Basque Plan Against Climate Change 2008-2012

Sao Paulo, March 2008
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• Context of the Basque Country

• Situation of this question

• Antecedents

• Basque Plan Against Climate Change

- Population: 2,124,846 inhabitants
- Area: 7,234 km²
- GDP: 57,549 million €
- GDP per capita: 27,084 €/person (est) - (125,6 EU25)
- GHG emissions: 1990: 20.9 million CO₂e
  - 2006: 25.5 million CO₂e
- Percentages per economic sector:
  - Agriculture: 1 %
  - Industry: 29.3 %
  - Services: 60.8 %
- Total electricity production: 13,700 GWh
  - Percentage of renewable energy: 5.2 %
CLIMATE CHANGE: SITUATION OF THIS QUESTION

• Evidences
The Synthesis Report published in November by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has shown that the world climate is changing faster than it has done until now.

• Changes expected in the BAC:
  • Rise in temperature
    • Coast: 3-5 °C in summer and 1-2 °C in winter
    • Interior: 5-7 °C in summer and 3-4 °C in winter
  • Rise of the sea level (0.4 m)
  • -15 % to -20 % variation of rainfalls

• The international answer
  • Kyoto Protocol: Its objective is to decrease emissions by 5.2 % between 2008 and 2012
  • The first and second European Programme on Climate Change: Responsible for the emission market
  • European Council: to reduce emissions by 20 % by 2020. (30 %, if the rest of countries join).
BASQUE ADMINISTRATION: ACTIONS WHICH AFFECT CLIMATE CHANGE

- The Environmental Framework Programme (2007-2010)
- Guidelines for planning and managing UW in the BAC by 2010
- Energy Strategy of the Basque Country for 2010
- Sustainable Transport Master Plan 2002-2012:
- Housing Master Plan 2006-2009
- Management Plan of Primary Sector Waste (creating)
- Science, Technology and Innovation Plan 2007-2010
- Basque Plan for Environmentally Sustainable Consumption 2006-2010
• Basque Office on Climate Change

**POLITICAL LEVEL.** To promote actions and to coordinate the follow-up and assessment of the Basque Plan against Climate Change

**TECHNICAL LEVEL.** To prepare the analysis and technical reports in order to make decisions

**MISSION**
- To dynamize and coordinate the Basque Plan against Climate Change.
- To promote the actions of the Plan directed to minimize the effects of climate change.

**FUNCTIONS**
- To coordinate and promote the Basque Plan against Climate Change
- To endorse the Basque Plan against Climate Change
- To give advise and support through reports
- To develop policies to adapt to climate change
- To promote the use of flexibility mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol
- To dynamize research actions together with the Basque Technology Network
- To coordinate the policies for reducing emissions and promoting GHG sinks
What we should ask ourselves is not if we can afford to reduce emissions, but if we can allow ourselves not to do it.
Basque Plan Against Climate Change

Vision 2020

To take irreversible steps towards a social-economic model less dependant on carbon, so that the Basque Autonomous Community is less vulnerable before climate change.
Priorities:

• To act against climate change and to get prepared for its consequences

• To promote an innovative culture in order to advance towards an efficient and sustainable economic model which uses less carbon
Strategic objectives

- To limit GHG emissions to +14% with regard to the base year
- To increase the removal aptitude of carbon sinks (forests) up to 1% with respect to the emissions of the base year
- To minimize the risks on natural resources
- To minimize the risks on human health, the quality of urban habitats and socio-economic systems
Basque Plan Against Climate Change

4 programmes

1. Less carbon  
2. Adaptation  
3. Knowledge  
4. Citizens and Administration

120 actions
1st programme: Less carbon

Acting lines:

- Energy saving and effectiveness
- Promoting renewable energies
- Reducing non-energy emissions
- Managing carbon sinks
2nd programme: Adaptation

Acting lines:

- Systematic observation and learning
- Defining criteria and planning adaptation
- Having means and infrastructures
3rd programme: Knowledge

Acting lines:

- Basic research and co-operation
- Applied research
- Transversal elements to support the programme
4th programme: Citizens and administration

Acting lines:

- General activities and green purchase
- Saving and effectiveness in the workplace, at home and in mobility
- Information and awareness
- Education and training
Highlighted measures:

To develop the potential of renewable energies: wind energy, biomass and sun energy of the BAC

To include land planning guidelines with criteria that promote:
- "Concentrated" urbanization models “with many resources”.
- Territorial balance in housing uses and activities in order to reduce emissions due to mobility.

To create infrastructures for collective transportation

To implant certification in housing (development of rules, certification for the energy of new houses, to promote the use of new materials and to design buildings from the energy point of view).
International cooperation:

To develop and establish guidelines in the following fields:

• To organize, preserve and restore ecosystems in order to include climate change as a variable in the environmental restoration processes.
• To plan and use protected areas.
• To promote the ecosystematic point of view in forest managing to give priority to the environmental and social goods and services generated by forests, by promoting environmental restoration and preservation of natural forests.

Highlighted measures:

To compensates emissions
• Benchmarking (nrg4sd)
• Projects to support development (FOCAD)

To pass an order on climate change in municipalities.

To create outreach campaigns on climate change and sustainable development for schools.
Future

Without the Plan

With the Plan

1990
2008
2012

Tons of CO₂

+36%

+14%
Keys for the success of the Plan:
COORDINATION AMONG INSTITUTIONS

Basque Plan against Climate Change
2008-2012

CHANGING THE COLLECTIVE WAY OF THINKING
“There are two unlimited things: the number of generations for which we have to feel responsible for and our inventing ability.

The first poses us a challenge: to feed and maintain the present and all the future generations through the limited flow of natural resources.

The second can be used to create ideas and policies for facing this challenge.”

Jan Timmergen
Economy Nobel Prize
Thank you