Country fact sheet: Latvia

1. Total greenhouse gas emissions

Figure 1: Left hand side: Total greenhouse gas emissions (incl. international aviation) 1990-2020 (index 1990 = 100 %). Right hand side: Greenhouse gas emissions by sector\(^1\) – historical emissions 1990-2019, proxy 2020, projections WEM 2021-2030 (Mt CO\(_2\)-eq).

Figure 2: Share of emissions covered by the ETS and the ESD (2019).²

2. ETS emissions

Figure 3: ETS emissions 2005-2020 (Mt CO₂-eq).³

² Excluding international aviation and NF₃.
³ The scope of ETS was extended from 2013. To reflect the current scope of ETS, estimates made by EEA are included in the figures from 2005 to 2012. The estimates cover only emissions from stationary installations.
3. Emissions in Effort Sharing sectors

Figure 4: Left hand side: Emissions and targets under the Effort Sharing Decision/ Effort Sharing Regulation 2020 and 2030 as percentage change from 2005. Right hand side: Emissions, annual emission allocations (AEAs) and accumulated surplus/ deficit of AEAs under the Effort Sharing Decision 2013-2020 (Mt CO₂-eq).
4. Land use, land use change and forestry

Reported quantities under the Kyoto Protocol for Latvia show net removals of, on average, -2.2 Mt CO$_2$-eq for the period 2013 to 2019. In this regard, Latvia contributes with 0.6% to the annual average sink of -344.9 Mt CO$_2$-eq of the EU-27. Accounting for the same period depicts net debits of, on average, 2.4 Mt CO$_2$-eq, which represents -2.1% of the EU-27 accounted sink of -115.0 Mt CO$_2$-eq. Reported net removals decrease sharply in 2014 and thereafter show very small increasing trends with high fluctuations. Accounting quantities show a similar pattern, with net credits for 2013 becoming substantial net debits for 2014 that thereafter gradually decrease with high fluctuations. Latvia is one of six EU Member States with average net debits and one of 14 EU Member States that show net debits for at least one year in this preliminary accounting exercise.

The dominating reported activity is Forest Management with removals. Emissions by Deforestation are sizable; removals by Afforestation/Reforestation are negligible. Removals by Forest Management decrease from -6.6 Mt CO$_2$-eq in 2013 to -1.0 Mt CO$_2$-eq in 2014 and an average of -2.6 Mt CO$_2$-eq in the years thereafter with a slightly increasing trend. This links with an increase in harvest rates determined by demand and price of roundwood assortments in the local and export markets.

Forest Management activities show the highest quantities with credits in 2013 turning into highest debits for the years thereafter. Latvia is one of 13 EU Member States with debits by Forest Management for at least one year. Debits by Deforestation are moderate; credits by Afforestation/Reforestation are negligible.

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The differences between reported and accounted emissions from LULUCF under the Kyoto Protocol are described in the ‘explanatory note on LULUCF – accounted and reported quantities under the Kyoto Protocol’. 
Data sources


Figure 3: extract from European Union Transaction Log 01.07.2021 (EEA ETS data viewer: https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/dashboards/emissions-trading-viewer-1).

Figure 4: European Commission: Commission Implementing Decisions on greenhouse gas emissions for each Member State for the years 2013-2019 under the Effort Sharing Decision (Implementation of the Effort Sharing Decision [europa.eu]). Approximated EU greenhouse gas inventory 2020 (European Environment Agency). Member States national projections, reviewed by the European Environment Agency.

Figure 5: European Commission based on data accounted and reported by Member States under the Kyoto Protocol.