

## EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES

## AIR 1

As part of the fight against climate change and taking into account European and international objectives, Wallonia has committed itself to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from non-industrial sectors, following a linear trajectory starting in 2013 and leading to a 14.7% reduction in emissions by 2020 compared to 2005. For the industrial sector, the European reduction target is 21% compared to 2005.

CO<sub>2</sub> as the main GHG

In 2014, Wallonia emitted around 35,506 kt CO<sub>2</sub> eq of GHG<sup>1</sup> into the atmosphere, of which 81% was CO<sub>2</sub> and the rest made up of N<sub>2</sub>O (8%), CH<sub>4</sub> (8%) and fluorinated gases (3%). Walloon emissions accounted for 31% of Belgian emissions of GHG<sup>2</sup>. With 9.9 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq emitted per capita, Wallonia exceeded the European average<sup>3</sup> (8.4 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq per capita). The main sources of emissions are industry, road transport, agriculture and the residential sector.

## Sharp reduction in emissions in 2014

Between 1990 and 2014, GHG emissions decreased by 36.6% thanks to significant reductions in the energy sector (-65%) (enhanced use of natural gas and biomass) and industrial (-57%) sector (branch agreements<sup>4</sup>, the use of different fuels, process improvements, steel plant closures, etc.) despite the significant increase in road transport emissions (+28%) (increase in the number of cars and km driven). The 3.6% decrease between 2013 and 2014 was mainly due to the very mild winter of 2014, which resulted in a decrease in heating emissions of 18%.

## A still uncertain future

Emissions from non-ETS sectors<sup>5</sup> in 2013 and 2014 were below the targets defined by the linear path of a 14.7% reduction in 2020 compared to 2005<sup>6</sup>.

The reduction targets for industrial sectors (ETS)<sup>7</sup> are managed at European level, with an average European target

of -21% in 2020 compared to 2005<sup>8</sup>.

The targets set for Belgium as part of the 2013-2020 framework of the Kyoto Protocol<sup>9</sup> will be achieved in practice by meeting the European ETS and non-ETS targets.

In addition, under its "climate" Decree of 20/02/2014, Wallonia plans to reduce its emissions by 30% by 2020 and by 80 to 95% by 2050, compared to 1990. This decree sets targets for reducing GHG emissions and provides for the conception of emission "budgets" and an Air Climate Energy Plan (*Plan air climat énergie - PACE*).

Meeting the targets in 2013 and 2014 does not mean that meeting the Walloon objective in 2020 is a foregone conclusion. Meeting the European commitments for 2020 is likely to require additional measures in non-industrial sectors such as transport and housing. The Air Climate Energy Plan 2016-2022 (*Plan air climat énergie 2016-2022 - PACE*)<sup>10</sup> lays down various measures to be implemented by 2022. As part of the Paris Agreement and the development of the Energy Climate 2030 Plan (*Plan énergie climat 2030*), new forecasts for 2030 are currently being prepared in order to better identify the measures to be considered.

<sup>[1]</sup> Excluding CO<sub>2</sub> from biomass and the forestry sector | <sup>[2]</sup> VMM et al., 2016a |

<sup>[3]</sup> EU-28 | <sup>[4]</sup> → INDUS 7 | <sup>[5]</sup> Sectors not covered by the Emissions Trading

Scheme (ETS): transport, residential, agriculture, waste, etc. | <sup>[6]</sup> Decision No 406/2009/EC and Political Agreement as regards intra-Belgian Burden

Sharing of 04/12/2015 | <sup>[7]</sup> In Wallonia, the ETS sector includes ± 90% of emissions from the industrial and energy-generating sectors. |

<sup>[8]</sup> Directive 2009/29/EC | <sup>[9]</sup> Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol |

<sup>[10]</sup> → AIR Focus 3

Fig. AIR 1-1 Atmospheric emissions of greenhouse gases in Wallonia

