

6-1 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

As its contribution to the fight against climate change and in compliance with the Kyoto Protocol, Wallonia undertook to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 7.5% of the 1990 value in the 2008-2012 commitment period.

KEY MESSAGE

In 2012, Wallonia emitted 36,000 kt CO₂ equivalents of GHG^{1,2}. With 10.1 t CO₂ equivalents emitted per capita, Wallonia exceeds the European average (9.0 t CO₂ eq/capita). Nevertheless, between 1990 and 2012, GHG emissions dropped 34.2%, allowing Wallonia to meet the Kyoto commitments. This situation results from reductions in the energy (greater use of natural gas) and industrial sectors (branch agreements, restructuring measures, etc.) – despite the significant increase in road transport emissions (+ 28.9%). The 8.8% drop observed between 2011 and 2012 is mainly attributable to plant closures in the steel and glass sectors, to the slowing down of power plants and a noticeable decrease³ in road transport. Wallonia plans to reduce its GHG emissions by 30% by 2020 and by 80 to 95% by 2050 compared to 1990 through the “Climate” Decree⁴. Compliance with the 2020 European commitments will require additional measures in such non-industrial sectors as transport and the residential sector.

Evaluation

Slightly unfavourable but improving situation

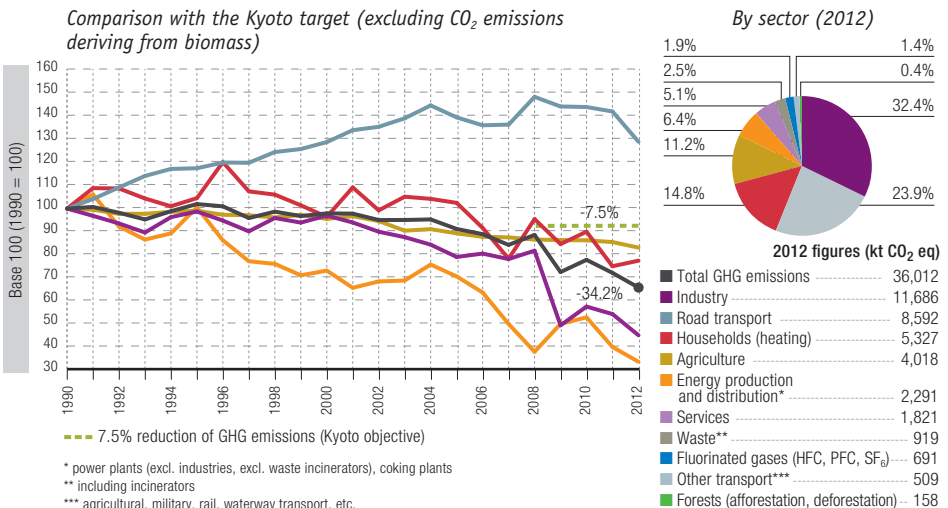
[1] 83.8% of which is CO₂ with the rest made up of N₂O (7.5%), CH₄ (6.8%) and fluorinated gases (1.9%)

[2] NIR (2014)

[3] Yet to be confirmed or refuted by federal statistics

[4] This Decree, adopted on 20/02/2014, establishes the objectives for reducing GHG emissions and foresees the introduction of emission allowances and an Air-Climate-Energy Plan (PACE) (<http://www.awac.be/>).

Fig. 6-1 Greenhouse gas emissions in Wallonia



EOW 2014 – Source: SPW - AwAC (reporting conducted in April 2014, provisional 2012 data)