



Did you know that ...

Several of the large EU Member States must accelerate their investments in renewables considerably, if the EU target of a 20 % share of renewable energy by 2020 is to be reached

All members of the EU have increased their share of renewables. Sweden, and few other countries have even reached their goals for 2020 already today (2013). But, for the EU as a whole to reach the 2020 goal, the vast majority of the countries – particularly the large ones – must also reach their goals. If they do not, the EU will not reach the goal for renewables by 2020.

The share of renewable energy has steadily grown in the EU for a long time. In 1990 the share was 6 %, in 2005 it was 9 %, and in 2012 14 %. Therefore the prospect of reaching the goal of a 20 % share in 2020, looks relatively promising.

Between 2020 and 2030 another 600 – 800 TWh of renewable energy must be delivered by the EU to reach the goal of 27 % by 2030 (depending on how much the energy demand is reduced). This will be an equally challenging task, at least, as reaching the 2020 goal.

It is crucial that countries like Great Britain, France and Netherlands reach their goals. They have only achieved a mere third of their targets between 2005 and 2012, i.e. half way through in time. Germany and Spain, often regarded as forerunners, are only half way where they should have been in 2012. Together, these five countries must deliver a further 500 TWh renewable energy by 2020 to fulfil their commitments (and at the same time strive to reduce their energy demand). Only then, the 20 % goal for the EU can be achieved. Between 2005 and 2012 they delivered 200 TWh. But, the remaining 23 Member States only have to achieve another 150 TWh of renewable energy by 2020 to accomplish their tasks, since they already have delivered more than 300 TWh from 2005 to 2012.

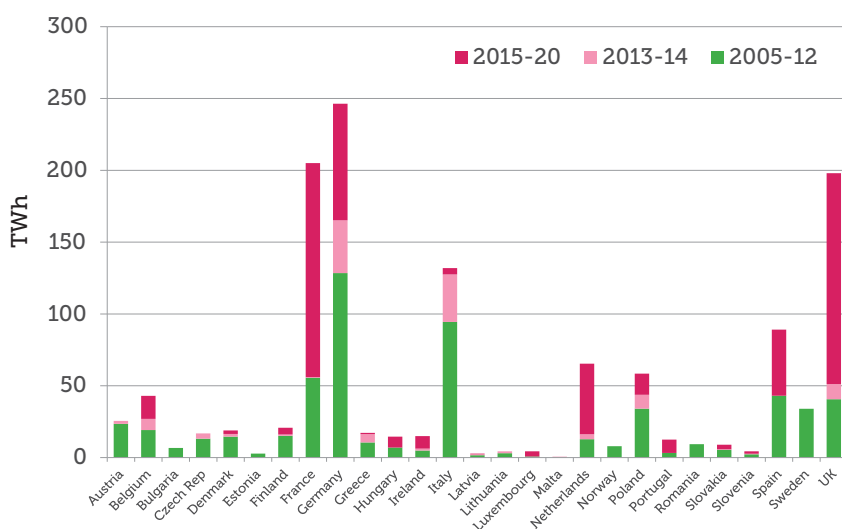
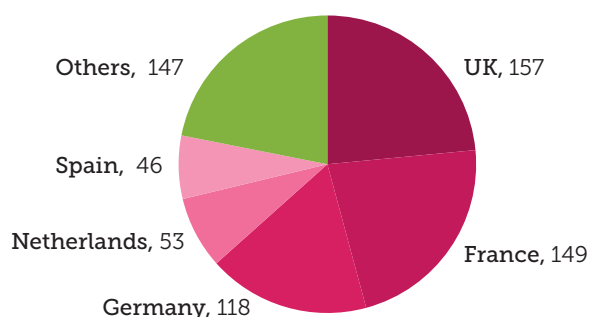


Figure above:
The amount of renewable energy in TWh, remaining to deliver for the five countries with most left to accomplish, before they fulfil the commitments for 2013 – 2020 in the renewable directive. The other 23 EU countries have together approximately 150 TWh left to reach their targets.

Figure to the left:
All the EU countries' commitment up to 2020 related to the renewable directive, subdivided into; the amounts achieved in 2005 – 2012, the amounts we estimate they have achieved in 2013 – 2014 (statistics not available yet, our estimates are based on the amounts in 2011 – 2012), and the amounts remaining to deliver during 2015 – 2020.