

Becoming a Sustainable Region

Energy Strategy for year 2020 will be deployed through three basic strategic areas: consumer sectors, energy markets and supply, and technological and industrial development. It involves 29 initiatives and 105 actions.



Recharge of an electrical delivery service van. ©Ente Vasco de la Energía.

Key actions in the area of energy consuming sectors will involve prioritising and intensifying energy measures:

- Improve competitiveness and sustainability of Basque industry
- Reduce energy dependency on oil in the transport sector
- Reduce consumption and increase use of renewables in buildings
- More efficient and sustainable public administration
- Energy use of waste in the primary sector

The Energy Markets and Supply area encompasses actions designed to improve the energy offer in terms of supply security and quality, cost competitiveness and sustainability:

- Promote new renewable power generating facilities
- Consolidate the supply system and the competitiveness of natural gas
- Improve the quality of the electrical system and supply security

In the area of technological and industrial development, the aim is to try to promote cooperation and growth among Basque companies:

- Consolidate Basque business-generating firms in the area of sustainable energy.
- Activity in emerging areas
- New market opportunities

Development of these actions will result in a more sustainable energy system in 2020. Ambitious targets have been set:

- Energy savings of more than 1 million toe in 2020, with a cut in demand of 17% compared to BAU.
- Reducing oil consumption by 9% compared to 2010.
- The use of renewable resources will almost double in 10 years from 8% to 14% share in final consumption.
- A more sustainable supply of electricity: CHP together with renewable electricity will represent 38% of the demand.
- From an environmental perspective, the SEAP can contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by an 18% by 2020 as compared to the base year of 2005, avoiding 2.5 million tonnes of CO2 per year.

The investment to carry out these tasks will have important benefits for economic activity, employment and technological development.

The Action Plan will contribute to meeting the strategic targets of European and Spanish energy policy reaching 17% saving, 14% renewable and 18% reduction in energy-related CO2 emissions in 2020.



ENNEREG - Regions paving the way for a Sustainable Energy Europe is a European Project supported by the **Intelligent Energy - Europe programme**. The project aims to establish and inspire EU Regions to take up the challenges of fulfilling the EU 20-20-20 climate and energy targets by producing regional **Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs)** and initiating **Sustainable Energy Projects (SEPs)**.

The experience gained by the **12 ENNEREG Pioneer Regions** is being shared with other regions throughout Europe via one-to-one twinning activities, events and the **Regions 202020 Network**.

Find out more at www.regions202020.eu

Energy in the Basque Country

The gross energy consumption per capita in the Basque Country comes to 3.69 toe/capita, slightly above the EU-27 average.

In 2009, energy consumption in the Basque Country came to 7.3 Mtoe. Annual growth in consumption during the period 2000-2009 stood at 0.9%. This growth was largely due to the increase in consumption of natural gas both for power generation in advanced combined-cycle power stations and in final consuming industries.

The energy in most demand is natural gas, accounting for 47% of the total, followed by petroleum at 40%. Imports of electricity represented 4% of demand, coal 3% and renewables 6%.

Sustainable Energy Action in the Basque Country

The implementation of the SEAP “Estrategia Energética en Euskadi 2020 – 3E2020” will require the implication of all the stakeholders in the modification of the present model of energy production and consumption: awareness about the need to move towards a sustainable energy model has to be raised in the administration from local to national, in the citizens, private companies, associations or market operators have to be put in action in a new path.



Wind park of Elgea, Basque Country.
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Activating the municipalities is critical to get to a new urban mobility and urban planning model and to reach the citizens. The Covenant of Mayors will be a basic tool to work in this direction, so it is important to convince more Basque towns to adhere to the CoM (up to date they are 11).

The financial framework is gradually cutting the economical resources available for investing in energy efficiency in the Administration, so new solutions such as the involvement of ESCO in the energy management of the administration have to be looked at. Other kind of public-private partnerships will also help the introduction of new technologies such as the electric vehicle recharge networks in the market.

Information about the use of energy has to be available at all levels to help raising awareness, to allow the monitoring of the SEAP or to check the effect of the actions in the field of energy efficiency carried out by companies or by citizens. The set up of a new smarter electrical distribution grid, which allows a better knowledge about the user’s energy consumption, will be an important step in this context.

Twinning and Replication

EVE will share with EREN, the regional energy agency of the region of Castilla y León in Spain, the lessons learned in the Ennereg project through a workshop to be held in November 2011 in the city of León. Castilla y León and the Basque Country are adjoining and they have a set of common issues to discuss on the approach taken to drive the boost towards a more sustainable energy model.

Facts and Figures



Size: 7234 sq km

Inhabitants: 2,169,000

Location: North of Spain

Stakeholders: The autonomous government of the Basque Country, three provinces and 250 municipalities. The regional energy agency is Ente Vasco de la Energía – EVE, which belongs to the regional government.

Find out more about ENNEREG’s activities in **The Basque Country, Spain** on the Regions 202020 website at:
www.regions202020.eu/home/pioneers/euskadi

or contact the ENNEREG partner for the Basque Country:

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