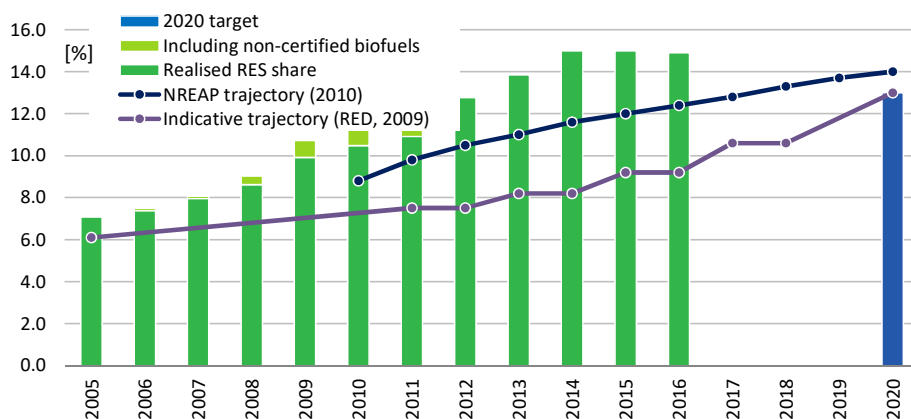


Summary

For electricity from renewable sources produced by installations commissioned before 2014 the technology-specific main support instrument is either a feed-in tariff or a feed-in premium. Operators of small hydro power plants may also receive subsidies under the Operational Programme "Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Competitiveness". Renewable heat is supported through subsidies under two Operational Programmes funded by the ERDF. Furthermore, renewable heating plants are exempt from real estate tax. Moreover, a building obligation is in place for the use of renewable heating and the exemplary role of public authorities. Biofuels are supported by a biofuels quota scheme and a consumption tax exemption.



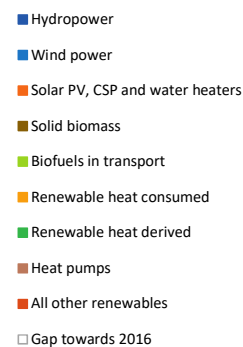
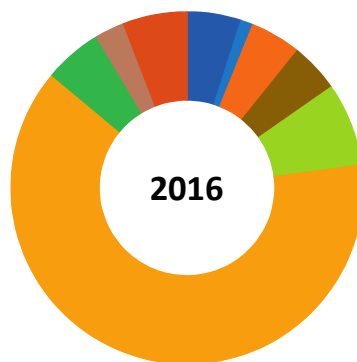
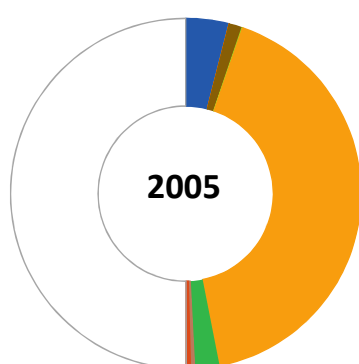
Source: EEA, Eurostat

Abbreviations used:

RES: renewable energy sources
 RES-E: renewable electricity
 RES-H/C: renewable heating/cooling
 RES-T: renewable transport fuels

Data for 2016

Overall RES share:	14.9%	Avoided fossil fuels:	5.8 [Mtoe]
Overall RES 2020 target:	13.0%	Avoided fuel expenses:	1.2 [billion euro]
Share RES-E in electricity:	13.6%	RES Turnover:	1780 [MEUR]
Share RES-T in transport:	6.4%	RES Employment:	30500 [jobs]
Share RES-H/C in heating:	19.9%		



Source: Eurostat, 2018.

	2005	2016		
	Energy	Energy	Employment	Turnover
Hydropower	155.4 ktoe	196.0 ktoe	1700 Jobs	110 MEUR
Wind power	1.4 ktoe	44.6 ktoe	900 Jobs	60 MEUR
Solar PV, CSP and water heaters	0.0 ktoe	183.3 ktoe	2100 Jobs	130 MEUR
Solid biomass	48.2 ktoe	177.8 ktoe	11400 Jobs	690 MEUR
Biofuels in transport	2.7 ktoe	300.5 ktoe	8000 Jobs	420 MEUR
Renewable heat consumed	1636.9 ktoe	2482.8 ktoe		
Renewable heat derived	90.2 ktoe	210.9 ktoe		
Heat pumps	15.5 ktoe	106.1 ktoe	1800 Jobs	110 MEUR
All other renewables	14.7 ktoe	231.1 ktoe	4600 Jobs	260 MEUR
Gap towards 2016	1968.1 ktoe			

Source: Eurostat, EurObserv'ER, 2018.

Hydropower jobs & turnover only covers 'small hydropower'. PV=Photovoltaics, CSP=Concentrated Solar Power. Biofuels in transport only covers compliant fuels (employment and turnover additionally cover the non-compliant biofuels). Derived heat includes heat produced in main activity producer plants and heat sold produced in autoproducer plants. Its counterpart is the final heat consumption in the final consumption sectors (such as households).



CZECH REPUBLIC

Renewables policy in a nutshell

For electricity from renewable sources produced by installations commissioned before 2014 the technology-specific main support instrument is either a feed-in tariff or a feed-in premium. Operators of small hydro power plants may also receive subsidies under the Operational Programme “Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Competitiveness”. Renewable heat is supported through subsidies under two Operational Programmes funded by the ERDF. Furthermore, renewable heating plants are exempt from real estate tax. Moreover, a building obligation is in place for the use of renewable heating and the exemplary role of public authorities. Biofuels are supported by a biofuels quota scheme and a consumption tax exemption.

CURRENT RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICY

Electricity from renewable sources produced by installations commissioned before 2014 is promoted mainly through either a guaranteed feed-in tariff or alternatively a feed-in premium paid on top of the market price. A *feed-in tariff* can only be granted to operators of RES plants with an installed capacity up to 100 kW (30 kW in case of rooftop or façade PV installations or 10 MW in case of hydro power). PV and biogas plants are only eligible if put into operation before 31 December 2013. Wind, hydro, geothermal or biomass plants up to 100 kW are eligible only if they were put into operation before 31 December 2015 and the building permit was issued before 2 October 2013. Responsible for the payment of the feed-in tariffs are the “mandatory purchasers” selected by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. In principle, all renewable electricity producers (including prosumers) can opt for a *premium tariff*. However, PV and biogas plants are only eligible if put into operation before 31 December 2013. Wind, hydro, geothermal or biomass plants are eligible only if the building permit was issued before 2 October 2013. Operators of small hydro power plants up to 10 MW may also receive *subsidies* under the Operational Programme “Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Competitiveness” 2014-2020 (OP PIK) which is funded by the ERDF.

Installations producing renewable heat are supported through subsidies, funded by the ERDF. Besides, these installations are exempted from real estate tax.

Renewable transport fuels are promoted by way of a biofuels quota scheme. This scheme obliges companies importing or producing petrol or diesel to ensure that biofuels make up a defined percentage of their annual fuel sales volume. Besides, biofuels as well as the biofuels component of mixed transport fuels are exempted from a consumption tax. Electric vehicles are exempt from the vehicles purchase tax. Electric, hybrid and other alternative fuel vehicles are exempt from the road tax, a tax applying to cars used for business purposes only.

OVERVIEW OF MAIN SUPPORTING POLICIES

The main RES support measures applied in the Czech Republic are epitomized in Table 1 below. Note that the measures in this table are either applicable to either installations commissioned (broadly) before 2014 or to all installations (including new ones). See the previous section and the notes to Table 1 for more details.

Table 1: Overview of support schemes to promote renewable energy

	REGULATORY POLICIES									
	Feed-in tariffs 1)	Feed-in premium 1)	Tenders	Quota obligation with Tradable Green certificates	Quota obligation without Tradable Green certificates	Net-metering/ net-billing	Investment subsidies 2)	Tax credits mechanism I 3)	Tax credits mechanism II 4)	Soft loans
RES-E										
- Offshore wind										
- Onshore wind	x	x								
- Solar	x	x								
- Hydro	x	x					x			
- Geothermal	x	x								
- Solid biomass	x	x								
- Biogas	x	x								
RES-H/C										
- Solar thermal							x	x		
- Geothermal							x	x		
- Biomass							x	x		
- Biogas							x	x		
- Small scale installations, e.g. solar thermal collectors, heat pumps, biomass boilers and pellet stoves							x	x		
- Others, i.e. aerothermal, hydrothermal							x	x		
RES-T										
- Bio gasoline					x				x	
- Biodiesel					x				x	

1) Operators of eligible plants have to choose for FiT or FiP support. Eligibility depends, among other requirements, on meeting technology-specific maximum capacity levels. Except for eligible hydro power installations, since 1 January 2014 only pre-existing (other) eligible RES-E installations can benefit from FiT or FiP support.

2) Funded by the ERDF.

3) RES-H installations are exempted from real estate tax

4) Biofuels are exempted from a consumption tax

Sources: RES-Legal Europe (2017), EurObserv'ER, GSR/REN21

Table 2: Overview of instruments used at present

<i>Instrument</i>	<i>Description</i>
Feed-in tariffs or premiums	Guaranteed sale of electricity at a pre-set preferential price or a premium on top of the revenues from electricity sold, during the support contract period. For RES-E installations not larger than a technology-specific generating capacity. Only installations commissioned before January 2014 fall under this scheme. The exception is formed by eligible hydropower installations: also new ones can benefit for the FIT/FiP scheme. For eligible hydropower installations. Apart from small-scale projects, new projects do not get feed-in support.
Investment subsidies	Certain hydropower installations as well as RES-H installations can benefit from subsidies, financed by the ERDF
Tax credits schemes	Renewable heating & cooling installations in buildings are eligible for an exemption from property tax for building owners. Biofuels are exempted from a consumption tax.
Biofuels quota scheme	Importers/suppliers of transport fuels are subject to a renewable quota scheme for biofuels. Compliance based on sample testing rather than certificates-based. No (direct) incentives for other alternative transport fuels.

For further information:

CEER, 2017. Status Review of Renewable Support Schemes in Europe.

http://www.ceer.eu/portal/page/portal/EER_HOME/EER_PUBLICATIONS/CEER_PAPERS/Electricity/2017/C16-SDE-56-03%20Status%20Review%20RES%20Support%20Schemes.pdf

EEA, 2017 <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/daviz/actual-res-progress-indicative-trajectory-2>

Eurostat, 2017. Energy from renewable sources. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Energy_from_renewable_sources

REN21, Global Status Report 2017 http://www.ren21.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/170607_GSR_2017_Full_Report.pdf

IEA/IRENA Joint Policies and Measures database

<https://www.iea.org/policiesandmeasures/renewableenergy/?country=Czech Republic>

Member State Progress Report, available at the Renewable Energy pages of the European Commission,

<http://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/topics/renewable-energy>

RES Legal database, <http://www.res-legal.eu/search-by-country/czech republic/>

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/energy-union-factsheet-czech-republic_en.pdf (European Commission/ DG ENER, Energy Union Factsheet Czech republic, November 2017)

European Alternative Fuels Observatory, <http://www.eafo.eu/content/czech republic> ; <http://www.eafo.eu/eu>

What is meant by ...?

Auctions for granting renewable energy support	An auction is a process of granting production or investment support to renewable energy projects based on the lowest bids by eligible project developers.
Feed-in tariff (FiT)	A support scheme which provides for a technology-specific remuneration per unit of renewable energy payable to eligible renewable energy producers. A proper, periodic review of FiT rates is often undertaken with the aim to prevent both too high FiTs so as to minimise regulatory rents, i.e. supra-normal returns and too low FiTs to preclude below-target market uptake because of FiT levels that are perceived by market participants to be less attractive. In addition, feed-in tariffs often include "tariff depression", a mechanism according to which the price (or tariff) ratchets down over time.
Feed-in premium (FiP)	A scheme which provides for a support level per unit of renewable energy to eligible renewable energy producers, typically for a period of 10-20 years, at a pre-set fixed or floating rate. The premium is typically adjusted periodically to exactly offset change in the average energy wholesale market price, based on a pre-specified benchmark market price. A floating FiP may move freely or may only be allowed to move within a pre-set interval.
Grants	Grants are non-repayable funds disbursed by one party (grant makers), often a government department, corporation, foundation or trust, to a recipient, often (but not always) a non-profit entity, educational institution, business or an individual. (Source: Wikipedia.org)
Green public procurement	In Green public procurement contracting authorities take environmental issues into account when tendering for goods or services. The goal is to reduce the impact of the procurement on human health and the environment. (Source: Wikipedia.org)
Renewable quota scheme (RQS)	A RQS mandates certain market actors (typically retail suppliers or large energy end-users) to respect a pre-set minimum share or amount of their total energy procurements from renewable sources of energy. Typically a tradable green certificate (TGC) scheme is operated to enable the obligated parties to prove their compliance with the prevailing renewable quota target by means of TGCs.
Sliding feed-in-tariff	A FiT scheme which pre-sets technology-specific declining feed-in tariffs for certain prospective vintages in line with the technology-specific learning curve, as projected by the National Regulatory Agency (NRA). Often a depreciation rate is used indicating the %/annum decrease in the rate level.
Soft loans	Loans at concessional (below market-based) terms, for example at sub-market-conform interest rates, made available in several Member States to stimulate certain renewable energy technologies.
Tax credits	These are amounts a tax paying entity is allowed to deduct when declaring payable taxes, for example company tax or income tax, to the tax authorities, for example the producer tax credits (PTCs) used in the United States to stimulate among others wind energy deployment.

Disclaimer

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