

AIR CLIMATE ENERGY PLAN 2016 - 2022

AIR Focus 3

On 21/04/2016, Wallonia adopted the Air Climate Energy Plan 2016 - 2022 (Plan air climat énergie - PACE). It contains 142 measures to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants, improve air quality and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The measures also relate to energy production and consumption.

A response to various obligations

The PACE¹ was adopted to meet various Walloon and European obligations. In Wallonia, the Parliament adopted the "climate" Decree on 20/02/2014. This decree requires budgets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to be drawn up every 5 years, and provides for the establishment of a PACE. At the European level, the Climate and Energy Package for 2020 sets a target of reducing GHG emissions by 2020² and the "Energy Union" Package³ sets targets for reducing GHG emissions by 2030⁴. In terms of air quality, the NERC directive (National Emission Reduction Commitments)⁵ sets reduction targets for each Member State for 5 air pollutants (NO_x, SO₂, NH₃, VOC, PM_{2.5}) by 2020 and 2030. The ambitious new targets for 2030 involved adapting the Air-Climate Plan (2008-2012) and implementing strong measures.

All sectors involved

The measures contained in the PACE concern all the sectors of activity present in Wallonia: industrial, transport, residential, tertiary, agricultural, etc.

A plan subject to evaluation

The "climate" Decree requires the Walloon Air and Climate Agency (*Agence wallonne de l'air et du climat - AwAC*) to draw up an annual monitoring report on the implementation of the PACE. This report will assess the adequacy of PACE measures to meet emissions budgets and introduce additional measures in the event of discrepancies. A committee of experts has been set up to carry out this monitoring.

[1] <http://www.awac.be> | [2] Reducing GHG emissions by 20% compared to 1990 levels. Other targets for 2020: achieving 20% of energy from renewable sources (RE) in gross final energy consumption; improving energy efficiency (EE) by 20% (https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2020_en) | [3] COM (2015) 80 | [4] Reducing GHG emissions by 40% compared to 1990 (this target is also the basis for Europe's contribution to the global climate objectives). Other targets for 2030: achieving at least 27% RE in gross final energy consumption; improving EE by 27%; achieving 15% electricity interconnection (15% of electricity generated in one EU country can be transferred elsewhere in the EU) (https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/energy_en). | [5] Directive (EU) 2016/2284

Tab. AIR Focus 3-1 Examples of measures included in the Air Climate Energy Plan 2016-2022 in Wallonia

Cross-sectoral measures	Draw up an energy-climate action plan by 2030
	Develop a regional programme to reduce emissions of SO _x , NO _x , VOC, PM _{2.5} and NH ₃ for 2020, 2025 and 2030
Industrial sector	Continue implementation of the Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) Directive 2003/87/EC (and amendments)
	Continue the "Branch Agreements" approach in a second generation of agreements Adapting operating conditions in environmental permits to legal requirements
Power generation sector	Supporting green power generation
Residential and tertiary sector	Continue and develop actions in energy, climate and air quality education
	Encourage Walloon households to reduce their carbon footprint
	Implement the Employment-Environment Alliance 2016-2019
Transport sector	Develop the practice of carpooling and cycling
	Optimise the offer of public transport services
	Encourage companies to sign up to the LEAN and GREEN* programme
Agriculture and forestry sectors	Limit nitrogen inputs, reduce pesticide use
	Improve fertiliser application methods to reduce nitrogen emissions Maintain existing carbon stocks
Fluorinated gases	Promote new technical solutions without hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
	Train the personnel of the companies concerned in the use of fluorinated gas substitutes
Adapt to climate change	Build a solid knowledge base
	Continue to combat soil erosion and the increased risk of flooding
	Encourage initiatives for sustainable forestry that respect the natural functioning of the ecosystem Improve knowledge of impacts and vulnerability at the level of cities and municipalities
International financing	Implement bilateral "North-South" solidarity projects
	Participate in multilateral funds

* This programme aims to offer support to companies in optimising their logistics operations, whether they are transport companies themselves, logistics service providers, industrial companies or infrastructure managers.