What can we learn from Emissions Monitoring and Reporting?

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Emissions Monitoring and Reporting: importance of knowledge base

Knowledge based on data is essential for appropriate climate policies:

- Robust knowledge base and data needed to set the right targets and develop the appropriate policies;
- Policymakers need to assess progress towards targets;
- Policymakers need to justify to what extent policies reach their objectives.

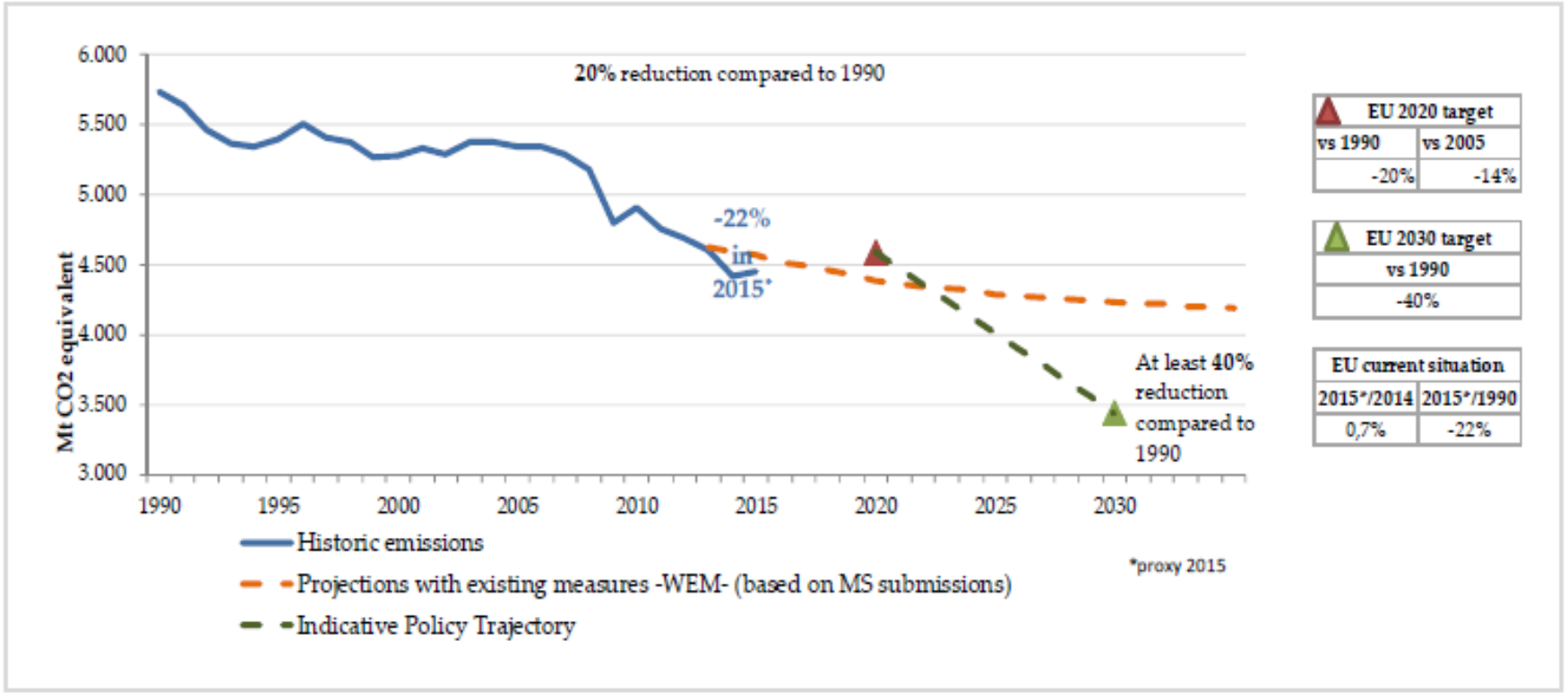
EU Climate Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (MMR)

- Lays down robust transparency framework on greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and other climate information since 2013, succeeding similar decisions from 2004, 1998, and 1993.
- Sets the EU's internal reporting rules on the basis of internationally agreed obligations, as well as to track progress of implementing EU 2020 climate legislation (ETS, Effort Sharing Decision, LULUCF Decision).
- Includes reporting by Member States of information on GHG emissions (actual and projected), policies and measures, EU ETS auctioning revenues, national adaptation actions, financial and technology support to developing countries, low-carbon development strategies.
- Requires the set-up of national systems for reporting GHG inventories and policies and measures and projections for better compliance and consistency with other legal instruments (e.g. air pollutants)

Proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union

- In November 2016, an integrated approach between climate and energy was proposed to monitor the transition towards a fair, clean, competitive and sustainable energy system
- Robust EU transparency framework on climate is continued with the Governance Proposal – very similar to MMR
- Governance Proposal puts forward elements that are needed for tracking progress with the 2030 climate and energy framework (ETS, Effort Sharing, land use, land use change and forestry, renewables and energy efficiency and all other elements of the Energy Union)
- Governance process is aligned with the 5-year review cycles of the Paris Agreement

The development of EU GHG emissions since 1990, future projections until 2030



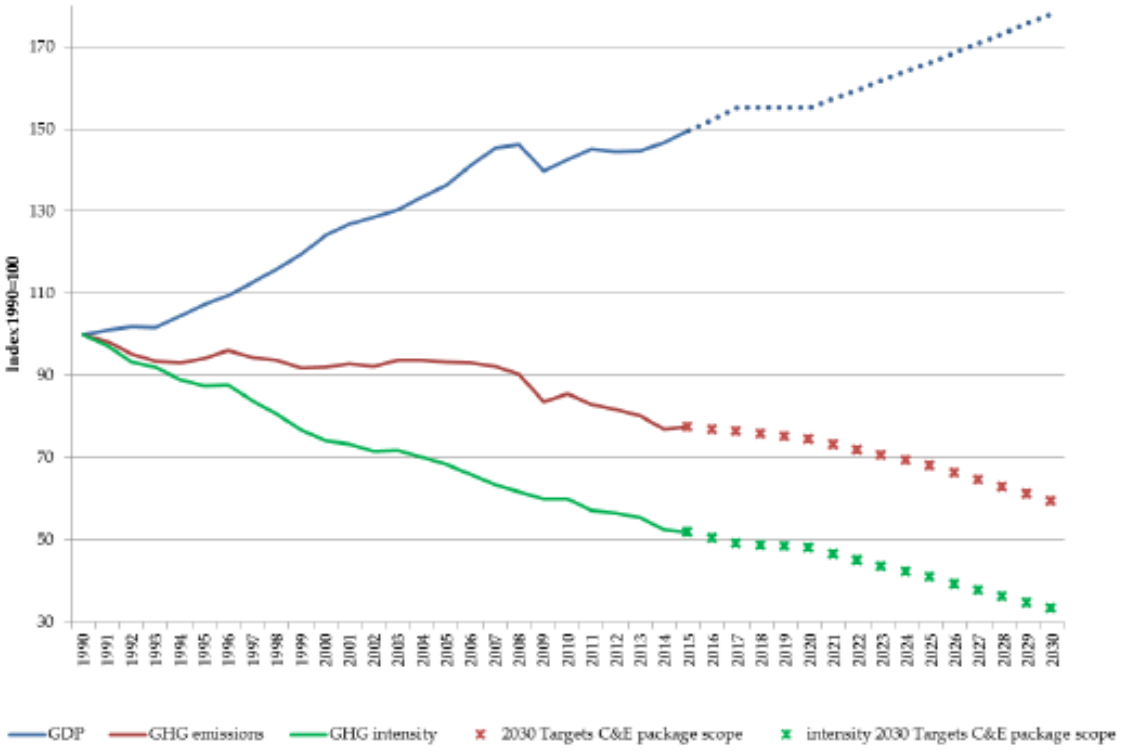
Source: European Environment Agency, Commission

Progress in EU GHG emission reductions

Decoupling of GHG emissions from economic growth

-22% GHG reduction in 2015 compared to 1990

50% GDP growth over this period



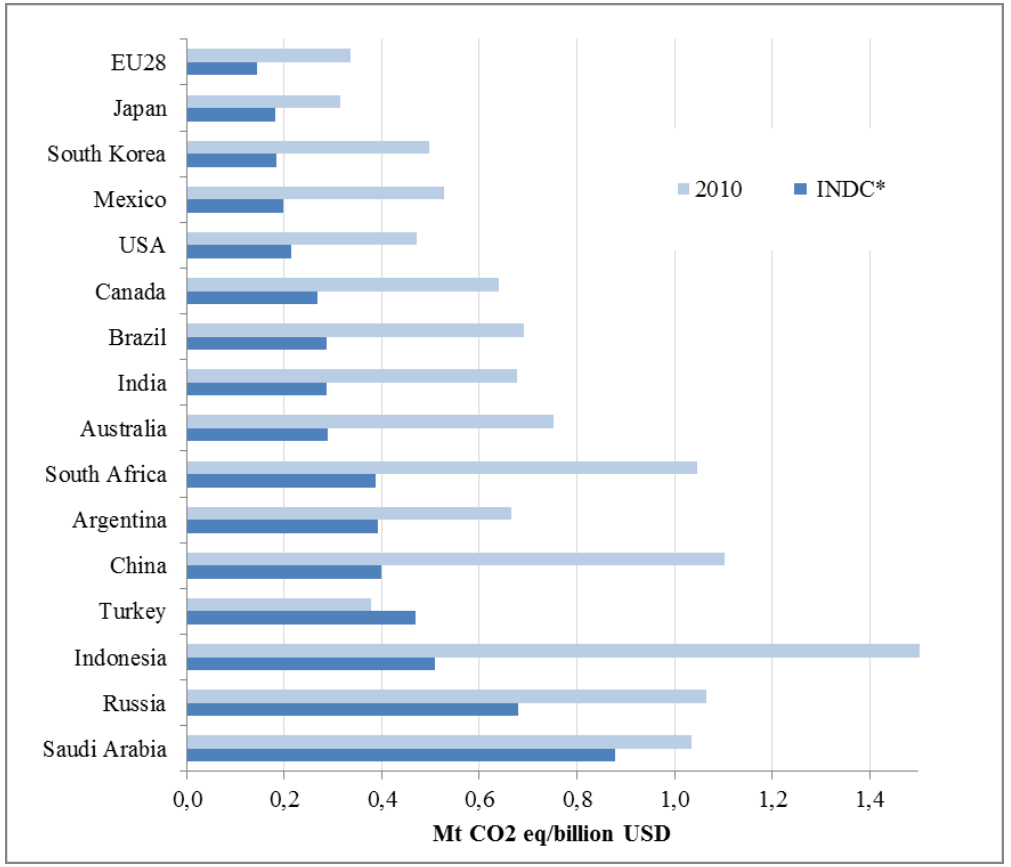
Source: European Environment Agency, Commission

Reducing GHG intensity of the economy

Significant reduction of GHG intensity of EU economy

EU is one of the most GHG efficient major economies

EU is set to become the most GHG efficient economy in the G20 through the implementation of the 2030 climate and energy targets



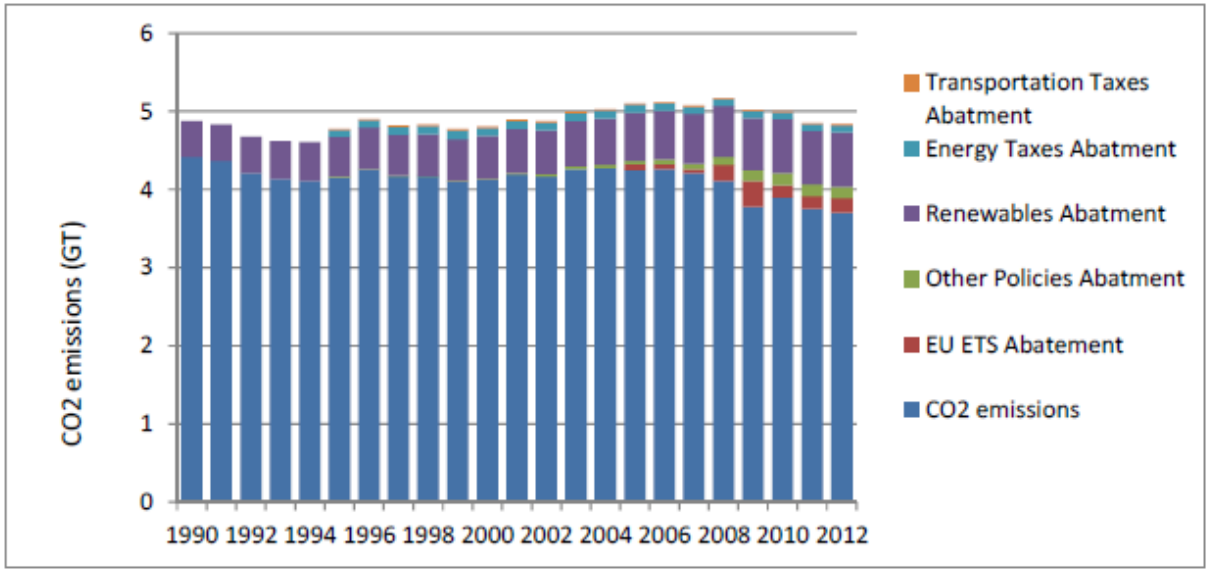
Source: The emissions Gap Report 2016-2030 trends and ambition. UNEP, November 2016.

Ex-post evaluation of climate policies

Important to understand main drivers behind emissions reductions and to quantify the impact of policies on emissions

Without the climate policies and measures, CO_2 emissions would have been 30% higher

Figure 5: Ex-post evaluation of the impact of the EU-ETS, Renewable, Taxation and other policies on CO_2 emissions from combustion



Key takeaways

- Knowledge based on evidence is essential for designing effective and efficient climate and energy policies
- Robust transparency framework for GHG and other relevant information is the 'nuts and bolts' of keeping track and understanding implementation
- Ex-post evaluation reveals main drivers behind GHG emission reductions and quantifies the impact of policies on GHG emissions
- Integrating climate and energy monitoring is essential for transforming EU energy system serving multiple policy objectives, i.e., energy security, fully integrated energy market, energy efficiency, GHG emission reductions, and research, innovation and competitiveness