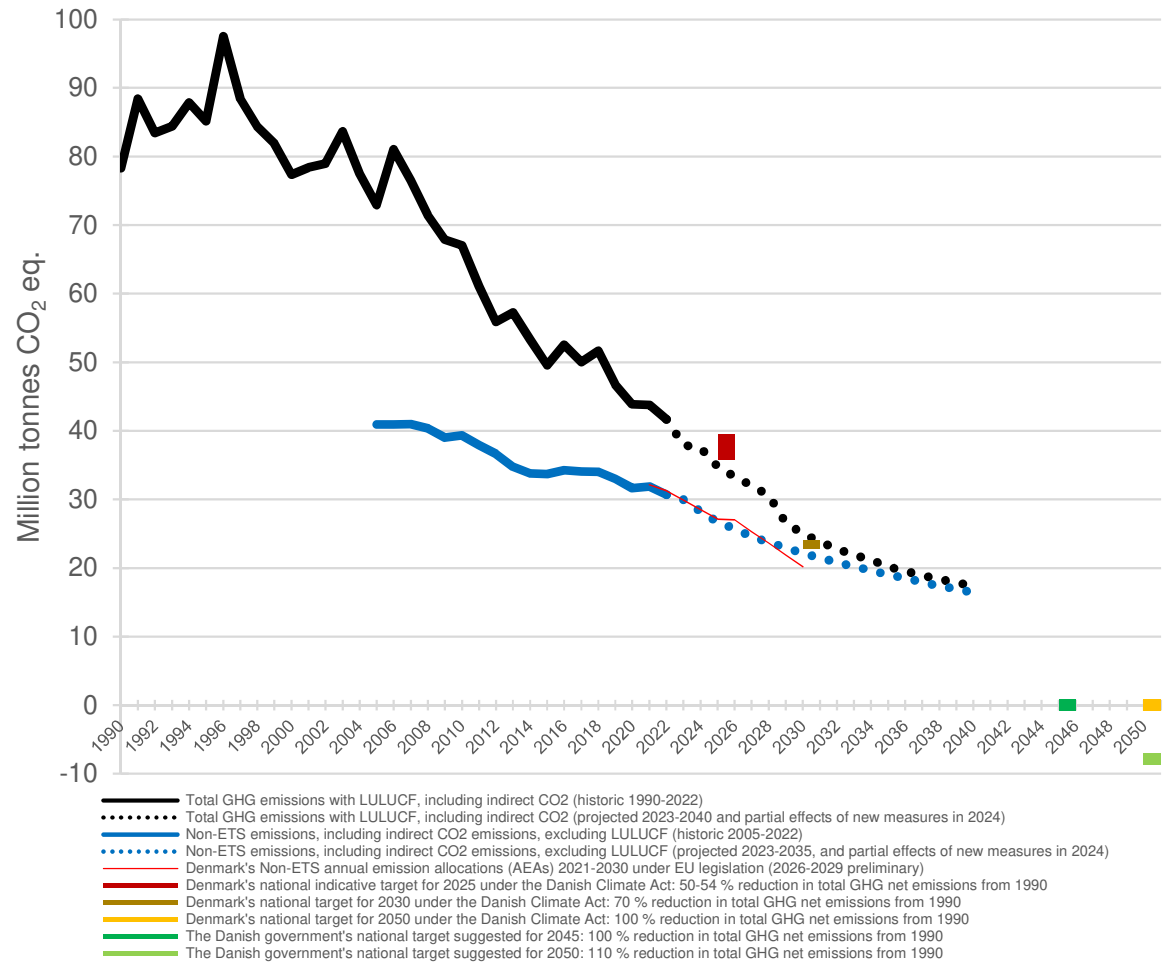
# (x) Progress

## in the attainment of Denmark's national targets for 2025, 2030 and 2050 and Denmark's EU non-ETS target path for 2021-2030

*- according to the latest climate status and projections from April 2024 (i.e. AR5 GWPs)*

- Denmark's national indicative target for 2025:  
**50-54 % reduction from 1990** in total GHG emissions with LULUCF.  
*April 2024 projection (WEM): 55.5 % reduction.*
- Denmark's national target for 2030:  
**70 % reduction from 1990** in total GHG emissions with LULUCF.  
*April 2024 projection (WEM): 68 % reduction.*
- Denmark's national long-term target for 2050:  
**Climate neutrality** by 2050 (the target in the Danish Climate Act) or 2045 (cf. the government platform, including reaching 110 % reduction in 2050, i.e. net negative).  
*April 2024 projection (WEM):* Projection estimates for 2045/2050 are not available. Work on long-term scenarios is expected to start later in 2024.
- Denmark's EU non-ETS target path for 2021-2030\*:  
**50 % reduction by 2030 from 2005** in non-ETS sectors.  
*April 2024 projection (WEM):* Non-ETS GHG emissions are projected to be close to the path 2021-2030 (an accumulated deficit of 0.1 MtCO<sub>2</sub>e for the whole period). The additional measures to be adopted for the attainment of the national 70 % reduction target will also contribute to the attainment of Denmark's EU non-ETS target path.

Denmark's total GHG emissions 1990-2022 and projections 2023-2040 (with LULUCF, indirect CO<sub>2</sub> and partial effects of new measures in 2024), Denmark's domestic targets - as well as Denmark's historic (2005-2022) and projected (2023-2040) non-ETS emissions a



\* Denmark's EU non-ETS target path for 2021-2030 is to be seen as Denmark's contribution to the EU NDC under the Paris Agreement (see the presentation by the European Commission from the MA of the EU in December 2023).

# (x) The Government's involvement of the public and the business sectors and climate policy working method

## Government cooperation forums

### **14 Climate Partnerships**

The Government has entered into 14 Climate partnerships with all segments of the Danish business community. The purpose is to ensure that the business community will contribute to reducing greenhouse gases in Denmark using methods that take into account Danish competitiveness, exports, jobs and welfare.

The 14 Climate partnerships: Land transport, Service, IT and consultancy; Aviation; Waste, water and circular economy; Construction sector; Life science and biotech; Trading; Manufacturing activities; Financial sector; Energy and utilities sector; The Blue Denmark; Energy-intensive industry; Food and agricultural sector and Defense.

### **Citizens' Assembly.**

The Citizens' Assembly has 99 members who will discuss dilemmas and solutions associated with citizen-centric climate challenges.

### **Youth Climate Council.**

The Youth Climate Council aims to infuse innovative thinking into Danish climate policy with input for future climate solutions. Appointed for two-year terms, the members come from all over Denmark, have different educational backgrounds and represent different approaches to climate challenges.



## Government-internal processes

### **Green Committee**

The Green Committee deals with issues in relation to the government's policy on the green area, with a particular focus on meeting the targets set in the Climate Act and the government platform regarding nature, environment and climate. The committee normally meets once a week.

### **Legislative programme.**

The Government screens its annual legislative programme for climate, environment and nature effects as a regular procedure.

### **Guidance on assessment of impact on climate, environment and nature.**

Determines guidelines for impact assessments on climate, environment and nature. The guidance also describes when measures must be submitted to the Green Committee.

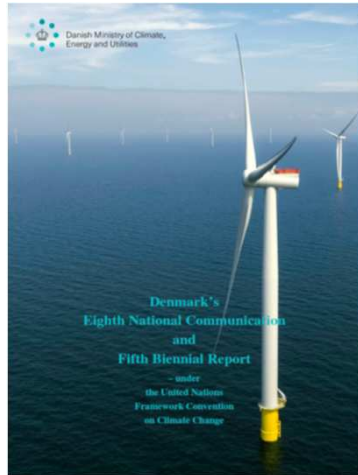
### **Green economic models.**

A new economic model (Green REFORM) will be able to assess impacts on the environment, nature and climate of economic activity and assess the economic impact on environment, nature and climate policy initiatives.





Danish Ministry of Climate,  
Energy and Utilities



## Further information:

**Denmark's NC8/BR5/CTF:**

<https://unfccc.int/documents/631165>

<https://unfccc.int/documents/631140>

**Political agreements and publications  
available in English:**

<https://en.kefm.dk/the-ministry/publications>

**The Danish Climate Act of 26 June 2020:**

[https://en.kefm.dk/Media/1/B/Climate%20Act\\_Denmark%20-%20WEBTILG%C3%86NGELIG-A.pdf](https://en.kefm.dk/Media/1/B/Climate%20Act_Denmark%20-%20WEBTILG%C3%86NGELIG-A.pdf)

**Climate Programme 2020:**

[https://en.kefm.dk/Media/3/9/ClimateProgramme2020-Denmarks-LTS-under-the%20ParisAgreement\\_December2020\\_.pdf](https://en.kefm.dk/Media/3/9/ClimateProgramme2020-Denmarks-LTS-under-the%20ParisAgreement_December2020_.pdf)

**Klimaprogram 2023:**

<https://kefm.dk/Media/638315764817167867/Klimaprogram%202023.pdf> (in Danish)

**Energy Statistics 2022:**

<https://ens.dk/en/our-services/statistics-data-key-figures-and-energy-maps>

**National Inventory Report 2023:**

<https://unfccc.int/documents/627788>

**Denmark's Climate Status and Projection 2024:**

<https://kefm.dk/klima/klimastatus-og-fremskrivning>

(in Danish - a summary in English will be published later in 2024)

## Thank you for your attention.

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