Put Europe “on track” to achieve climate-neutral transport

Transport emissions are the main obstacle in delivering the EU’s climate commitments

There is a huge gap between the EU target and reality
- Transport is the only sector in Europe which failed to decrease its greenhouse gas emissions between 1990 and 2016
- Emissions from transport are growing faster than any other sector

Rail is the only mode reducing its emissions!
- Thanks to energy-efficient zero carbon railways there can be more transport activity without more emissions

For a ready-made, widely available solution to decarbonise transport – turn to rail!

Rail combines energy-efficient mobility with fewer emissions
- Rail is 6x more energy-efficient than road due to physical advantages such as lower rolling and air resistance
- Rail is 9x less CO₂ intensive than road for freight and air travel for passengers

European railways already deliver zero-emission transport
- 4 trains out of 5 are already running on electricity, which is becoming greener
- The railway sector is already beyond the EU’s 2030 renewable energy target for transport

Source: EEA, 2018
Source: EU Transport in Figures, Eurostat Energy Statistics 2018
Source: IEA-UIC handbook, 2017
Source: EEA 2017 (2014 data)
Rail is leading the way to climate-neutral mobility in Europe

The European rail sector is ranked best on environmental impact. To go even further, it has established its own sustainable mobility strategy with the aim of achieving 100% zero-emission operations by 2050.

Our voluntary targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Target</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2030</td>
<td>Lower emissions -30% CO₂ compared to 1990</td>
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<tr>
<td>2050</td>
<td>Zero-emission railways 0 CO₂</td>
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</tbody>
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Did you know?

- Rail is the most carbon-efficient motorised way to travel: CO₂ emissions from rail account for less than 3% of CO₂ emissions from transport although it carries 17% of inland freight and 8% of passengers in Europe.
- Rail is already electrified: Switzerland’s railway lines are 100% electrified, while Luxembourg (95%), Belgium (86%), the Netherlands, Sweden, Italy, Bulgaria and Austria are all above 70%.
- Railways are promoting green electricity: for example in the Netherlands electric trains are already running 100% on wind energy, in Switzerland and Sweden 100% on hydropower.
- As a result, the sector has reduced total CO₂ emissions from rail traction by 16.8 million tonnes in 2016 compared to 1990, almost the entire CO₂ emissions of Croatia.

Act now to accelerate transport decarbonisation

Decarbonisation of the transport sector remains both a challenge and an opportunity.

Rail is embracing the challenge

By continuing to increase its energy efficiency through improved technology and service efficiency:

- As a major electricity consumer, actively demand green energy
- Modernisation/electrification of fleet
- Recovery of braking energy
- Be ambitious: confirm -60% target in legislation
- Driver training for efficient energy consumption
- Driving assistance/Automated train operation
- Improved traffic management
- Make best use of rail stations: integrate them into active mobility, electric urban public transport and city logistics
- Facilitate transport-related research and innovation: focus on marketability of new clean technologies and multimodal solutions
- Support continued electrification of rail including cross-border missing links
- Encourage the shift to rail: level the competitive playing field through internalisation of external costs; starting with a balanced carbon pricing policy across all modes
- Foster win-win cooperation in climate change: increasing rail’s market share will also benefit citizens through reduced local air pollution

Policymakers need to seize the opportunity

October 2018