



The UN Agenda 2030 for SD and Climate Policy in Europe

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The EEAC Network

Created in 1993, it gathers 14 advisory bodies from eleven countries and regions in Europe:

Belgium	Federal Council for Sustainable Development
Catalonia	Council for the Sustainable Development of Catalonia
Flanders	Environment and Nature Council of Flanders
France	National Council for Ecological Transition
Germany	German Advisory Council on Environment
Germany	German Advisory Council on Global Change
Germany	German Council for Sustainable Development
Hungary	National Council for Sustainable Development
Hungary	National Environment Council
Ireland	National Economic and Social Council
Luxembourg	National Council for Sustainable Development
Montenegro	National Council for Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Integrated Coastal Zone Management
The Netherlands	Council for the Environment and Infrastructure
Portugal	National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development

The Paris Agreement

- **The Paris Agreement aims to hold global average temperature increase to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5 °C.**
- Adopted at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties in December 2015, the Paris Agreement is the centrepiece of global climate policy. It entered into force on 4 November 2016.
- The Agreement brings together, for the first time, all nations under the common cause of mitigating climate change, adapting to its adverse effects and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards climate-resilient development.
- Under the Paris Agreement, all countries undertake and communicate ambitious efforts as nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the global response to climate change with a view to achieving the purpose of the agreement.

The 2030 Agenda

- The SDGs were adopted on 27 September 2015 and entered into force on 1 January 2016.
- The 2030 Agenda contains 17 SDGs, with 169 associated targets and 230 approved indicators in total across the SDGs.
- Although SDGs are not binding goals, great efforts from Governments to localizing them



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Links between the 2 agendas...

- There are no explicit mentions of the SDGs in the Paris Agreement.
- The resolution “Transforming our world” is careful to note that the UNFCCC remains the primary forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

SDG 13 on climate action is a clear link. It aims to “**take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**” and has the following specific targets:

(a) Strengthen **resilience and adaptive capacity** to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries;

(b) **Integrate climate change measures** into national policies, strategies and planning; **Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity**

(c) on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Links between the 2 agendas...

- **SDG 13 is not the only SDG with relevance to the Paris Agreement.**
- Strong arguments exist that progress towards any of the SDGs is likely to address some of the fundamental causes of climate change (captured in part by the SDGs on energy, infrastructure, cities, and consumption and production)
- SDGs are intended to increase resilience to climate change (as is the case with the SDGs on hunger, water, health, gender and ecosystems).

Some links between the 2 agendas...

- **SDG2: END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture is an important source of GHE. Conversely, climate change has wide-ranging impacts on agriculture and food security (through extreme weather events warming and precipitation changes).

Sustainable agricultural practices play an important role in climate adaptation and mitigation.

- **SDG7: ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL**

An immediate and significant increase in renewables and increased energy efficiency is an essential part of efforts to keep global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

The EU Climate Policy

In October 2014, the EU leaders in October 2014 adopted the **EU 2030 climate and energy framework**.

It sets 3 key targets for the year 2030:

- **At least 40% cuts in greenhouse gas emissions (from 1990 levels)**
- **At least 27% share for renewable energy.**
- **At least 27% improvement in energy efficiency.**

It is also in line with the longer term perspective set out in the Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050, the Energy Roadmap 2050 and the Transport White Paper.

The EU Climate Policy

The binding target to cut emissions in the EU by at least 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 will enable the EU to take cost-effective steps towards its **long-term objective of cutting emissions by 80-95% by 2050 (contribution to the Paris Agreement)**.

To achieve the at least 40% target:

- EU emissions trading system (ETS) sectors would have to cut emissions by 43% (compared to 2005)
- Non-ETS sectors would need to cut emissions by 30% (compared to 2005) – this needs to be translated into individual binding targets for Member States.

Since 2008, some climate change laws have been approved in EU MS (both at national and subnational level). All them adopted at least the 80% goal of cutting emissions by 2050. **(Contribution to the Paris Agreement)**.

The EU Climate Policy and the 2030 Agenda

The EU framework for the period up to 2030 helps ensure regulatory certainty for investors and coordinate EU countries' efforts.

The framework is intended to drive progress towards a low-carbon economy and build an energy system that:

- Ensures affordable energy for all consumers (SDG1, SDG7)
- Increases the security of the EU's energy supplies (SDG7, SDG8)
- Reduces the EU dependence on energy imports (SDG 7, SDG 8)
- Creates new opportunities for growth and jobs (SDG4, SGD 8 , SDG9)
- Brings health benefits (through reduced air pollution) (SDG 3, SDG4. SDG11...)
- Brings environmental benefits (SDG11, SDG15).

It also contributes to (among other): SDG 13, but also SDG2, SDG12.

Some questions regarding the 2030 Agenda implementation in the EU

- Old and new –urgent- challenges to be addressed at the political, economic, social and environmental level. Also in the geopolitical role/status of the EU.
- The Agenda 2030 has entered into the political agendas of some MS (and regional and local governments).
- **The challenge in itself is how to localise the SDGs?** (avoiding a “parallel dimension” or SDG Bubble // boosting all its transformative potential). How does it match with existing structures, priorities and dynamics?
- A new multi-stakeholder platform has been created (reflection paper).
- Commitment to integrate the SDGs into the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

In the current MFF: 39% for sustainable growth, 34% for economic and social cohesion including CC and low carbon economy-

Thank you for your attention.

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