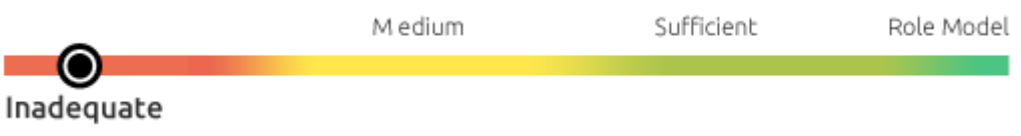
Russian Federation

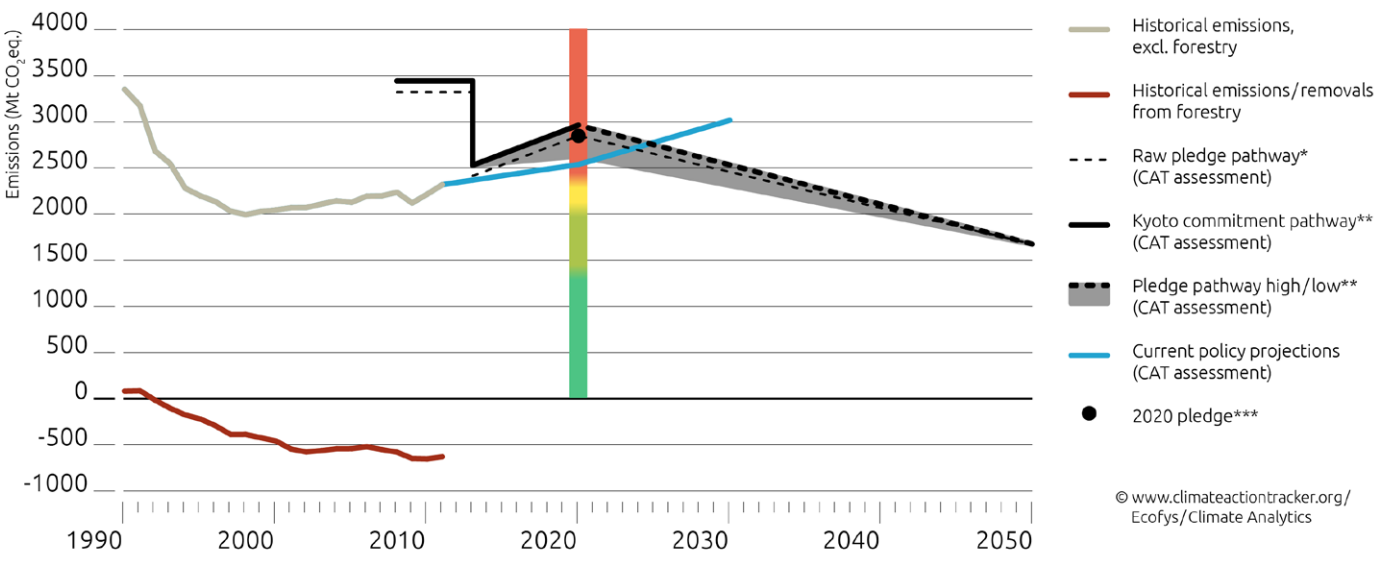
Page last updated: 20th November 2013

Rating



Assessment

Russia pledged to reduce emissions by 15% to 25% relative to 1990 emissions by 2020. This is rated Inadequate, since their commitments by 2020 are above expected BAU projections[1] which represent a development without additional measures after 2009 until 2020. According to our analysis, the currently implemented policies will lead to a 25% lower emission level in 2020 than the pledge level.



* Excl. LULUCF credits and debits, excl. LULUCF base year emissions accounting rules and without application of historical threshold on emissions allowances in 2020 under the Doha decision.
** Incl. LULUCF credits and debits, incl. LULUCF base year emissions accounting rules and application of historical threshold on emissions allowances in 2020 under the Doha decision.
*** Emissions level in 2020 resulting from unconditional pledge. This differs from the Kyoto commitment pathway as it depicts final 2020 levels whereas the Kyoto pathway considers the average level of emissions over the second commitment period (2013-2020).

Pledge description

The Russian Federation pledged in the Copenhagen accord a reduction of 15 to 25% relative to 1990 emissions by 2020. Their commitments by 2020 are above BAU projections. LULUCF crediting based on presently available, but incomplete data provides a large increase to the allowed emission limits in 2020. Without LULUCF credits, even the 25% reduction target will leave Russia's emissions above the BAU range.

Russia's Kyoto target for the first commitment period is 0% relative to 1990 emission levels, which is also above BAU emissions and led to a surplus of 6 $GtCO_2e$ for the first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol.

Kyoto Protocol	
Member of KP CP1	yes
Member of KP CP2	no
KP CP1 target (below 1990)	0%
KP CP2 target (below 1990)	n.a.
Convention	
Copenhagen pledge	-15%/-25%
Reference for pledge	1990 emissions
Conditions (for higher pledge level):	
a) appropriate accounting of the potential of Russia's forestry sector,	
b) the undertaking by all major emitters of legally binding obligations to reduce emissions	
National goals	
Long term goal(s)	50% by 2050 below 1990 levels

Current trend description

Currently implemented policies will lead to emissions of 2,539 $MtCO_2e$ (excluding LULUCF) in 2020 and 3,017 $MtCO_2e$ in 2030. This represents a decrease of emissions from 1990 levels of 24% in 2020 and 10% in 2030. Emissions from land use play an important part in Russia's inventory. If these were taken into account, emissions including LULUCF would be 27% lower, at 1,752 $MtCO_2e$ in 2020, assuming the same share of LULUCF as in 2011. Considering the uncertainties around the LULUCF accounting, the additional effect is questionable and depends on policy interventions in the future.

Emissions in Russia dropped after 1990, with a historic low of just below 2 $GtCO_2e$ in 1998 - down 40% from 1990 levels. Since then emissions have increased steadily, experiencing only a small impact from the financial crisis, and are expected to continue on the same trend until 2030.

Russia's climate policy environment has a clear focus towards energy production and demand. Current energy efficiency legislation sets targets for energy intensity (reduce energy intensity of GDP in 2020 by 40% from 2007 value) and provides a basic framework for reducing energy consumption. Most of the detailed policy measures in that policy area, like building codes and heat efficiency laws are outdated (before 2003).

Policy support for introducing renewable technologies for electricity generation are compared to its potential low. The targets set by the State Policy of Energy Efficiency were already achieved in 2010 and therefore no additional reduction effect was quantified.

The most recent piece of legislation that will have a mitigation effect is a government decree to reduce flaring from natural gas production. This sets a 5% limit for gas flaring for the year 2012 and subsequent years with fines imposed if this threshold is exceeded or there is no measurement equipment in place.

Date of pledge: November 2009

Assumptions

Pledge

Targets for 2020 were calculated from the most recent national inventory submissions (CRF, 2013).

We calculated the Russian Federation's LULUCF accounting quantities in 2020 for afforestation, reforestation and deforestation using the current Kyoto rules. For forest management the reference level is the 1990 carbon budget.

Current trend

The current trend projections are based on the World Energy Outlook 2012 Current Policy scenario projections for CO_2 only until 2030, (IEA, 2012) the US EPA non-CO_2 (US EPA, 2012) emission projections until 2030, Edgar for non-CO_2 (JRC/PBL 2012) and inventory data submitted to the UNFCCC until with the last historic data year being 2011 (CRF, 2013). The reduction from limiting flaring is based on projections for gas production of the BP energy outlook (BP, 2013), and IEA data for historical levels.

Sources

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[1] BAU projections are mainly based on growth rates from the IEA's projections in the World Energy Outlook 2009. We use these to compare to the pledges, as they reflect policies in place before Copenhagen pledges were made, but not additional policies implemented since.

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