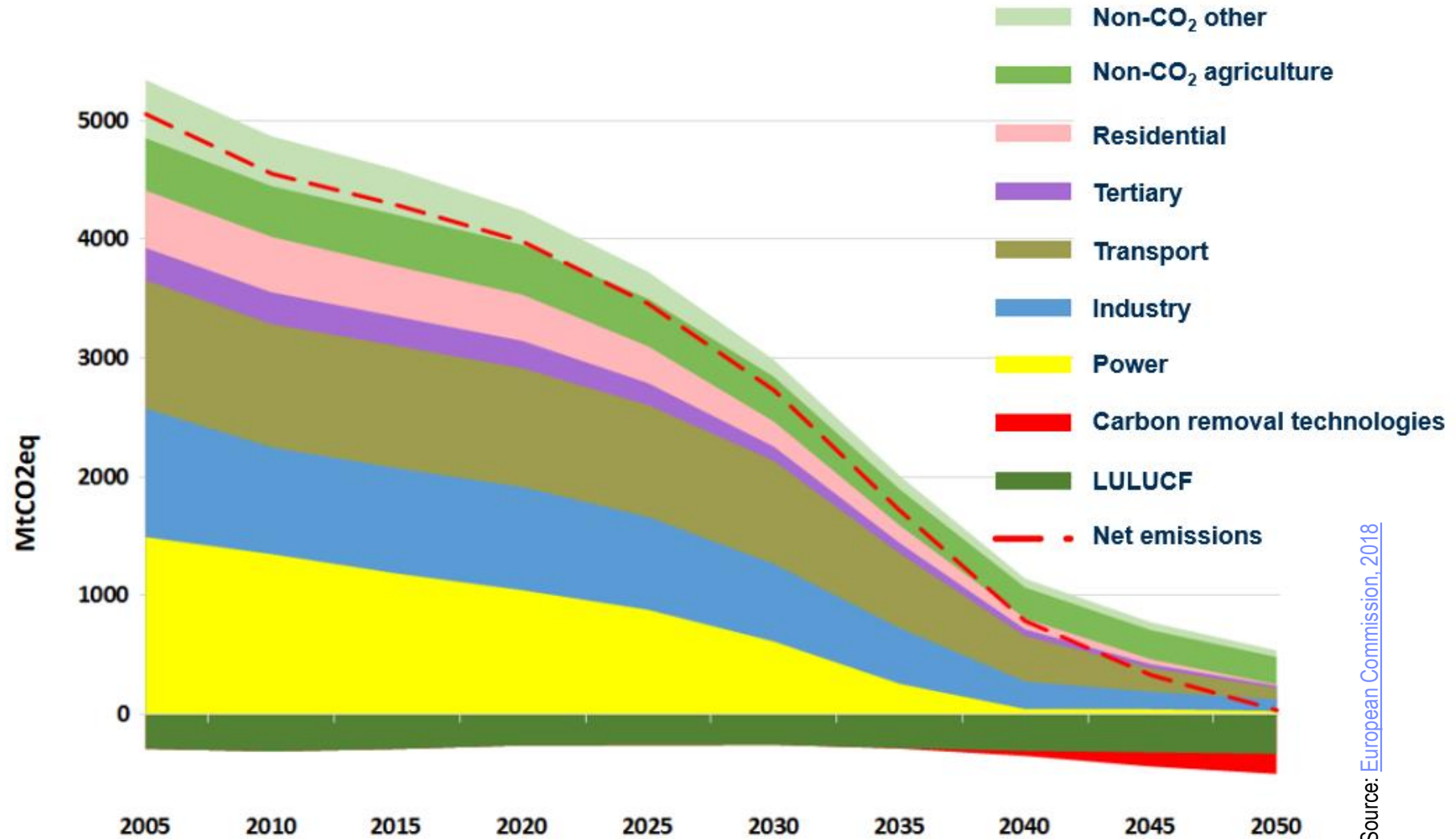


Increasing transparency and completeness of climate and energy policies and measures reporting

Tom Dauwe
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Context

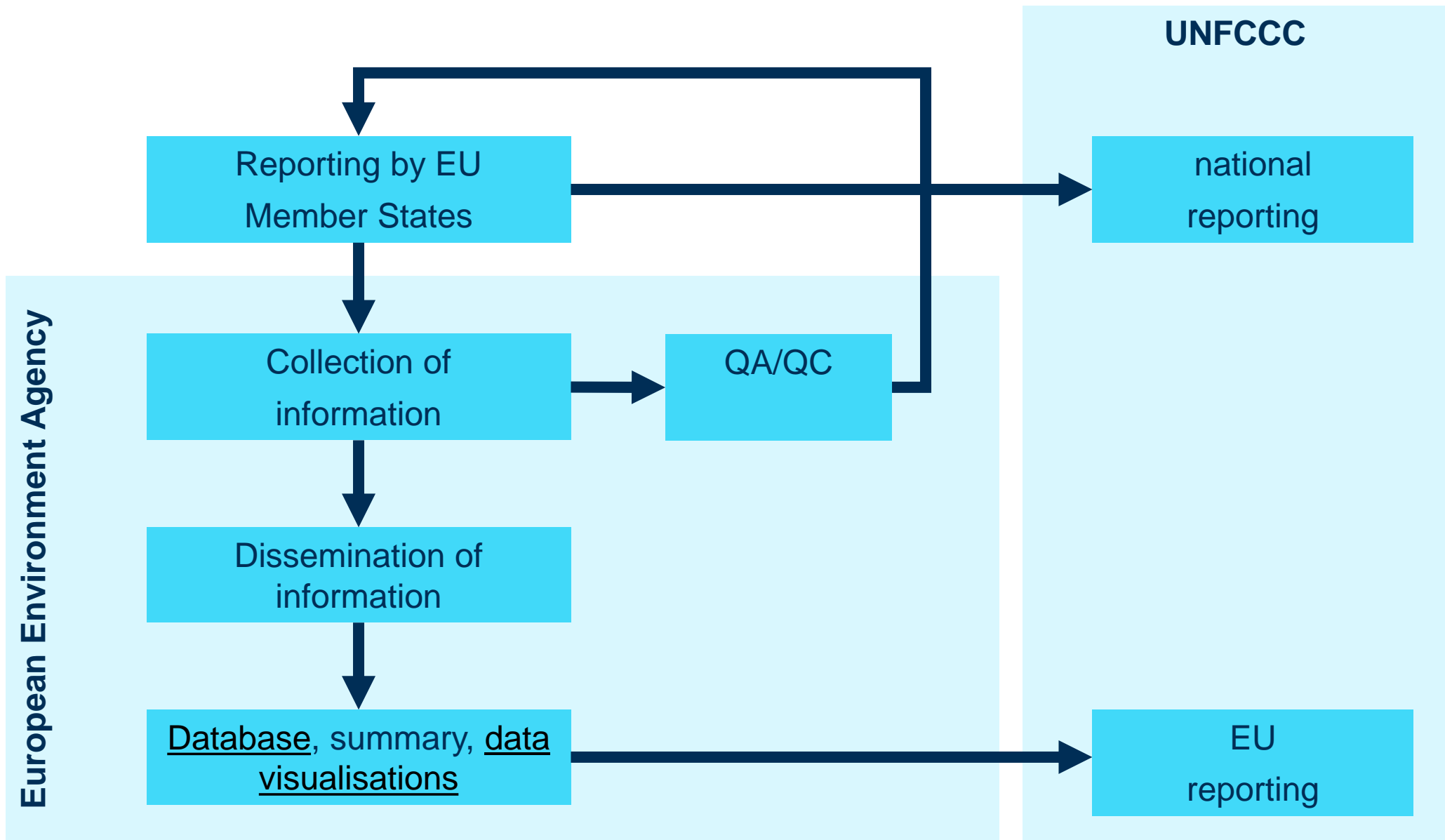


Source: [European Commission, 2018](#)



Reporting on greenhouse gas & energy policies and measures

Greenhouse gas emissions	Renewable energy	Energy efficiency
<p>Monitoring Mechanism Directive (Decision 280/2004/EC) – Reporting on greenhouse gas policies and measures</p> <p>Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (Regulation 525/2013) – Reporting on greenhouse gas policies and measures</p>	<p>Renewable Energy Directive (Directive 2009/28/EC) – National Renewable Energy Action Plan & progress reports</p>	<p>Energy Services Directive (Directive 2006/32/EC) – National Energy Efficiency Action Plan & annual reports</p> <p>Energy Efficiency Directive (Directive 2012/27/EU) – National Energy Efficiency Action Plan & annual reports</p>
<p>Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action (Regulation (EU) 2018/1999)</p>		



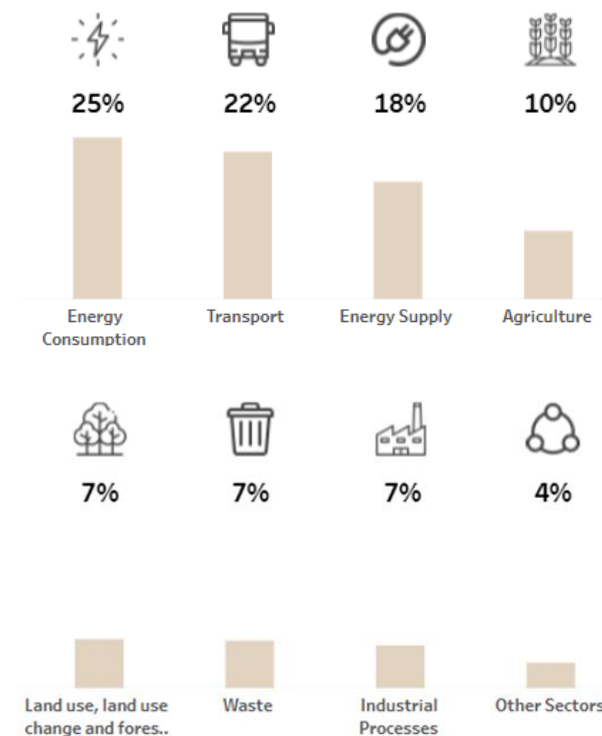
Results of the reporting on greenhouse gas policies and measures

- EU27 and Iceland, Norway and Switzerland reported around 2 300 single greenhouse gas policies and measures in 2021
- Description, sectors, objectives & quantified targets, implementing entity, link to EU legislation, status, greenhouse gas, instrument type, projections scenario.
- Indicators, impacts on greenhouse gas emissions, costs and benefits.

Policies and measures by sector in all European countries

Click on the bars of the sectors to filter the visualisations below.

The percentage is calculated by comparing against the total number of sectors that have been reported, which can be larger than the number of policies and measures. Note that percentage values may not add up to 100% due to rounding.



Main quality issues

- Accuracy
- Coherence
- Consistency
- Transparency
- Comparability
- Completeness

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- Accuracy
 - Coherence
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 - Completeness
- Large differences among countries in the number of policies and measures reported.
 - Difference with policies and measures reporting on energy efficiency.
 - Qualitative information usually very complete.
 - Quantitative data on policies and measures very scarce (*ex ante* emission savings, *ex post* emission savings, costs and benefits).

**European
Court of
Auditors, 2019**

“The Commission did not report estimates for some mitigation policies and measures’ impacts on emissions. As a result, the reports to the UNFCCC do not present a complete view of the contribution of EU and national mitigation policies and measures to the intended emission reductions for 2020, 2030 and 2050”

Actions to increase completeness

Make it “harder”

- EU’s climate policy monitoring has incorporated ‘harder’ elements over time (Schoenefeld & Jordan, 2020).

Make it public

- Increasing efforts to put data and information on greenhouse gas policies and measures in public domain.

Integrate it

- Within the Governance Regulation of the Energy Union and Climate Action greenhouse gas, energy efficiency and renewable energy policies and measures are more integrated.

Actions to increase completeness

Provide support

- European Commission launched capacity building support project.
- Horizon Europe research projects (EPATEE, streamSAVE, PATTERN, ...).
- National guidelines.

Exchange experiences

- DG CLIMA and European Environment Agency facilitates dialogue.
- Published a catalogue with EU and national policy evaluations.

Results



- QA/QC issues have gone down over the years.
- Number of single policies and measures reported by countries increased.
- Some countries improved on quantitative reporting.



- QA/QC issues still persisting.
- With each new legislation on reporting, quality decreased on certain issues.
- Reporting of quantitative data remains very incomplete.

No substantial improvement yet ...

Prescriptive templates might result in less complete reporting

- Available information might not fit 100% in the template.
- Some reporting is voluntary or only mandatory when available.

Evaluation attracts less attention

Effect of more integrated reporting will become visible in 2023

- Likely result in an increase of reported number of greenhouse gas policies and measure, but quantitative information will remain challenging.

No substantial improvement yet ...

Guidance are too generic

- Most attention has gone to expanding knowledge on policy evaluation practices and methods.
- While relevant and important, this guidance is disconnected on how to report more completely on policies and measures (especially to estimate and report emission savings).

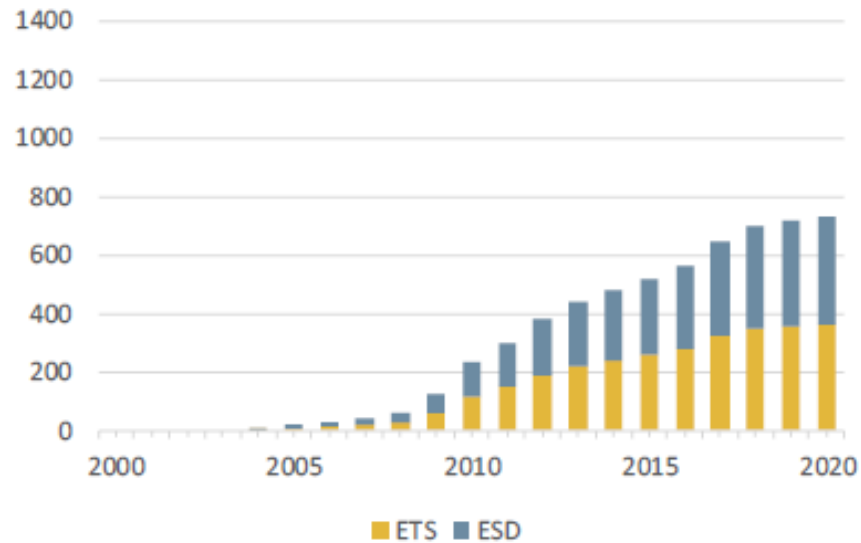
Resources are lacking

- Cases of very complete reporting (e.g. Ireland, Belgium) only when countries have made a specific effort.

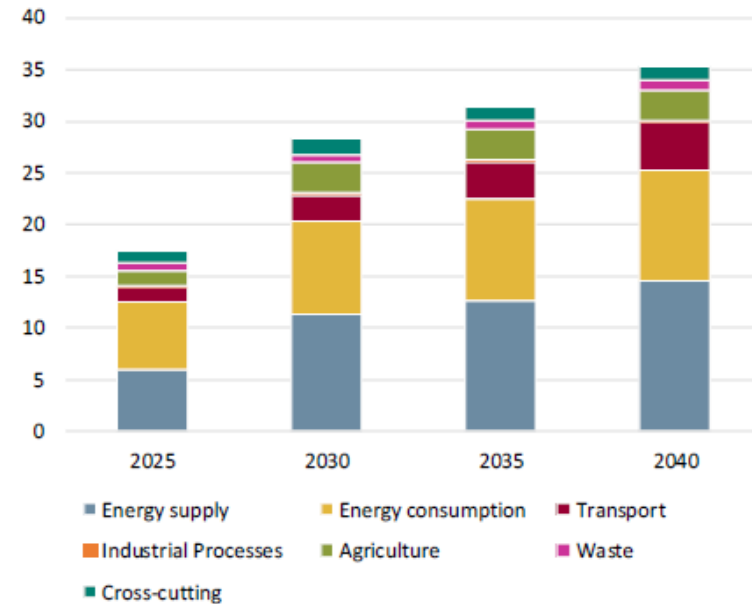
No substantial improvement yet ...

Reported observed emission savings in Mt CO₂-eq. of two policies and measures in Belgium (split between ETS and ESD).

Fiscal support for Energy Efficiency investments in Industry



Reported expected emission savings in Mt CO₂-eq. of implemented, adopted and planned policies and measures in Ireland (split between sectors).



Conclusion

- Policy databases are used and have an added value.
- Differentiate between policy evaluation and reporting on policies and measures and their impacts. Guidance needs to be further tailored to that specific use.
- There is need for a more active network on reporting on policies and measures and assessing the impact of policies and measures.

Acknowledgements

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Why is this relevant?

This kind of reporting serves a specific purpose:

- What actions have countries taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?
- How are these actions linked to one another?
- What kind of impacts will these actions have to achieve targets?
- Are these actions transferable to other countries?
- Input to country specific recommendations from European Commission.