

Session SBI46 (2016)

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Multilateral assessment
Questions and answers Spain

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

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) CERs

Regarding “carbono credits”, Spain states that the use of CERs is permitted, but it is subject to restrictions. Could Spain please elaborate on what are these restrictions?

[Answer by Spain](#), Thursday, 27 April 2017

A limited number of CERs and ERUs may be used to achieve our target.

In the EU ETS, the use of international credits is capped (up to 50 % of the reduction required from EU ETS sectors over the period 2008-2020). Using this guiding principle, specific limits have been established at the operator level. In practice, for Spanish operators, as a whole, the amount that could be used over the period 2013-2020 is estimated at around 6-7% of emissions. Quality standards also apply to the use of international credits in the EU ETS, including a ban on credits from LULUCF projects and certain industrial gas projects.

In the ESD sectors, the annual use of international credits (CDM and JI) is limited to up to 3 % of each Member State's ESD emissions in 2005, with a limited number of Member States, including Spain, being permitted to use an additional 1 % from CDM projects in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) or Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

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

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) assumptions for the projections

Could Spain provide detailed information in English on the assumptions for the projections, i.e. PaMs included in the WEM and WAM scenario respectively?

The projections of GHG emissions are based on the projection of the set of activity variables representative of global emissions covered by the National Inventory System. These activity variables have been projected applying autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) models, built upon historical activity data within a general macroeconomic scenario governed by two main drivers (evolution in GDP and population). Two single regressor variables were applied: population and gross domestic product (GDP), using as reference the recommendations of the European Commission. Additionally, the Spanish Electricity Sector Planning for the period 2015-2020, prepared by the Ministry of Industry in 2014, was also used to adjust the projections in the electricity sector.

Once the representative set of activity variables were projected for the different time horizons, the estimate of associated emissions of pollutants was carried out. The emissions estimation is performed for all greenhouse gases (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs, SF₆ and CO₂-eq) and air pollutants (NO_x, NMVOC, SO_x, NH₃ and PM_{2.5}). En the case of NF₃ Spain does not have any emissions. The procedure to estimate gas emissions based on the activity variables is performed by projecting implied emission factors for historical series based on expert criteria on case by case basis.

This method of estimating emissions implicitly incorporates all mitigation measures or policies or emissions reductions which had an impact on the emissions over the time series. As a result, the projected emissions of each of the selected categories are obtained to build the WM emission scenario.

The policies and measures considered for the construction of the WM scenario are, among others, the following:

1. Energy planning of the Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda from 2015 until 2020 and extended until 2050.
2. Large Combustion Facilities Directives, National Transitory Plan and Industrial Emissions Regulation (Royal Decree 815/2013).
3. Directive on Small and Medium Combustion Plants.
4. Application of BREF documents for the main industrial sectors (refining, steel, non-ferrous minerals, cement and lime, chemical industry, glass, etc.).
5. Regulations regarding reduction in the use of fluorinated gases and the Voluntary Agreement of reduction of SF₆ in the electric sector.
6. Regulations concerning EURO technologies in road transport vehicles.
7. Forecasts by the International Maritime Organization for the reduction of pollution in maritime navigation.

8. National Plan to reduce the use of nitrogen fertilizers.
9. National Plans to Promote the Environment (PIMA) Air, Land, Sun, Transport.
10. National Plan of Action for Energy Savings and Efficiency in the industrial sector.
11. State Plan for Housing and Rehabilitation.
12. Clima Projects in Spain.
13. State Plan Waste Management Framework of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment.
14. Technical Building Code and Regulation of the Thermal Installations of Buildings and Plans and measures of rehabilitation of houses and introduction of measures of energy efficiency in buildings.

A summary of key variables and assumptions used in the projections is provided in BR2 Table 5.

Furthermore, a set of additional policies and measures have been taken into account to build the WaM scenario as listed in BR2-CTF-Table 3.

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

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) Table 6(a): BR1 and BR2

Regarding table 6(a) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'with measures' scenario", could Spain please explain why the projections in BR2 are below to those projections contained in BR1 (Totals with and without LULUCF)?

[Answer by](#) Spain, Thursday, 27 April 2017

BR1 was submitted in December 2013, including projections based on historical data for the time series 1990-2010. On the other hand, BR2 was submitted in December 2015, including projections based on historical data for the time series 1990-2013. It is to be noticed that inventoried GHG (with and without LULUCF) emissions between years 2010 and 2013 registered a significant reduction (-10%) as shown in BR2-CTF-table 1. As explained a lower

starting point for the projections in BR2 leads to lower projected global GHG emissions.

Additionally, PAMs' impacts, general macroeconomic scenario and activity data perspectives have been revised and, in some case, re-estimated.

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

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) Table 6 (c): BR1 and BR2

Spain reported table 6 (c) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'with additional measures' scenario" in both BR1 and BR2. However, regarding table 6 (c), there are not GHG emissions projected for 2020 in BR2, while this estimates had been presented in BR1. Please, explain the reasons for not informing GHG emissions projected for 2020 in BR2.

[Answer by Spain](#), Thursday, 27 April 2017

GHG emission projections for the WaM scenario in BR2 were only elaborated for global GHG expressed in CO₂-eq without making distinction between different gases. This data is properly included in the upper part of Table 6 (c). Unfortunately, disaggregation by gas in the projected WaM scenario could not be performed and this data could not be displayed in the lower part of Table 6 (c).

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

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

[Type:](#) Before 28 February

[Title:](#) Table 6 (b) - BR1 and BR2

In BR1, Spain reported table 6 (b) "Information on updated greenhouse gas projections under a 'without measures' scenario". Could Spain please explain why in BR2 table 6(b) was not reported?

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 27 April 2017

The elaboration of emission projections under WoM scenarios is not mandatory. Spain has concentrated our efforts on the projection of data that have added value, for that reason in BR2 Spain opted for not including this scenario within the projections reported.

Question by Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: CTF Table 3: current estimates

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

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 27 April 2017

Spain has made further assessments of the policies and measures since December 2015, date of submission of BR2. The last update was made on the 15th March 2017 following the requirements under article 13 regarding reporting on Policies and measures, of Regulation (EU) No 525/2013 (the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation), known as MMR.

The MMR provides the general vehicle for reporting the climate change related information, including the information on historical emissions and removals, policies and measures and projections, the procedures for the Union review of the GHG emissions and reporting on progress towards Union and international commitments.

It includes provisions for reporting of information from Member States to the Commission and evaluation of progress made towards the domestic and international commitments.

Therefore, according with our EU reporting obligation, in March 2017 we have compiled and updated further information on some mitigation actions that can be found in the following link:

https://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/es/eu/mmr/art04-13-14_lcds_pams_projections/pams/envwmrarg/

Question by Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: CTF Table 3: estimates in BR1 and BR2

Regarding “CTF Table 3 Progress in achievement of the quantified economy-wide emission reduction target: information on mitigation actions and their effects”, please, inform the reasons for reporting estimates of mitigation impacts only for 2020 in BR2, while BR1 reported estimates of mitigation impacts for some mitigation actions related to 2015.

Answer by Spain, Thursday, 27 April 2017

Mitigation estimates included in the BR2 refer to future emission reductions. As the report was due by December 2015, Spain considered that it was not adequate to include information regarding year 2015 as in the previous Biennial Report.

Spain included estimations for the time frame for which there was information available. Nevertheless, as the assessment on policies and measures is an ongoing work, we have some new figures on mitigation for years 2020, 2025 and 2030. This can be found in the following report

https://cdr.eionet.europa.eu/es/eu/mmr/art04-13-14_lcds_pams_projections/projections/envwmgbvw/

Question by Brazil at Monday, 27 February 2017

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

Type: Before 28 February

Title: Translation

Could Spain please explain the reasons for presenting its BR only in Spanish, and not in English?

According to the UNFCCC reporting guidelines, national reports shall be communicated electronically by Annex I Parties to the secretariat and shall be in one of the official languages of the United Nations. Spanish is one of these official languages.

We are aware that Parties are encouraged to submit an English translation of the biennial report to facilitate its use in the review process. In the BR, most of the information is in tabular format and we believe that this facilitates the understanding of the information in the report.

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