


# European Union

Emissions	Climate Commitment Status
<p><b>6.8%</b> of global emissions<sup>1</sup></p>  <p>Agriculture = 427.6 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2019<sup>2</sup> or 11% of total emissions excluding LULUCF            ↓ -20% since 1990</p> <p><b>-243.1</b> MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq LULUCF emissions in 2019<sup>3</sup></p> <p>Net sink of emissions</p>	<p><b>2020 update submitted<sup>4</sup></b> ✓</p> <p><b>LTS submitted in 2020<sup>5</sup></b> ✓</p> <p><b>CAT rating<sup>6</sup></b> <b>INSUFFICIENT</b></p> <p><b>Net zero commitment:</b> Union-wide emissions and removals of greenhouse gases regulated in Union law shall be balanced at the latest by 2050 (<a href="#">EU Climate Law</a>)</p> <p><b>Net zero details:</b></p> <p><b>Date:</b> 2050</p> <p><b>Legal status:</b> In law (EU Climate Law)</p> <p><b>Gases covered:</b> All GHGs</p> <p><b>Credits allowed:</b> Target to be achieved domestically</p>
How action-oriented are the NDCs in the food and land sector?	
Criteria	NDC Assessment
<p><b>Specific policy priorities or actions for agriculture and food:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NDC does not include a specific agriculture section but the Effort Sharing and LULUCF Regulations are mentioned, the scope of which includes aspects related to agriculture (though this is not specified in the NDC)</li> <li>Waste, circular economy and fluorinated gas legislation are also mentioned though not described. These could have an impact on the agriculture and food sectors</li> </ul>	<p>○</p> <p><b>Low:</b> NDC does not cover agriculture and food or provides no detail on general or specific orientations, or only in contextual manner.</p>
<p><b>Specific policy priorities or actions for LULUCF:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Various mentions of the LULUCF sector are made throughout the NDC, including descriptions of new policies and the update and improvement of accounting rules; the policy framework identifies net accounted emissions and removals, contributing to the aim of enhancing the EU's net land sinks in the long-term</li> <li>Specifically, the EU adopted a new regulation on greenhouse gas emissions and removals from LULUCF that sets a binding commitment for each Member State to ensure that accounted emissions from land use are at a minimum compensated by an equivalent accounted removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere through action in the sector</li> <li>The EU's NDC details how the reference indicators for LULUCF are constructed and defined and includes details of the LULUCF categories and pools included</li> </ul>	<p>▲</p> <p><b>Medium:</b> NDC mentions <b>generic orientations of actions, commitment or strategy</b> in the LULUCF sector but provides little detail of specific sub-sector orientations pursued by the Party</p>
<p><b>Key policies in the NDC supporting priorities:</b></p> <p><b>Agriculture and food:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation (EU) No 517/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on fluorinated greenhouse gases</li> </ul> <p><b>LULUCF:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation (EU) 2018/841 on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry in the 2030 climate and energy framework</li> </ul>	<p>▲ ▲</p> <p><b>High:</b> NDC lists sectoral policies related to either agriculture and food or LULUCF which are directly linked to actions/orientations</p>
<p><b>Dedicated financial resources associated with policies or action:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<p>○</p> <p><b>Low:</b> NDC does not provide any detail on public funding to mitigation actions in the agriculture, food and land sectors</p>
<p><b>Spatial information for mitigation provided in the NDC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<p>○</p> <p><b>Low:</b> NDC does not provide any information on spatial planning to support adaptation or mitigation actions in the food and land sectors in the form of maps or indications of spatial data</p>
<p><b>Technology details provided in the NDC:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<p>○</p> <p><b>Low:</b> NDC does not provide any detail on technological innovation related to the agriculture, food and land sectors</p>

What specific policy measures are included in the NDCs regarding critical food and land transitions?		
Critical transition	Details	NDC Assessment
Healthy diets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC does not mention any detail on the critical transition</p>
Productive and regenerative agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture listed in IPCC sectors covered</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC does not mention any detail on the critical transition</p>
Protecting and restoring nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NDC mentions the joint climate-biodiversity crises, the role of nature-based solutions (NBS) in solving global challenges such as biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC provides inexplicit or unclear information on the critical transition (topic is mentioned, but not as a policy action)</p>
A healthy and productive ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC does not mention any detail on the critical transition</p>
Diversifying protein supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC does not mention any detail on the critical transition</p>
Reducing food loss and waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste legislation was reviewed, tightening landfilling and recycling targets and increasing the circularity of the EU economy; 65% of all municipal waste should be recycled, while reducing landfilling of municipal waste to 10% by 2030</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC provides inexplicit or unclear information on the critical transition (topic is mentioned, but not as a policy action)</p>
Local loops and linkages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste legislation was reviewed, tightening landfilling, and recycling targets and increasing the circularity of the EU economy</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC provides inexplicit or unclear information on the critical transition (topic is mentioned, but not as a policy action)</p>
Digital revolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action improves the governance of EU climate and energy policy by putting in place a reliable EU-wide reporting and monitoring framework for the period 2021 to 2030; Member States have prepared Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans for the period 2021 to 2030 that include their national contributions to achieve the combined energy and climate targets as well as related commitments under the Paris Agreement</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC does not mention any detail on the critical transition</p>
Stronger rural livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EU leaders agreed further that “[i]n order to address the social and economic consequences of the objective of reaching climate neutrality by 2050 and the Union’s new 2030 climate target, a Just Transition Mechanism, including a Just Transition Fund, will be created”</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>
Gender and demography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NDC is prepared in the context of the EU’s commitment to gender equality and cross-cutting priorities such as the European Pact on Gender Equality and the commitment to create and maximise synergies between the social, environmental, and economic dimensions of sustainable development; as the Council of the European Union has highlighted, nature-based solutions play an important role to solve global challenges such as biodiversity loss and ecosystems degradation, poverty, hunger, health, water scarcity and drought, gender inequality, disaster risk reduction and climate change</li> </ul>	<p>●</p> <p>NDC lists essential actions, including specific commitments, strategies, or funding, related to the critical transition</p>

## What specific institutional arrangements for climate have countries put in place?

### Dedicated body in place:

- N/A

### Consultation processes:

- The NDC target is based on stakeholder input collected through a public consultation (all EU legislative acts are subject to a public consultation before adoption)

## SUMMARY

### Summary of the NDC analysis:

- The NDC provides relatively little detail on actions and orientations in the food and land sector. While emissions reductions in traded and non-traded sectors are mentioned, in particular through the Effort Sharing Regulation, the agriculture sector itself is not highlighted in the document. No further policies directly linked to agriculture are mentioned.
- The NDC addresses emissions of fluorinated gases, including banning the use of F-gases in many new types of equipment, and preventing emissions of F-gases from existing equipment
- More detail is provided on the LULUCF sector, including through the description of the legally binding Regulation on GHG emissions from LULUCF.
- The NDC does not mention funding, spatial information or technologies related to the AFOLU sector.
- The NDC addresses six critical transitions in the sector, however mostly in an inexplicit or unclear manner. While this does not mean that ambitious policies are not being developed at EU level, the NDC remains vague and does not refer specifically to how these policies will support meeting the EU decarbonisation objective outlined in its NDC.
- The NDC is one of the few to mention the joint climate-biodiversity crisis and the role of nature-based solutions in solving global challenges, but with no clear strategy to address it. Under the "digital revolution" transition, the NDC mentions an EU-wide reporting and monitoring framework but not in relation to the AFOLU sector.
- The NDC briefly discusses a Just Transition Fund that will be created to address the social and economic consequences of the objective of reaching climate neutrality by 2050 and the Union's new 2030 climate target but it is unclear the extent to which this will support stronger rural livelihoods, and the mechanisms by which the fund will be distributed.

## REFERENCES

1. Source: ClimateWatch, accessed 30 August 2021. <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/compare-all-targets?>
2. Source: UNFCCC, Greenhouse Gas Inventory Data, accessed 30 August 2021. [https://di.unfccc.int/detailed\\_data\\_by\\_party](https://di.unfccc.int/detailed_data_by_party)
3. Source: UNFCCC, Greenhouse Gas Inventory Data, accessed 30 August 2021. [https://di.unfccc.int/detailed\\_data\\_by\\_party](https://di.unfccc.int/detailed_data_by_party)
4. Submitted 18 December 2020. Source: UNFCCC. [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/European%20Union%20First/EU\\_NDC\\_Submission\\_December%202020.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/European%20Union%20First/EU_NDC_Submission_December%202020.pdf)
5. Submitted 06 March 2020. Source: UNFCCC. <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/HR-03-06-2020%20EU%20Submission%20on%20Long%20term%20strategy.pdf>
6. Source : Climate Action Tracker, accessed 15 September 2021. <https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/eu/>