



BIOEAST SCIENCE POLICY DIALOGUE

Biofuels and the Renewable Energy Directive: Smart Choices for Today's Challenges

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27 November 2024

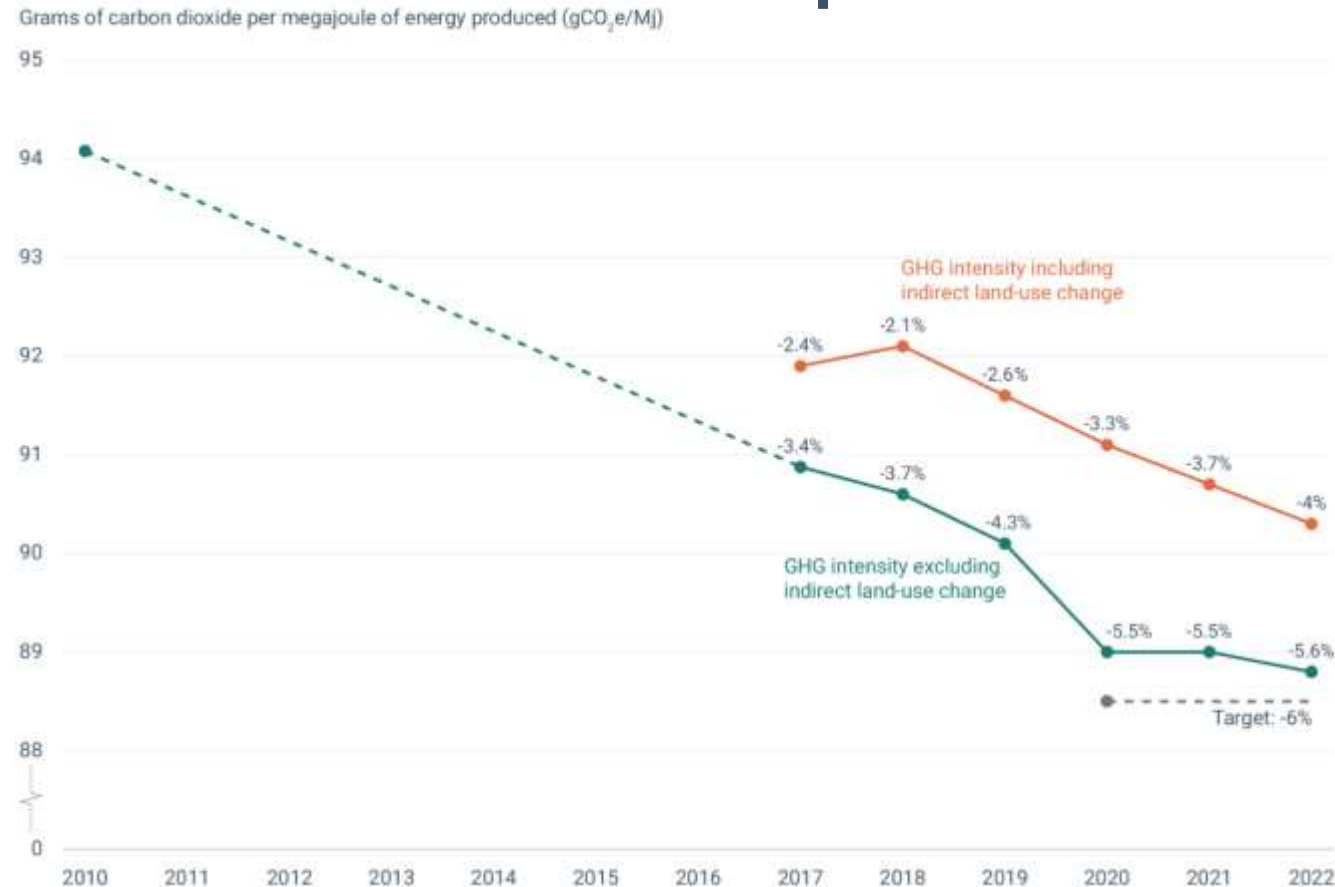


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Average greenhouse gas intensity of road transport fuels in the EU, 2010-2022

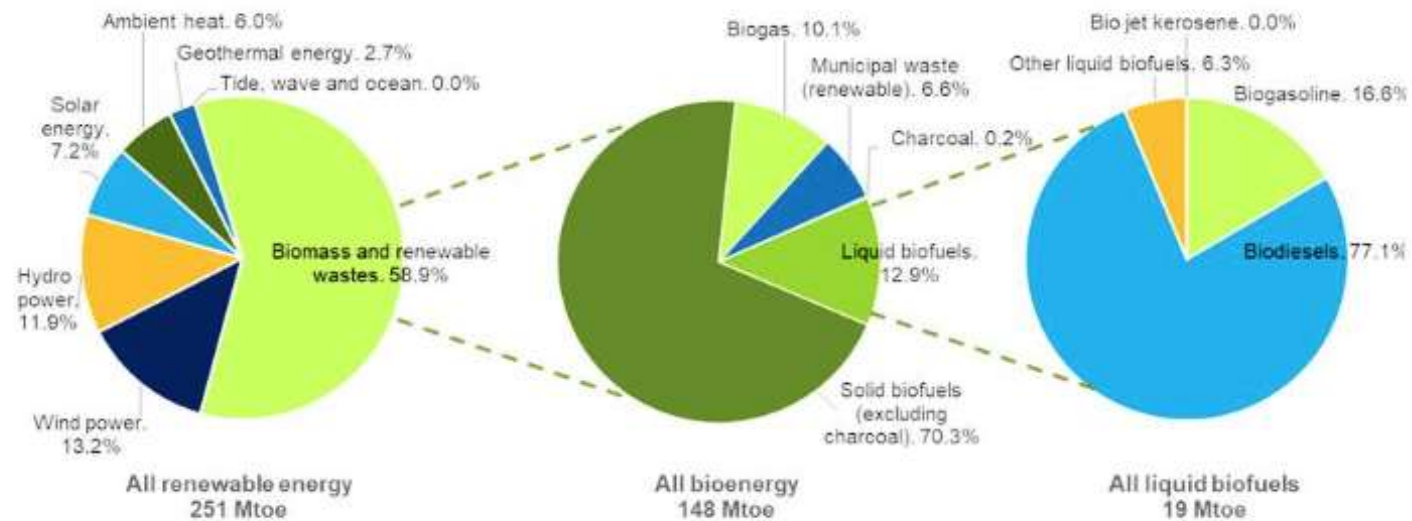
(Source: EEA)

Biofuels help to reduce greenhouse gas emission intensity of fuels sold for transport.



Bioenergy, including liquid fuels, helps to reduce energy dependence on fossil fuels.

Gross EU consumption of renewable energy per type (2021, % and Mtoe)

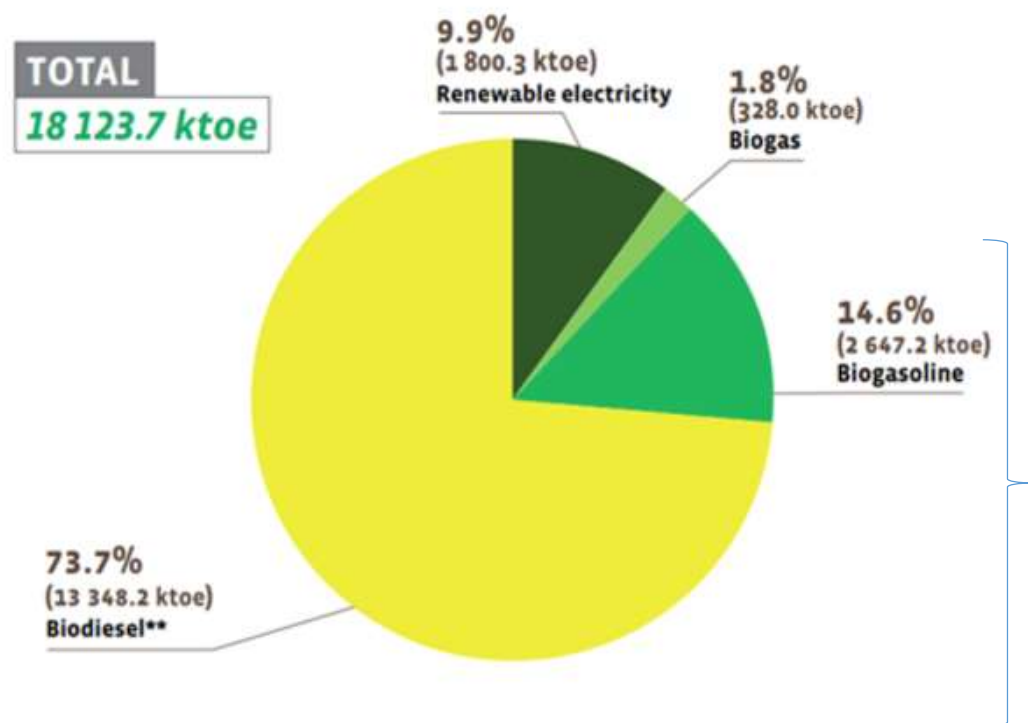


Source: Source: Union Bioenergy Sustainability Report
COM(2023) 650 final) SWD(2023) 646 final

Share of biofuels of the total transport fuel consumption in the EU in 2020 (Source: IEA)

The EU-27 supply of biofuels in 2020 was around 16 Mtoe, which accounted for 6.3% of the total transport fuel consumption in the EU. About 85% of biofuels supply came from primary production within the EU.

Breakdown of renewable energy used in transport (all types) of the countries of the European Union to 27 (in ktoe and %) in 2020

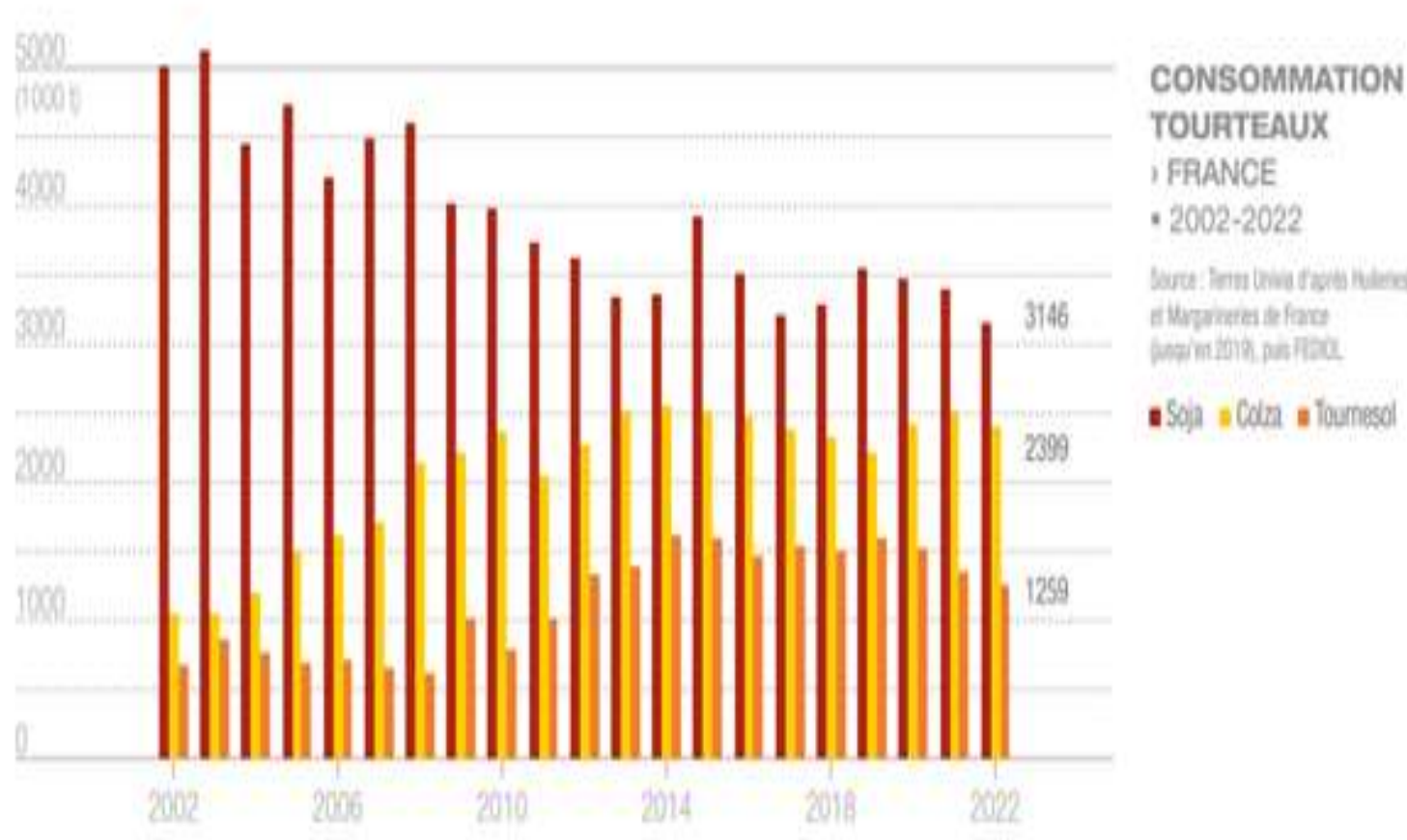


Consumption of biofuels in transport in 2021

- * **16.5 Mtoe of biofuel in the EU consumption of transport fuel in 2021 (+39% 2021 vs 2013)**
- * **Crop-based biofuels** have the highest share of all renewable energy carriers in transport, representing **3.9%** (without multipliers)
- * **Advanced biofuels** and other biofuels produced from feedstock listed in Annex IX of the RED II has substantially increased over time, representing **4.2%** (with multipliers).
- * Biomethane and other liquid biofuels consumption is aggregated to less than 1% of the total amount of biofuels consumed in the transport sector.

Source: Source: Union Bioenergy Sustainability Report COM(2023) 650 final)
SWD(2023) 646 final

Contribution of biofuels to reducing the deficit in high-protein animal feed in the EU



The Member States call on the Commission to formulate a European Protein Strategy (Council AGRI-FISH 18/11/2024, 21/3/2022, etc.)

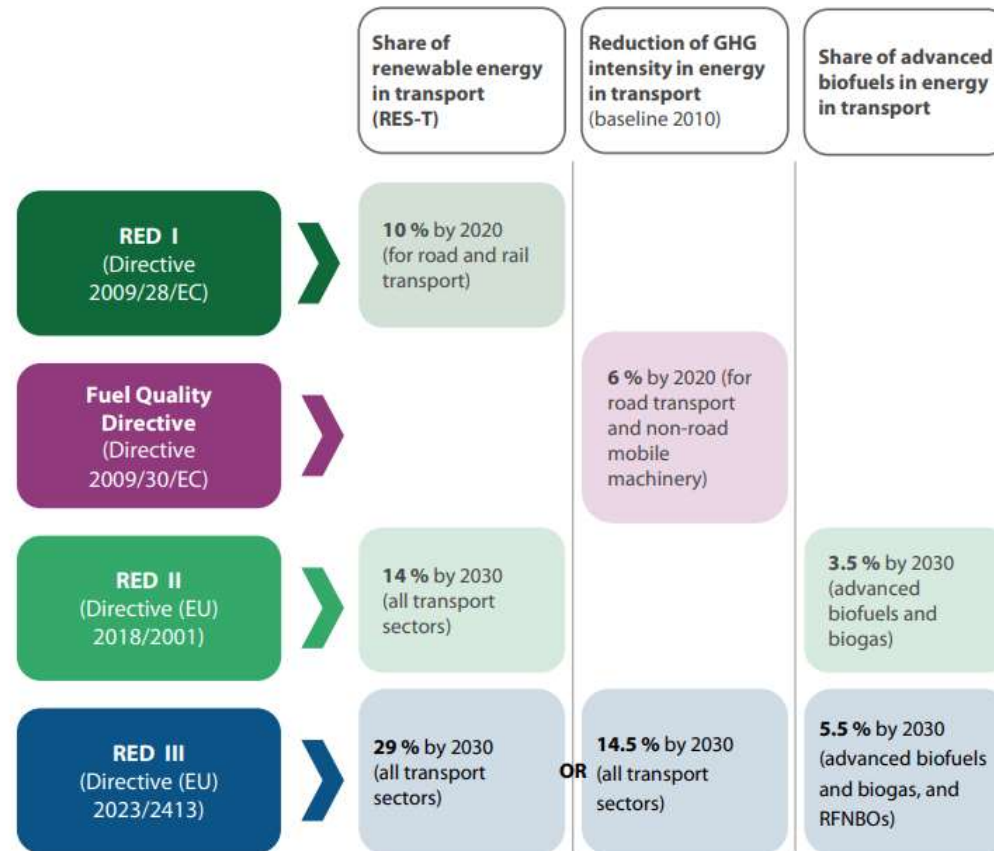
Renewable Energy Directive

The Renewable Energy Directive is the legal framework for the development of renewable energy across all sectors of the EU economy.

- * **RED I** : Directive 2009/28/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources and amending and subsequently repealing Directives 2001/77/EC and 2003/30/EC
- * **RED II** : Directive (EU) 2018/2001 (recast) on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources.
- * **RED III** : Directive (EU) 2023/2413 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 October 2023 amending Directive (EU) 2018/2001, Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and Directive 98/70/EC as regards the promotion of energy from renewable sources, and repealing Council Directive (EU) 2015/652. Most of the directive's provisions must be transposed into national law **by 21 May 2025**.

https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-directive-targets-and-rules/renewable-energy-directive_en#recommendations-and-guidance-notes

Biofuels-related targets



Source: ECA.

See https://www.eca.europa.eu/ECAPublications/SR-2023-29/SR-2023-29_EN.pdf

List of point to watch

- * Phasing-out and ban of palm oil and POME, (soybean) – panel WTO
 - * Certified Low ILUC palm
- * Flexibility on blending obligations or GHG reduction quota
- * Flexibility on the capping of the crop-based biofuels
- * Additional feedstocks in the list of feedstock for advance biofuels and biogas
- * Capping on intermediate crops for biogas
- * Multipliers of the energy content
- * Sustainability criteria
 - * Emissions of GHG from cultivation NUTS-2 report
 - * Non inclusion of iLUC factor in the methodology- iLUC factor used for reporting only
 - * GHG saving threshold: at least 65 % for biofuels, biogas consumed in the transport sector, and bioliquids produced in installations starting operation from 1 January 2021
- * Union Data Base : a tool for traceability, not to control frauds (21/11 not mandatory for operators)



List of points to watch

- * Biofuels frauds stimulated by the GHG reduction intensity targets, double counting, the eligibility of waste oil in annex IX, the lack of harmonization of the definition of waste vegetable oil,
 - Ensure witness audits of the biofuel supply chain in general. Indonesia allows witness audits but not China, which exports to the EU;
 - Ensure quality control on the standard EN 14214 for biodiesel imports.
- * The role of biomethane in decarbonization heavy-duty vehicles and international shipping



List of points to watch

Biomethane away to decarbonize NG and LNG, heavy-duty vehicles and vessels

- * Union's target of an annual production of sustainable biomethane of 35 billion cubic meters by 2030
- * Sustainability criteria: Member States may apply the sustainability and greenhouse gas emissions saving criteria to installations with lower total rated thermal input or biomethane flow rate (below 200 m³ methane equivalent/h measured at standard conditions of temperature and pressure, namely 0 °C and 1 bar atmospheric pressure)
- * Default value for wet manure, maize whole plant, mixture of manure-maize in directive (EU)2018/2001
- * Capping of the use of crops into biogas



Other Regulations

* **REGULATION (EU) 2023/1805 FuelEU Maritime Regulation :** biofuels and biogas that do not comply with the sustainability and GHG emissions saving criteria set out in Article 29 of Directive (EU) 2018/2001 or that are produced from food and feed crops shall be considered to have the same emission factors as the least favourable fossil fuel pathway for that type of fuel (Certification of fuels and emission factors (article 10 §1.a)) => **As a result of that provision, the FuelEU Maritime Regulation de facto excludes Renewable Energy Directive (RED)-compliant crop-based biofuels from the decarbonisation objectives of the maritime sector.**

* **REGULATION (EU) 2023/2405 ReFuelEU Aviation: SAF** produced from food and feed crops as defined in Article 2, second paragraph, point (40), of Directive (EU) 2018/2001, intermediate crops, palm fatty acid distillate and palm and soy-derived materials, and soap stock and its derivatives

However, that exclusion shall not apply to any feedstock that is included in Annex IX to Directive (EU) 2018/2001, under the conditions set out in that Annex.

Other Regulations

- * **REGULATION (EU) 2023/851 amending Regulation (EU) 2019/631 as regards strengthening the CO2 emission performance standards for new passenger cars**
 - * Recital (11) Following consultation with stakeholders, the Commission will make a proposal for registering after 2035 vehicles running exclusively on CO2 neutral fuels in conformity with Union law, outside the scope of the fleet standards, and in conformity with the Union's climate-neutrality objective.
 - * Recital (17) it is of the utmost importance to encourage the conversion of internal combustion engine vehicles to battery or fuel-cell electric drive, including by assessing how to facilitate the deployment of such solutions in Member States.
- * **Energy taxation directive (proposal):** Sustainable food and feed crop biofuels **are maintained within Category 1** (lowest environmental performances with the same taxation as fossil fuels). **A lower taxation** for sustainable food and feed crop biofuels **during a transitional period of (10) years** is maintained. After the transitional period, crop-based biofuels will still be subject to a higher taxation rate, the same that applies for fossil fuels, An evolution regarding **blended products**: Article 2.6 details provisions applicable to blends, i.e. energy product consisting of one or more energy products. **Not yet adopted by the Council**
- * **EUDR (EU) 2023/1115:** palm and soybean raw materials but not biofuels obtained from palm and soy oil



Thank you for your attention



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