



Ympäristöministeriö
Miljöministeriet
Ministry of the Environment

Climate Policy in Finland

Ministry of the Environment
Climate Change Group
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Finland: the environment for problem solving

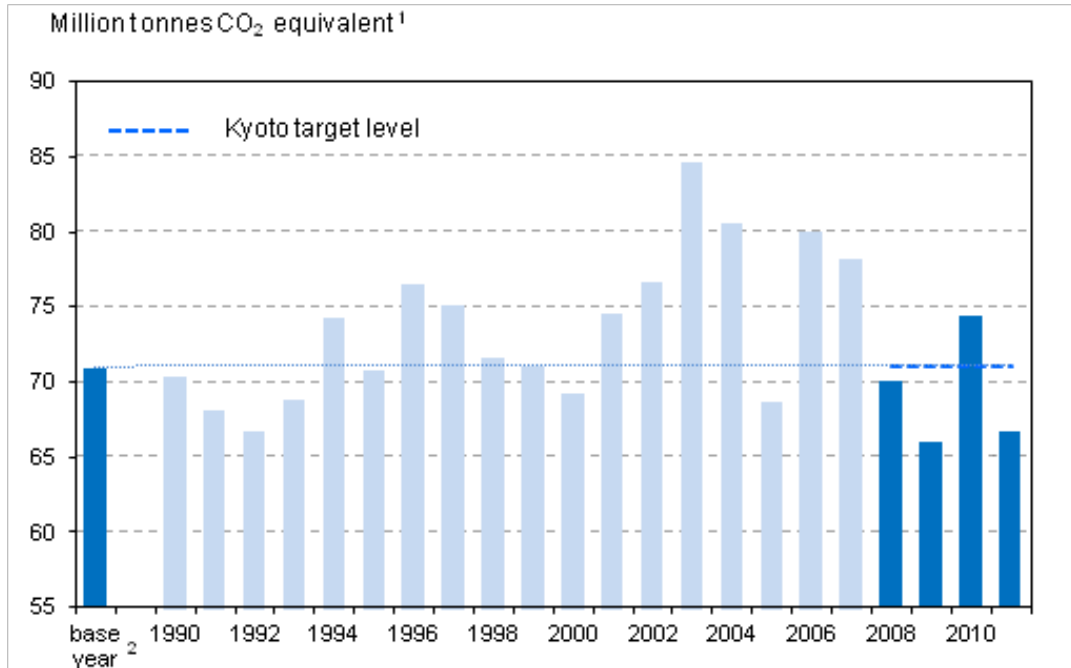


Finland's long-term goal is to become a carbon-neutral society

Challenges and specific features of climate and energy policy

Source: <http://lemill.net/content/pieces/satellite-image-of-finland-in-the-winter-of-2002>; Creative Commons Attribution License

Finland's GHG emissions (1)



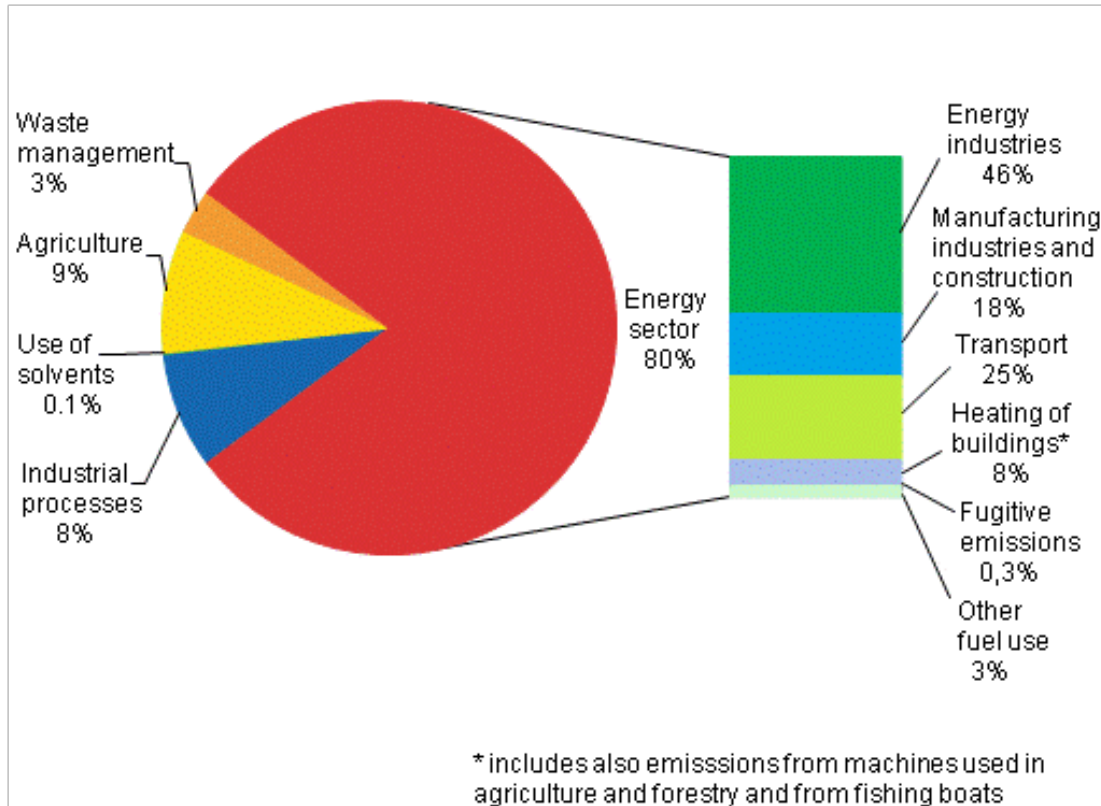
¹ CO₂ equivalent describes the warming effect of various gases in relation to CO₂, e.g. 1 t of N₂O is equivalent to 310 t of CO₂

² Finland's base year under the Kyoto Protocol is 1990, except for the so-called F-gases (HFC, PFC and SF₆) 1995. Finland's Kyoto target for 2008-2012 is estimated and fixed based on the reviewed base year inventory in the initial inventory submission under the Protocol

Source: Greenhouse gas inventory unit, Statistics Finland

- In total GHG emissions (without LULUCF) are at their lowest since 1990.
- In 2011 Finland's GHG emissions fell below the commitment level of the Kyoto Protocol by 6 per cent.
- Preliminary data from 2012 indicate that emissions under the EU ETS decreased by some 16 per cent compared to 2011. The progress outside ETS sectors has been less encouraging.

Finland's GHG emissions (2)



Source: Greenhouse gas inventory unit, Statistics Finland

- The most significant source of GHG emissions in Finland is the energy sector with an 80 per cent share of the total emissions (2010).
- The energy sector's emissions have decreased strongly; e.g. around 9% from 2011 to 2012

National Key Climate Policies

- Finland's key targets and measures for climate policy are incorporated in ***Long-Term Climate and Energy Strategy***, which implements the targets of the EU climate and energy package for 2020 (updated version approved in 2013).
- Long term climate and energy policy has also been outlined in Finland's vision for 2050 in the ***Government Foresight Report on Long term Climate and Energy Policy***, approved in late 2009.
- A ***Parliamentary Committee on Energy and Climate Issues*** has started its work on the ***National Energy and Climate Roadmap to Year 2050***.
- The Finnish government is preparing a ***Climate Act***, led by the Ministry of the Environment.

National Climate Policies

- The Finnish National ***Climate Panel*** was established in 2011 to promote scientific and political dialogue in climate issues.
- Finland's National ***Strategy for Adaptation*** to Climate Change was adopted in 2005 and is now being updated.

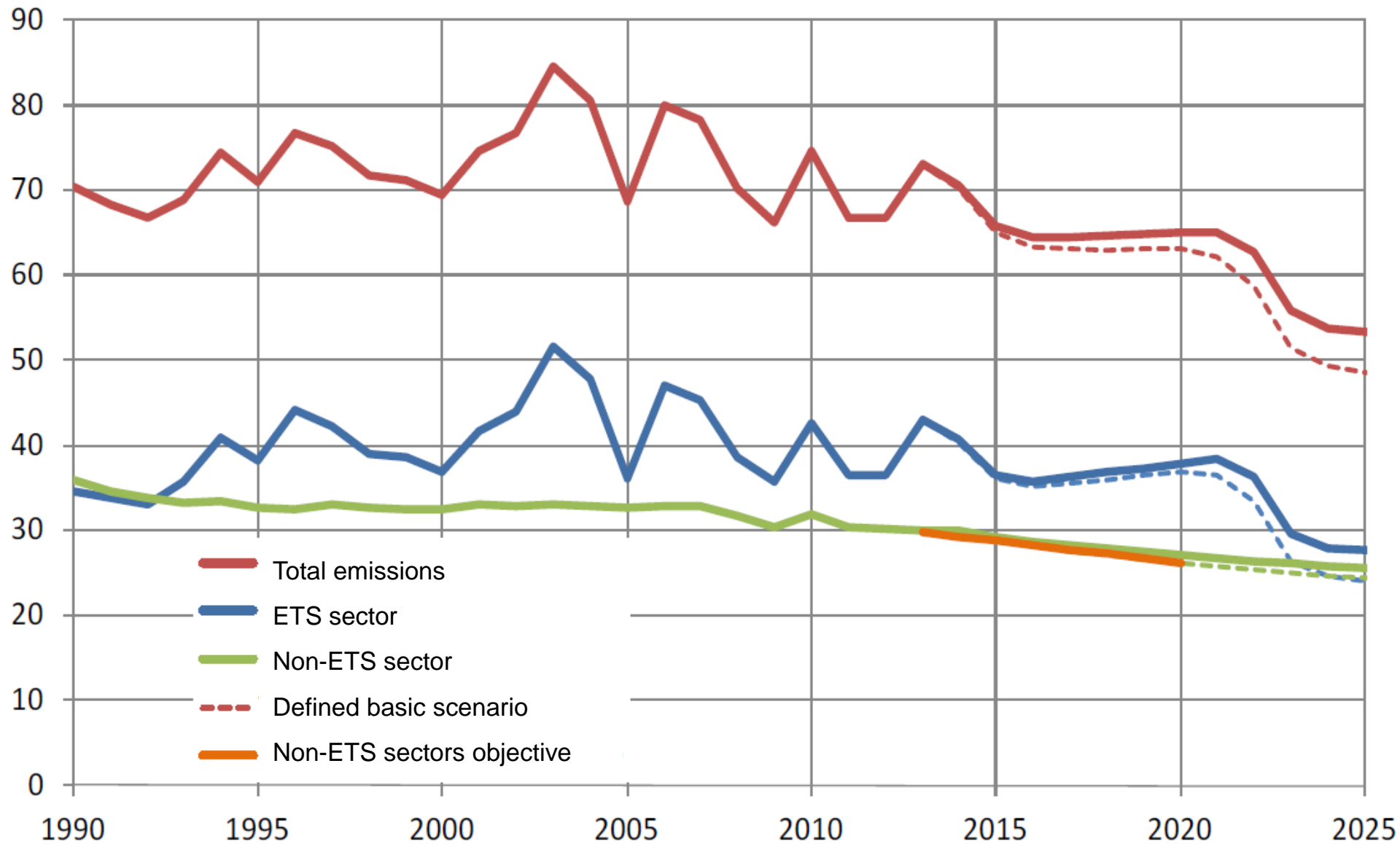
Other initiatives of national climate policy:

- Energy–Smart Built Environment 2017
 - The overall target of the ERA 17 Action Plan is to create an energy-smart built environment which is energy-efficient, low in emissions and provides a high-quality living and working environment for all.
- HINKU municipalities
 - HINKU municipalities are committed to reducing emissions by 80 per cent by 2030 compared to 2007

National Energy and Climate Strategy

- Updated in 2013, the strategy paves the way towards long-term targets and ensures that national energy and climate targets for 2020 are achieved. Currently Finland is on track in achieving its 20-20-20 targets.
- The national targets in the EU 20-20-20 package require e.g.:
 - A 21% reduction in EU ETS (EU level target) and a 16% reduction in non-ETS sectors of GHG emissions by 2020 compared to 2005.
 - Increased share of renewable energy sources of the final energy consumption to 38% by 2020.
 - Finland has set a higher 20% target for the share of renewable energy sources in the road transport fuels by 2020.

Finland's GHG emission projections



National Work Towards 2050

- Adopted already in 2009 by the Finnish Government, the *Foresight Report on Long-term Climate and Energy Policy* sets a target to reduce Finland's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% from the 1990 level by 2050.
- The report outlines four scenarios to a low-carbon Finland in 2050. The scenarios indicated that the shift to a low-carbon society requires a substantial improvement in energy efficiency in all sectors.
- The report emphasised development, deployment and diffusion of low-carbon technology, and the increased use of renewable energy.
- The foresight report acts as a sources of inspiration for preparing the national energy and climate roadmap to year 2050.

National energy and climate roadmap to year 2050

- On 27th of June 2013, the Finnish Government set up a **Parliamentary Committee on Energy and Climate Issues** to prepare an energy and climate roadmap for 2050.
- The roadmap analyses the means and costs for (1) constructing a low-carbon society and (2) for reducing GHG emissions from 80 to 95 per cent by 2050 compared to 1990.
- EU and international developments and the effects of different measures to competitiveness and welfare will be analysed.
- Finland's long term objective is a carbon-neutral society, which can be achieved by:
 - reducing greenhouse gas emissions in all sectors,
 - improving energy efficiency, and
 - increasing the use of renewable forms of energy.

The National Climate Act

- The Finnish Government decided to prepare a proposal for the enactment of a national climate act. The purpose is to impose climate policy, which spans over governmental terms.
- The act:
 - clarifies and stabilises the long-term planning and monitoring system,
 - increases transparency of political decision-making,
 - raises legal certainty for citizens and businesses by improving the predictability of climate policy.
- The act would steer the reduction of emissions not covered by the emissions trading scheme. The law would cover both mitigation and adaptation.

Finnish National Climate Panel

- The Finnish National Climate Panel promotes scientific and political dialogue in climate issues. The panel provides propositions to political decision-making and strengthens the multidisciplinary role of climate science.
- The panel consists from 12 focal researchers and it is chaired by professor Markku Kulmala from the University of Helsinki.
- The work of the panel is based on scientific principles and methods chosen by the panel – ministries and working groups can give commissions to the panel, but cannot influence the output.
- The Ministry of the Environment appointed the panel on the 1st of December 2011 to its first biennium.

HINKU-municipalities - *towards a carbon neutral municipality*

- The project for HINKU municipalities was launched in 2008 with 5 municipalities, amounting up to 10 in 2013.
- The HINKU members are committed to reducing emissions by 80 per cent by 2030 compared to 2007.
- Thus far the project has delivered encouraging results. Municipal authorities in cooperation with interest groups have worked together to devise cost-effective solutions to reduce emissions in transport, housing and agriculture.
- In five years the original five HINKU municipalities have reduced their emissions by 12-18 per cent by replacing fossil fuels with renewables and by curbing the use of electricity with more efficient domestic appliances.

Useful links

The Ministry of the Environment:

<http://www.ymp.fi/en-US>

Climate Guide:

<http://ilmasto-opas.fi/en/>

Finland's GHG emissions:

http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/khki/2012/khki_2012_2013-05-16_tie_001_en.html

**Thank you for
listening!**

