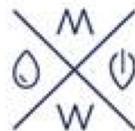


France: does the legacy of the Paris Agreement translate into ambitious policies and measures?

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France: the legacy of the Paris Agreement

- ❖ **French Presidency of COP21: innovative, inclusive, transparent and...successful**
 - France wants to ensure that the Paris Agreement can not be reversed (1st Pillar of the Climate Plan of 2017): after US withdrawal....Australia, Brazil?
 - ❖ **France wants to surf on the success of COP21 to boost environment diplomacy at the international level:**
 - French Presidency of G7 in 2019 + G20 environment priorities (marine litter, circular economy, high seas UN legal framework, phasing out of harmful subsidies..
 - French proposal for a Global Pact for the Environment (September 2017)
 - Paris Agreement should inspire other multilateral environmental treaties:
 - ✓ Preparation of COP 15 of CBD (Beijing, 2020), to set more ambitious biodiversity conservation targets by 2030 following the NDC model?
 - ❖ **Question marked: does this legacy translate into ambitious national policies?**
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The French Climate Policy (1): key milestones

- ❖ **August 2015 (prior to COP21):** adoption of the Act on the Energy Transition and Green Growth, which sets out **medium and long-term legally binding targets**:
 - ✓ -40% GHG emissions by 2030, -95% by 2050 (compared with 1990 levels);
 - ✓ -30% consumption of fossil fuels by 2030;
 - ✓ - 50% of nuclear energy in the share of electricity production by 2025;
 - ✓ + 32% increase of renewables in the share of final energy consumption by 2030 and + 40% of electricity production;
 - ✓ -20% final energy consumption in 2030 and - 50% by 2050 (compared with 2012);
 - ✓ - 50% waste landfilling by 2050.
 - ❖ **National Low Carbon Transition Strategy** adopted few months after the adoption of the Act (November 2015, right before COP21)
 - ❖ **Pluri-annual energy programming (5 years plan):** 1st plan adopted in 2016 through Decree 27 November 2017 => short (2018) and medium (2023) legally binding targets
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The French Climate Policy (2): The “Hulot” Plan

- ❖ **July 2017:** launch of the French Climate Plan implementing the Paris Agreement!
 - Strategic document to guide implementation towards reaching targets
 - ❖ **Headings:**
 - New target: Carbon neutrality by 2050 (the Government will seek a balance between man-made emissions and the ability of ecosystems to absorb carbon)
 - France to become one of the first industrialized country “coal free”
 - Energy efficiency, in particular thermal renovation, to become a national priority
 - Carbon pricing target: €56 per tonne by 2020 and €100 by 2023
 - ❖ **23 key measures** to implement the Paris Agreement by 2030
 - Articulation with the EU Climate Energy Package 2030
 - Articulation with relevant UN SDGs
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The French Climate Plan (1)

❖ IMPROVING EVERYDAY LIFE FOR ALL FRENCH CITIZENS

- **Develop clean mobility that is accessible to everyone:** financial compensation, called the "prime à la transition", will be introduced to encourage people to replace a vehicle, which does not meet the "Crit'Air" (Air Quality Certificate) standards, with a cleaner one.
 - **Eradicate fuel poverty in ten years:** in a bid to consign poorly insulated, energy-draining buildings to the past within a decade, the Government will offer help to tenants and owners struggling to pay their energy bills.
 - **Use energy more responsibly:** support will be lent to residential areas that would like to produce and use their own renewable energy sources (biogas, solar energy, etc.).
 - **Make the circular economy a central feature of the energy transition:** small businesses keen on making savings in terms of energy and resources will be given assistance so as to halve the amount of waste going to landfill and achieve 100% plastic recycling by 2025.
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The French Climate Plan (2)

❖ TURNING AWAY FROM FOSSIL FUELS AND COMMITTING TO A CARBON-NEUTRALITY

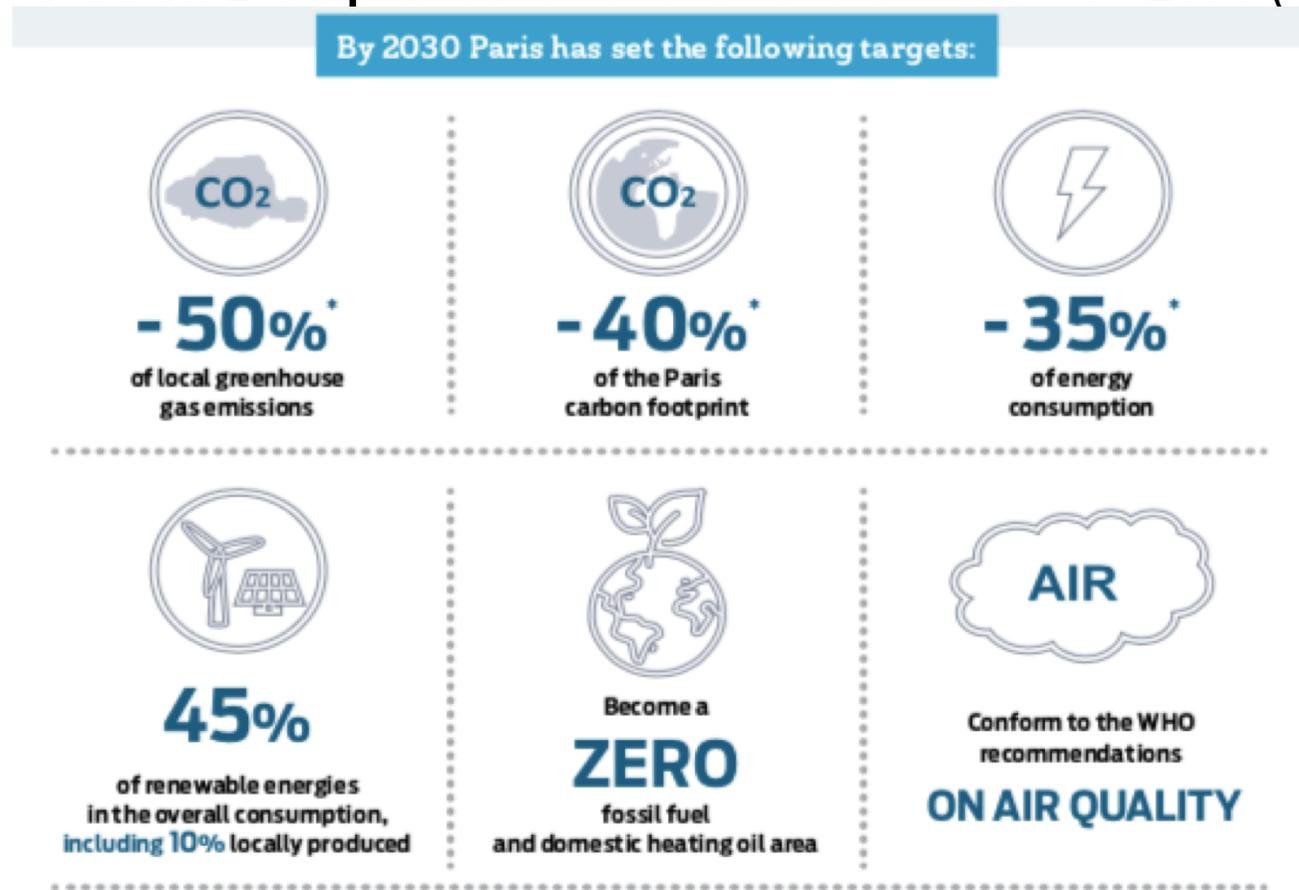
- **Generate carbon-free electricity:** guidance solutions will be offered to the local areas concerned by the end of carbon-based electricity generation. Measures will aim at simplifying the development of marine and geothermal energy sources as well as anaerobic digestion.
 - **Leave fossil fuels in the sub-soil:** hydrocarbon exploration plans will be prohibited so that, by 2040, France no longer produces any oil, gas or coal.
 - **Raise the price of carbon to put a fair price on pollution:** taxation between diesel and petrol will be aligned and the price of carbon will go up.
 - **Take greenhouse gas-emitting vehicles off the market by 2040:** stopping sales of petrol or diesel cars will encourage car manufacturers to innovate and take the lead on this market.
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The French Climate Plan (3)

- ❖ **TAPPING INTO THE POTENTIAL OF ECOSYSTEMS AND AGRICULTURE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE**
 - **Harness agriculture in the fight against climate change:** efforts will get underway to transform our agricultural systems with a view to curtailing emissions and improving the capture and storage of carbon in the ground.
 - **Adapt to climate change:** a new National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change (PNACC) will be unveiled to provide French citizens with more effective protection against extreme weather events and to build resilience among the main economic sectors so that they can better withstand climate change.
 - **Stop importing products that contribute to deforestation:** imports of products that are bringing about the destruction of the world's three major tropical rainforests (Amazonia, South-East Asia and Congo Basin) will be swiftly brought to a halt.
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The mobilisation of sub-national entities

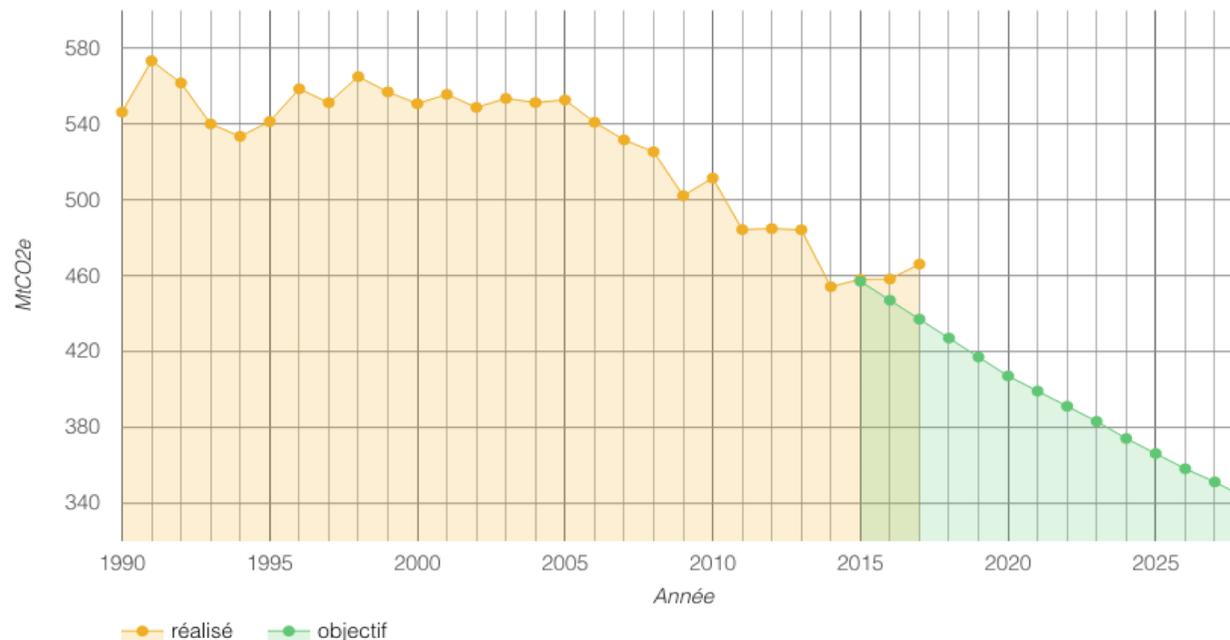
- ❖ The French Action Plan also supports non-governmental climate advocates, including sub-national entities: Example: launch of the Paris Climate Plan 2030 (May 2018)



Beyond the words: what progress achieved so far?

❖ When looking at numbers, GHG emissions are not on the right track:

- ✓ + 6,7% in 2017 above the emission trajectory required to meet the 2050 carbon neutrality goal
- ✓ Increase of emissions in key emitting sectors (transports + 10,6%, buildings +22,7%, agriculture 3,2%)
- ✓ +4,2 % energy consumption between 2016 et 2017 (as compared to the -20% trajectory set for 2017 in order to reach the 2030 target (-20%)).



Beyond the words (2): what progress achieved so far?

- ❖ **No critical review of the implementation of the National Low Carbon Transition Strategy (NLCTS):**
 - No detailed report yet (but follow up of the recommendations of the NLCTS in January 2018)
 - Engagement of NGOs (CAN France => Climate and Energy Observatory) and think tanks (IDDRI => Assessment of the key sectors covered by the NLCTS)
 - ❖ **Beyond quantified targets, need to develop tools and appropriate indicators to track progress:**
 - To be more forward looking and proactive
 - To inform public and private policies and measures
 - To enable the public to participate in the review and scale up of ambition
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Conclusions

- **Even if COP21 has boosted national policies, many implementation challenges shall be tackled by France:**
 - Keep committed environment ministers in the Government...😊
 - Go beyond diplomacy and with more ambition: systematic monitoring and review of climate measures is needed to adjust the required level of ambition
 - Ensure coherence across international commitments and policy measures (“avoid imported deforestation” strategy but.... import of 500.000 tons of palm oil/year)
 - Tackle the energy dilemma (- nuclear (+2,6% above energy mix trajectory)=> + renewables (12,8% below deployment trajectory by 2030 based on 2016 data)
 - Support local authorities (in a context of a continuous decrease of budgetary allocation to municipalities and regions) and citizens (fiscal and economic incentives)
 - Keep high the social dimension of the energy transition in the agenda (buildings/transport)
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