

Scotland's centre of expertise connecting climate change research and policy

A review of greenhouse gas reduction aspirations and their legislation across selected countries and regions

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Country / State	GHG emissions per capitai and totalii (unless stated)	Overall GHG reduction target	Sectoral GHG reduction targets	Legislation / strength in law	Trading / offsetting	Notes on targets	Commentary on sectors, technology, achievability of targets
EU-wide ta	<u> </u>				,		
EU-wide	7.4 tCO2	20-20-20 goals	20-20-20 goals	The EU 40% 2030	EU 'does not	A lack of clarity	Achievability depends on the actions of member
targets /	(2012) ⁱⁱⁱ	The EU bloc	Other goals:	target was made	envisage	about the LULUCF	states (see below)
policies		committed to	20% EU energy	'conditional on	continuing use of	accounting baseline	
		2020 goals: 20%	consumption	other developed	international	undermines its	
		reduction in EU	produced from	countries	credits after 2020'	integrity according	
		GHGs from 1990	renewable	committing to	(in contrast to the	to some ^v	
		levels ^{iv}	resources	comparable efforts	period before		
			20% percent	and developing	2020) – but will		
		2030 EU climate	improvement in	countries	use 'a reformed		
		<u>package</u>	the EU's energy	contributing	EU <u>emissions</u>		
		In 2014, the EU	efficiency	according to their	trading scheme		
		bloc committed		capabilities'	(ETS)'.		

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		to Reducing GHGs by at least 40% (1990 baseline) Paris Agreement The EU bloc is a Paris agreement signatory. Its '2030 targets' formed the basis for the 2015 binding NDC submission i.e. 'a minimum 40% domestic GHG reductions by 2030 (1990 baseline)' Effort Sharing Regulation A EC proposal for the period 2021— 2030 has been made (2016) for non-ETS sectors representing c. 60% of emissions	2030 EU climate package Share of renewable energy to minimum 27% Total energy use reductions by minimum 27% International aviation emissions are included in the NDC target (and the need to include maritime emissions is 'recognised').		It does recognise the need for trading under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.		

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		including transport and buildings. 2050 GHG emissions reduction target of 80-95% (1990 baseline) - nonlegislated					
The followi	ng country	targets are parti	ally driven by E	U bloc targets, er	nacted through r	national policies	
Denmark	6.8 tCO2 (2013) 53 MTCO2 eq. In 2012 (excl. LULUCF)	Target: National GHG reduction of 40% reduction by 2020 (1990 baseline) (2011, and endorsed in 2014 by a majority in Parliament)vi Note that this is more ambitious than the EU targets, underlining	Energy Aim to increase renewable energy to 30% by 2020 An aspiration to convert the energy and transportation sector to run on 100% renewable energy by 2050 and strongly improve energy efficiency.	2012 Energy Agreement 2013 Climate Policy Plan 2014 Climate Change Act Energy Renovation Strategy of Buildings (2014) with 21 initiatives to reduce heating energy in existing	EU ETS was implemented in 2005. Energy taxes date back to the 1970s. Carbon taxes have been enforced since 1992 for gas/diesel oil, fuel oil, electricity, lignite, natural/ town gas and	-	Danish politics and governance are characterised by a common striving for broad consensus on important issues, due to a long tradition of minority governments. The Climate Act further enabled the pathway to establish an independent Climate Council to promote an academically coherent approach to national climate policy, mandated the Minister in charge to publish a report on climate policy and present proposals for new national climate targets to Parliament at least every fifth year with a 10-year perspective. Energy production and supply accounted for

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		Denmark's leadership approach on climate change. 2030 target: A target of 39% saving by 2030 against a 2005 baseline as part of the EU Effort Sharing Regulation vii	LULUCF: actively manages forests based on the strategy for sustainable forest management (1994) and the national forest programme (2002) LULUCF-effects from forests and cropland are included in meeting the Kyoto target. A 4% flexibility for LULUCF is included as part of the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	buildings by 35% by 2050. Paris Agreement signed and ratified on 22 April 2016	petrol. Denmark provides funds for LULUCF REDD+ projects in developing countries. 2030 target: 2% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation		approximately 46% of GHG emissions in 2013. With a focus on wind, biomass and solar, Denmark is expected to meet its 30% renewable energy aim by 2020. Other sources included 40% oil, natural gas 18% and coal 18% in 2013. Buildings: 30-40% of total energy consumption is used for heating, ventilation and lighting. Regulations on energy labelling of buildings and regular revisions of building regulations for new builds and renovations are driving efficiency. Transport: European Renewable Energy Directive includes a target of 10% of renewable energy in transportation and is primarily met by first generation biofuels.
France	5.05 tCO2 (2013)	Legislated GHG emissions reduction target	Renewable energy: An increase in the	The Plan Climat aims to deliver a carbon neutral	One of the key mechanisms adopted by the	The Plan Climat is not yet enacted in law. It is expected	The Plan Climat lays out the climate policy for the next five years of presidency. It includes 23 'axes' which vary in scope including a 2050

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496 MTCO2 eq. In 2012 (excl. LULUCF)	of 75% (1990 baseline) by 2050viii Plan Climat: Launched in July 2017, the plan ambitiously aims for carbon neutrality by 2050. Energy transition law: reduce GHG emissions by 40% by 2030 (base year 1990) and to 25% of 1990 levels by 2050 2030 target: A target of 37% saving by 2030 against a 2005 baseline as part of the EU Effort Sharing	renewable energy target to 23% by 2020, beyond the official EU target of 20%. Energy transition law: reduce fossil fuels consumption by 30% by 2030 reduce the share of nuclear energy in the energy mix from 75% to 50% by 2025 reach a minimum share of 32% of renewable energy in energy consumption (around 40% of electricity produced, 38% of heat consumed and 15% of transport fuels) reduce final	France by 2050 through 6 pillarsix: 1. Make implementing the Paris Agreement politically irreversible 2. Improving the daily lives of all French 3. End fossil fuel use and engage with carbon neutral 4. Making France a green economy leader 5. Mobilising ecosystems and agriculture in climate action 6. Strengthening international diplomatic action Historic: A National	Grenelle I and II laws (2009/2010) was a carbon tax, set up by the Finance Law 2014 and implemented since April 2014 (EUR7 per ton), with incremental increase of the rate at: 2015 (EUR14.5 per ton) and 2016 (EUR22 per ton).× 2030 target: Flexibility is not included as part of the EU Effort Sharing Regulation The Plan Climat aims to put a cost of at least €100 / tCO2 on GHGs emitted by 'industries' in	to be passed in autumn 2017.	carbon neutral strategy, renewable energy, diesel-petrol tax alignment, domestic energy independence incentives, the circular economy, ending coal for generation by 2022 and carbon pricing. Energy transition law Fiscal tools such as tax incentives for renewable energies or feed-in tariffs are used. LULUCF All forests (public and private) are regulated by the Forest Code.

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			consumption by 50% by 2050 (intermediate target of 20% reduction by 2030). Transport: End sales of fossil fuel-powered cars by 2040 (Plan Climat, 2017) LULUCF 1.5% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	Tackling Climate Change was enacted in 2000. The Climate Plan must be refreshed every two years according to the 2005 Energy Policy Framework Law. Measures are either inscribed in laws or regulations on energy, finance, agriculture, urban planning, or abandoned. Renewable energy: The Energy Policy Framework Law 2005; The Grenelle I law (2009) Energy Transition Law (adopted in 2015). A five year journey to enaction.	50% of all GHG emissions, up from 25% in 2020. This includes HFCs.		

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				signed and ratified on 22 April 2016			
Germany	9.2 tCO2 (2013) 939 MTCO2 eq. In 2012 (excl. LULUCF)	Target to cut greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 40% by 2020 and 80–95% by 2050 (from 1990 baseline). Note that this is more ambitious than the EU targets xi. 2030 target: A target of 38% saving by 2030 against a 2005 baseline as part of the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	Renewable energy target of 60% by 2050 (switch off all nuclear power stations by 2022) Buildings: make the entire building stock 'climate neutral' by 2050. Reduce primary non- renewable energy demand in the building sector by 80% in 2050 relative to average 2005-08 levels. Non- statutory. Absolute target (i.e. not relative to size of the building stock)	The key policy document for Energiewende was published in 2010xii. Targets are subject to an annual monitoring processxiii. Buildings: policies and programmes include: • grants and subsidised loans for energy efficiency (National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, NAPE, 2014) • building standards regulating both thermal performance and heat supply for	The DEHSt department*iv oversees trading. It includes information on allocations under the Kyoto Protocol (third trading period). The NAPE plan includes a reform of ETS trading as one of its nine key elements*v 2030 target: ETS flexibility is not included as part of the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	Following the fall of the Berlin Wall and reunification, the decline of the East German industrial and power sectors meant automatic CO ₂ reductions — with a further drop in 2009 due to the financial crash. However, this was not sustained and there is a well recognised 'climate gap' to meet 2020 targets. Further measures were proposed in 2014.	Energiewende is the government's overarching name to drive an energy transition to a low carbon, environmentally sound, reliable and affordable energy supply. It emcompasses electricity and heat, buildings and transport. It re-orientates policy from demand to supply, with a shift from centralized to distributed generation. The Berlin-based policy institute Agora Energiewende commented: "the speed and scope of the Energiewende are exceptional" Energy: responsible for about 40% of GHG emissions. Emissions fell by around 21% between 1990 and 2015** Households reduced emissions by 35% in the same period, industry reduced emissions by 36%, transport reduced emissions by only 2%, agriculture by 16% and waste, 71%. However, the Energiewende Monitoring Report**vii of December 2016 warned that the country would probably miss its 2020 emission targets and other crucial Energiewende goals. In early 2017, it lowered emissions by only 27.6%*viii, leaving a requirement to reduce

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			Climate Action Programme: specific GHG reduction targets for building sector of 67%, by 2030 relative to 1990 levels LULUCF 0.5% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	new buildings (Act on Energy Saving, EnEG, 1976) • grant funding for renewable heat installations (Market Incentive Programme, MAP, 1999). Paris Agreement signed and ratified on 22 April 2016			emissions by 40m tCO2e per year. Surveys show a high degree of concern about climate change and high levels of support for the Energiewende.
The Netherlands	10.1 tCO2 (2013) 192 MTCO2 eq. in 2012 (excl. LULUCF)	Share of 20-20-20 goals: Non- Emissions Trading System GHG reduction: 16% (binding)xix 2030 target: A target of 36% saving by 2030 against a 2005 baseline as part of the EU Effort	Share of 20-20-20 goals: Non- Emissions Trading System GHG reduction 16% (binding); 14% renewable energy production (binding); 1.5% energy savings per year	Most climate policies and programmes have their legal basis in the Environmental Management Act. An Environmental Act has been proposed to simplify existing complex and fragmented	Participates as an EU Member State and Annex-1 party to the Kyoto Protocol both in the EU ETS and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) as well as the Joint Implementation (JI) mechanism	-	Power: The energy mix is dominated by fossil fuels. Natural gas supplies 47% of energy needs and oil 38%, up from 35% in 1990. The country has invested heavily in fossil power generation, particularly gas- and coal-fired capacity. Other priority sectors for climate policy are energy efficiency in new and existing buildings and reducing emissions from agriculture and industry. Heat: a succession of policies for heat including

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		Sharing Regulation	Renewables goals: 40% (2030) 80-95% (2050) Transport: implements the European Renewable Energy Directive target of 10% renewable energy in transport in 2020 (road vehicles and mobile machines) and sets future targets. LULUCF: development of a nature network called the National Ecological Network (also known as Nature Network Netherlands) has	legislation, integrating 26 different laws and regulations. Political uncertainty campaigning in the run up to the March 2017 general election saw parties stating they would support the new Climate Act setting out legally binding targets to 2050. However, a breakdown in the talks to form a coalition, in May 2017, saw political differences in parties including on climate change. At the time of writing there is currently a political impasse.	under the Kyoto Protocol.*x Expected to raise own contribution to climate finance from EUR 200m (USD 310.5m) in 2013 to EUR 1.2bn (USD 1.86bn) by 2020. Also contributes to climate funds that finance climate adaptation and mitigation in developing countries It is assumed The Netherlands will follow the EU position on trading under the Paris Agreement.		an Energy Agenda xxi in 2016 sets out a long-term perspective for energy and climate policy. A collaborative agreement between 47 stakeholder groups (government, industry, third sector and trade unions), it sets out a vision for the energy system to 2050 – although implementation mechanisms are incomplete. Discussions during the 2017 Dutch election campaign have revealed support from industrial stakeholders, including energy companies such as Shell, for a new Climate Change Act.

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			been a central theme of the nature and forest policy 2030 - LULUCF 1.1% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	signed and ratified on 22 April 2016	2% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation		
Sweden	4.6 tCO2 (2013) 58 MTCO2 eq. In 2012 (excl. LULUCF)	Committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2045, passed in June 2017***. Share of 2030 goals: Reduction of GHG emissions by 40% by 2020 (1990 baseline). Far greater than the 17% required under the EU burden sharing	Renewables: increase to 50% share by 2020 Vehicles: fossil fuel free by 2030 Efficiency: 20% energy reduction by 2020 (baseline 2008) 2030 - LULUCF 1.1% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU	A climate policy framework was drawn up by a cross-party committee, passed by overwhelming majority. Taking effect from 1st January 2018, it establishes an independent Climate Policy Council and requires an action plan to be updated	International offsets may be used to meet shortfalls – to a ceiling of 15% 2030 target: 2% one off flexibility from ETS under the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	The major (non energy and industry) sectors to which the specific Swedish target (40% by 2020) applies include: transportation, agriculture, residential housing, services, waste disposal, forestry, and aquaculture.	Sweden's main approach is to use market-based initiatives that cut across different sectors, integrating climate mitigation via price signals across industries. **x*iv* Renewables: With 52 per cent of renewables in its energy portfolio (2014), largely hydropower and biofuels, Sweden has the highest percentage of renewable energy in the EU. Nuclear power makes up about 40% of electricity generation — its future is uncertain Public support is strong for environmental policy. The climate goal was initially proposed by the socialist and green parties and backed by a

State en procession can be called the called	GHG emissions per capita ⁱ and total ⁱⁱ unless tated)	Overall GHG reduction target	Sectoral GHG reduction targets	Legislation / strength in law	Trading / offsetting	Notes on targets	Commentary on sectors, technology, achievability of targets
		agreement (non ETS sector) 85% reduction in domestic GHGs by 2045 No net GHG emissions by 2050×xiiii 2030 target: A target of 40% saving by 2030 against a 2005 baseline as part of the EU Effort Sharing Regulation	Effort Sharing Regulation	every four years. A carbon excise tax was first introduced in 1995 on fuels such as oil and gas. GHG targets: Binding law obliging future governments to set tougher goals to cut fossil fuel use every four years (from January 2018) Tax reliefs to power-intensive industries in exchange for their drawing up energy plans and taking steps to reduce energy use. Paris Agreement signed and ratified on 22 April 2016			coalition of 7/8 parties across the political spectrum. Taxation of CO2 and fossil fuel (a key driver of heating decarbonisation) has been stable despite changing governments. Expenditure on R&D (research and development) represented 3.3 per cent of GDP in 2013, the fourth highest percentage in the OECD.

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Non-EU co	untries						
Norway	11.7 tCO2 (2013) 52 MtCO2- eq in 2014 (excl. LULUCF)	Target of reducing GHG emissions by "at least 40%" below 1990 levels in 2030 (in line with EU) A conditional goal of carbon neutrality by 2030 (if other developed nations have similar commitments)***	Emissions and removals from LULUCF are dependent on the EU's approach**xvi The European Commission has proposed a preliminary target for Norway for emissions reductions in sectors outside the EU Emissions Trading System of 40% by 2030 in comparison to 2005 levels.	The 2012 Climate Settlement builds on the goals adopted under the ambitious 2008 White Paper on Climate Efforts. It is not legislation per se, but guides and sets the framework for political discussions and contains a number of political, non- binding goals. Paris Agreement signed and ratified on 20 June 2016	Norway has a history of trading National policy is to reduce two thirds of GHG emissions domestically and to purchase emission units for the rest, up to 30 million credits during the Kyoto Protocol second commitment period. 2030 CN goal to be achieved through 'the EU emissions trading market, international cooperation on emissions reductions, emissions trading and project-based cooperation'	Baseline (1990) year did not include LULUCF hence target is expected on similar basis LULUCF sink expected to grow from 10.1 MtCO2e in 1990 to 21.2 MtCO2e in 2030. Only the difference between the two expected as credits towards target	Under current policy projections, GHGs will stabilise (at~52 Mt) up to 2030 and target will be missed. Hydropower facilities cover roughly 95% of domestic electricity generation (almost CN). World leader in electric cars per capita. Policy to electrify transport sector inc. incentives and investment widely praised. Purchased 21.5 million carbon credits to offset its Kyoto target surplus xxxvii. Forest carbon sink net uptake projected to decrease from 24 Mt/yr to around 20 Mt/yr towards 2030. Development: invests heavily in climate commitments as part of its co-operative schemes with developing countries – focusing on clean, renewable energy resources, climate change adaptation and food security. However, home to the biggest hydrocarbon reserves in Europe - 5th largest exporter of crude oil in the world. The oil and gas sector constitutes around 22% of Norwegian GDP and

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					It is not stated whether this is GHG or CO2 neutral (but interpreted as the former)		67% of Norwegian exports. Carbon tax levied on drilling activities since 1991. Amended to 200 NOK (~22 €) per tCO2-eq in 2013. More policy change recognised as required (Climate and Energy Minister Vidar Helgesn, 2016) including decreasing dependence on oil and gas. Environmental policies have been presented to the public as not inherently conflicting with economic growth, which ensured that they were met with broad approval. For example, to encourage public acceptance of battery electric vehicles (BEVs), the government-funded agency Enova sponsored communication campaigns, statistics on electric vehicles registrations and information on charging points.
Mexico	3.9 tCO2 (2013) 641 MTCO2 excl. LULUCF (2006)	A target to reduce emissions by 30% by 2020 compared to business-as-usual A target to reduce GHG emissions by 22% below 2013	Clean energy target: 25% of electricity generation by 2018, 30% by 2021, and 35% by 2024. NDC includes all sources and	The General Law on Climate Change (April 2012 - first climate law in a developing country) – backed up by The National Strategy on Climate Change (NSCC) (June 2013).	Cap and trade A 12-month pilot scheme was launched in Nov. 2016, voluntary for 60 power companies - ahead of an expected full rollout of a	Reference level emissions only reported including LULUCF, and no separate LULUCF data reported BAU is a scenario of emissions projections based	Co-generation included in definition of clean energy – likely to be natural gas. Cogen. share of the electricity mix could be 9% by 2030—up from 0% in 2014. Emissions would be 58 MtCO2e—or 6% higher—in 2030, and could reduce the share of renewables in the 2024 clean energy target to 29%. Currently implemented policies are projected to result in emissions levels above its 2020 and

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		baseline in 2030 (yet equivalent to an increase of emissions by 56% above 1990 levels) xxviii. A target to reduce GHGs 36% conditionally by 2030 from the 2013 baseline. Further aim to reduce GHG emissions 50% from 2000 levels by 2050 (equivalent to a 31% reduction below 1990 levels, excluding LULUCFxxix)	gases, including LULUCF – albeit not a significant component of emissions in 2030 LULUCF: Ensure that: 58.7% of forest resources are harvested sustainably by 2018; 94% of forest areas certified under "good forest management practice" by 2018; at least 10.2% of forest area is included in the 'payment for ecosystem services' scheme	The 2nd Special Programme on Climate Change (2014) includes mitigation measures to 2018. These confirmed the 30% 2020 target and 2050 50% target and made them binding at the national level - subject to international support Energy Transition Law (2015) includes clean energy targets for 2018 (25% of generation), 2021 (30%) and 2024 (35%). General Law for Sustainable Forest Development,	national carbon market in 2018*** It is not clear how this will link to International markets.	on economic growth in the absence of climate change policies, from 2013 Conditions for higher targets are 'a global agreement addressing international carbon pricing, carbon border adjustments, technical cooperation, access to low cost financial resources and technology transfer'	2030 targets indicating more action is required to meet goals ⁱ . Current policies will lead to emissions of between 724 and 736 MtCO2e excluding LULUCF in 2020. In 2030, the emissions level is projected to be between 835 and 893 MtCO2e in 2030, excluding LULUCF.

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				Paris Agreement ratified on 21st September 2016.			

US States

Note: these commitments and targets have been upheld despite President Trump's June 2017 commitment to pull out of the Paris Agreement

California 9.2 tCO2 2030 vision 2030 goals: Global Warming Can and trade 5. Energy efficiency:

California	9.2 tCO2	2030 vision	2030 goals:	Global Warming	Cap and trade	-	Energy efficiency:
	(2016) ^{xxxi}	Reducing GHG	50% renewable	Solutions Act	A well established		Building and Appliance Energy Efficiency
		emissions by 40%	energy use	(assembly bill	programme is		Standards have been put in place over the last
	359 MT CO2	below 1990 levels	50% reduction in	32)xxxiii	establishedxxxiv		four decades.
		by 2030.xxxii	petroleum use in		which periodically		Ratepayers have invested consistently in energy
			vehicles		auctions		efficiency programs.
			Double energy		allowances and		Research and development investments are
			efficiency savings		raises money		fostering new technologies.
			in buildings		through the GHG		
			Carbon		Reduction Fund		
			sequestration in		to support		Renewables:
			the land base		California Climate		Existing policies will increase renewable-based
			including farm		Investments,		electricity use to 33 percent by 2020
			and rangelands,		supporting		More than doubled renewable capacity installed
			forests and		projects on		in the last four years (over 11,000 MW) with over
			wetlands		natural and		21,000 MW online.
			Update 'double		working lands		A further 11,400 MW have received
			adaptation				development permits.
			strategy				Costs – even without subsidies – are approaching

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							levels competitive with new natural gas plants. Reducing Petroleum use: Existing policies will reduce petroleum use in cars and trucks by more than 20% in 2030 LULUCF: A Forest Carbon Plan**xxv*, currently under consultation, is be the detailed implementation plan for the forest carbon goals
New York State	8.6 tCO2 (2016) 170 MT CO2	2030 goal 40% reduction in GHG emissions from 1990 levels xxxvi Proposed legislation for net zero by 2050	2030 goals 50% of energy generation from renewable energy sources 23% decrease in energy consumption in buildings from 2012 levels	New York's State Energy Plan XXXVII, along with private sector innovation and investment fuelled by Governor Cuomo's Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) policy	Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) is the first mandatory market-based emissions trading program in the U.S. to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, and the first anywhere to use the cap-and- invest model for reducing pollution	-	Renewables: The state promotes renewable energy through its Large Scale Renewables Program, NY-Sun Initiative, shared renewables and community net metering projects, and the Offshore Wind Blueprint. Transportation: The source of 34% of New York's GHGs, and growing. The state is tackling transportation sector emissions by focusing on using clean fuels, expanding public transportation systems, and increasing availability of clean fuel infrastructure in support of low- and zero-emission vehicles (ZEV). Working through the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI), a regional collaboration of 12 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic jurisdictions,

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							on developing programs and policies that support regional clean transportation goals. New York is also a member of the Multi-State ZEV Task Force, and the Charge NY initiative seeks to create a statewide network of up to 3,000 public and workplace charging stations, and put 40,000 plug-in vehicles on the road, by 2020. Buildings: Consume roughly 60% of total energy used. Key programs in achieving these goals include New York Power Authority's BuildSmart NY program, NYSERDA's home and commercial energy efficiency programs, and multi-agency efforts to promote combined heat and power (CHP), also known as cogeneration. LULUCF: Climate Resilient Farming Program through the Department of Agriculture and Markets is working with New York's farming community to reduce emissions.

Glossary:

CDM: Clean Development Mechanism under Kyoto Protocol

CN: Carbon Neutral GHG: Greenhouse Gas

JI: Joint Implementation mechanism under Kyoto Protocol

LULUCF: Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry

MT: Megatonne (million tonnes)

NDC: Nationally Determined Contribution – commitment to the Paris Agreement

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