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Press release



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From: EurObserv'ER
Subject: **Estimates of the renewable energy share in gross final energy consumption for the year 2014**
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Key data for the year 2014 (EU-28):

- Renewable energy share in total gross **final energy** consumption: 15,8% in 2014 (14.9 % in 2013)

European renewable energy share increases to 15.8% in 2014

The 2009/28/EC Directive sets the Member States a mandatory 20% global renewable energy share target of gross final energy consumption with binding compulsory targets for each individual country for 2020. EurObserv'ER monitors all the Member States' trajectories towards these targets.

The estimates published below are the first to appear for 2014.

Calculating the renewable energy share for each country is a delicate task. The results presented are EurObserv'ER's estimates based on data collected by the project team over the past year. According to these initial figures, the renewable energy share of gross final energy consumption in the European Union stood at **15.8% in 2014** compared to **14.9% in 2013**, which amounts to a 0.9 point rise.



Share of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption in 2013 and 2014, indicative trajectory and national overall targets in 2020

	2013	2014*	Indicative Trajectory		2020 target**	Percentage of target achieved
			2013-2014	2015-2016		
			%	%		
Austria	32,2	32,8	26,5	28,1	34	96,5
Belgium	7,8	7,9	5,4	7,1	13	60,5
Bulgaria	19,3	20,2	11,4	12,4	16	126,5
Croatia	17,8	19,8	15,0	16,1	20	99,2
Cyprus	7,2	8,2	5,9	7,4	13	63,0
Czech Republic	12,3	13,2	8,2	9,2	13	101,2
Denmark	27,3	28,5	20,9	22,9	30	95,0
Estonia	25,6	26,3	20,1	21,2	25	105,2
Finland	36,6	37,9	31,4	32,8	38	99,7
France***	14,0	14,5	14,1	16,0	23	62,8
Germany	12,4	13,8	9,5	11,3	18	76,5
Greece	14,7	15,3	10,2	11,9	18	85,0
Hungary	10,2	10,9	6,9	8,2	13	83,5
Ireland	7,4	8,4	7,0	8,9	16	52,8
Italy	16,7	17,4	8,7	10,5	17	102,1
Latvia	37,1	36,1	34,8	35,9	40	90,3
Lithuania	22,9	23,5	17,4	18,6	23	102,2
Luxembourg	3,7	4,7	3,9	5,4	11	42,8
Malta	4,0	5,1	3,0	4,5	10	50,9
Netherlands	4,7	5,4	5,9	7,6	14	38,7
Poland	11,3	11,5	9,5	10,7	15	76,6
Portugal	25,6	26,5	23,7	25,2	31	85,4
Romania	23,9	24,5	19,7	20,6	24	102,2
Slovakia	10,2	12,0	8,9	10,0	14	85,4
Slovenia	22,9	22,1	18,7	20,1	25	88,5
Spain	15,2	15,8	12,1	13,8	20	79,2
Sweden	52,6	53,7	42,6	43,9	49	109,5
United Kingdom	5,4	6,7	5,4	7,5	15	44,5
EU 28	14,9	15,8	-	-	20	79,2

*EurObserv'ER estimates, calculated on the basis of the project's data collection campaigns. ** All percentages originate from Annex I of Directive 2009/28/EC. The indicative trajectory has been calculated from Part B of the Annex. *** Results for France calculated by EurObserv'ER don't include the overseas territories but for the purpose of Directive 2009/28/EC the accounting of energy from renewable sources for France has to include French overseas territories. Source: EurObserv'ER 2015.



On the one hand, **gross final renewable energy consumption increased by 3.1 Mtoe** (from 171.3 to 174.4 Mtoe). This increase can be explained by a considerable increase of RES-E production: +3.9 Mtoe (with normalised wind and hydropower production) of which 2.1 Mtoe for wind power and 0.9 Mtoe for solar electricity (PV and CSP). It is also due to the increase of renewable energy consumption in transport: + 1 Mtoe. These two trends were however counterbalanced by a decrease in renewable heat consumption (**-1.8 Mtoe** at EU level). This is only due to the lower heat consumption from solid biomass (- 2.8 Mtoe), which is by far the largest renewable energy contributor in the EU. This decrease can be explained by a particularly warm year on the European continent, which has limited households' needs of biomass heating.

Conversely, according to our estimates, **total gross final energy consumption** (renewable or otherwise) **continued to slide in 2014**, even more significantly than in 2012 and 2013. This decrease is linked to an exceptionally warm year, the low industrial activity of some of the European economies and also to efforts made to enhance energy efficiency. We put this EU-wide drop at 50 Mtoe (from 1 150 Mtoe in 2013 to 1 100 Mtoe in 2014).

These contrasting trends made a positive contribution to the renewable energy share of total gross final energy consumption. The decrease in total gross final energy consumption (denominator) had more impact than the growth of gross final renewable energy consumption (numerator).

At individual country level, seven Member States have already reached their 2020 targets – Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Italy, Lithuania, Romania and Sweden. Five countries are almost up to the mark having achieved more than 90% of their target: Austria, Croatia, the Denmark, Finland and Latvia. Of the major energy consumers, France and Germany are at 62.8 and **76.5 %** of their targets respectively, while the United Kingdom has secured 44,5% of its target...

EurObserv'ER will publish sharper estimates in its annual publication "The State of Renewable Energies in Europe" which will be out in a few weeks' time. The publication will provide the opportunity to make a full and up-to-date assessment of all the renewable energy production sectors.



About the EurObserv'ER Barometer

The EurObserv'ER Barometer regularly publishes indicators reflecting the current dynamics in renewable energies (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal and biomass, biogas, biofuels) worldwide and within the European Union.

Note: the interactive database on the website (click on '*Interactive EurObserv'ER Database*' on the www.eurobserv-er.org homepage) allows you to download the Barometer data separately. This will allow you to create your own graphs to be used in your publication.

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