



# Reaching climate neutrality in the EU

Input to Green Deal – big deal? Webinar

Matthias Duwe, Ecologic Institute

speaking from Berlin, 06.03.2023

# The European Green Deal

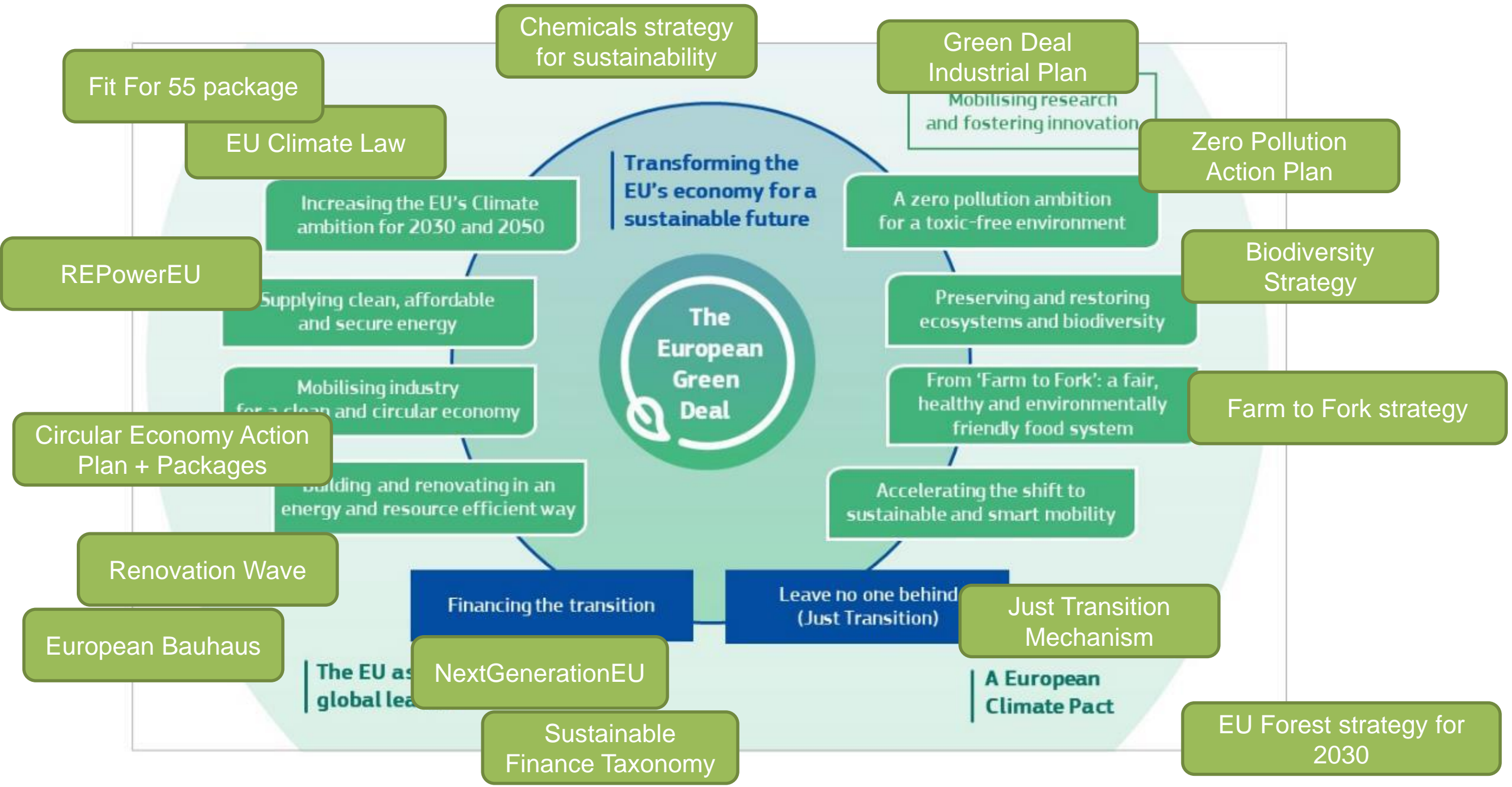
#EUGreenDeal











# Going

## CLIMATE-NEUTRAL

### by **2050**

A STRATEGIC LONG-TERM VISION FOR  
A PROSPEROUS, MODERN, COMPETITIVE  
AND CLIMATE-NEUTRAL EU ECONOMY

Brussels, 28.11.2018  
COM(2018) 773 final

**A Clean Planet for all**  
**A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and  
climate neutral economy**



**2. A EUROPEAN VISION FOR A MODERN, COMPETITIVE, PROSPEROUS AND CLIMATE  
NEUTRAL ECONOMY**

The aim of this long-term strategy is to confirm Europe's commitment to lead in global climate action and to present a vision that can lead to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 through a socially-fair transition in a cost-efficient manner. It underlines the opportunities that this transformation offers to European citizens and its economy, whilst identifying challenges ahead. The proposed Strategy does not intend to launch new policies, nor does the European Commission intend to revise 2030 targets<sup>2</sup>. It is meant to set the direction of travel of EU climate and energy policy, and to frame what the EU considers as its long-term contribution to achieving the Paris Agreement temperature objectives in line with UN Sustainable Development Goals, which will further affect a wider set of EU policies. The



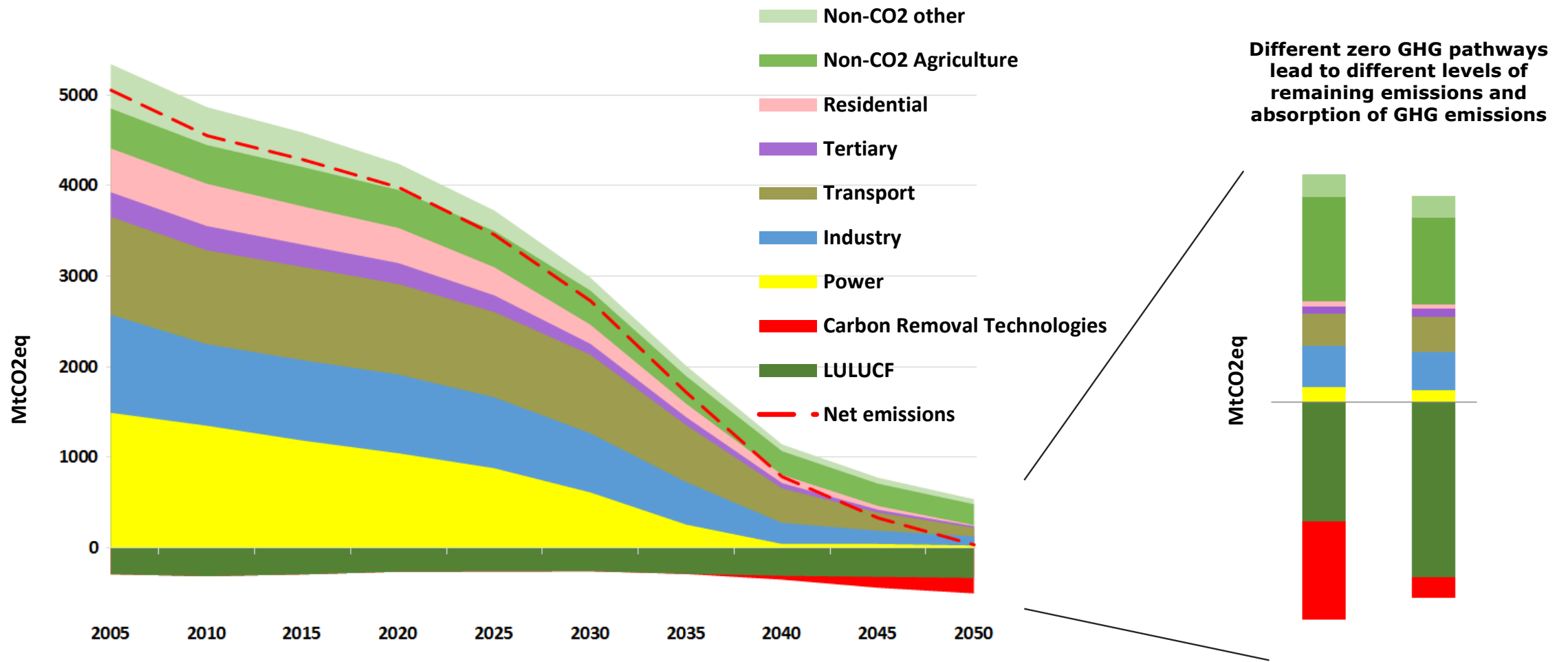


Figure 6. GHG emissions trajectory in a 1.5°C scenario

Bars represent the emissions and absorptions in 2050 of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> scenario.

Source: European Commission (2018) Clean Planet for All.



**Photographer: Etienne Ansotte  
European Union, 2021**

„I want Europe to become the first **climate-neutral continent** in the world by 2050. (...)

Our current **goal of reducing our emissions** by 40% by 2030 is not enough.

To make this happen, I will put forward a **Green Deal for Europe** in my first 100 days in office.

I will put forward the **first ever European Climate Law** which will set the 2050 target into law. “

16 July 2019

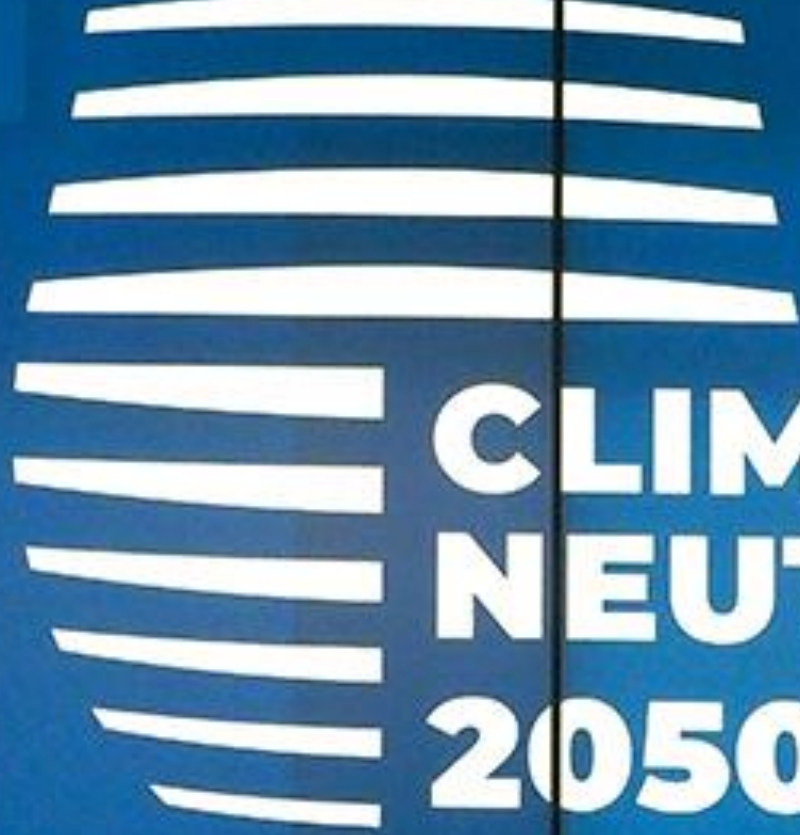




PROFIT  
PROFIT  
PROFIT







# CLIMATE NEUTRAL 2050



Europeiska rådet

Europäischer Rat

re 2019



European Council  
Conseil européen

Brussels  
12-13 December 2019



# Climate

# Law



# Simple overview: 16 EU Member States have some form of climate framework law

## EU

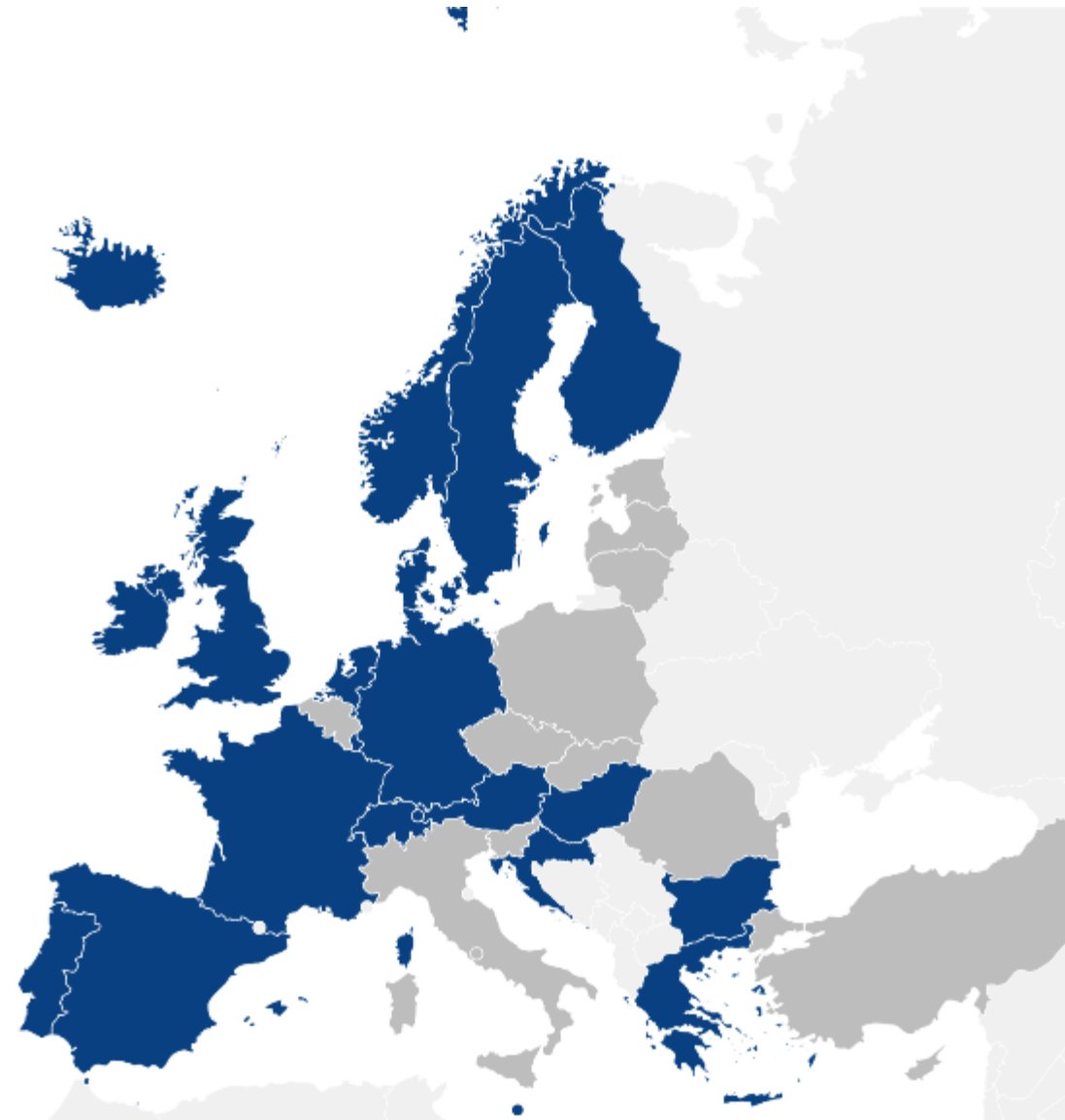
Austria  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Denmark  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Ireland  
Luxemburg  
Malta  
Netherlands  
Portugal  
Spain  
Sweden

## Non-EU

Iceland  
Liechtenstein  
Norway  
Switzerland  
United Kingdom

## NO LAW

Belgium  
Cyprus  
Czechia  
Estonia  
Italy  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Poland  
Romania  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Turkey (non-EU)



Source: Ecologic Institute, 2022.

# A dynamic landscape: 5 EU Member States either considering, preparing or revising a law

## EU

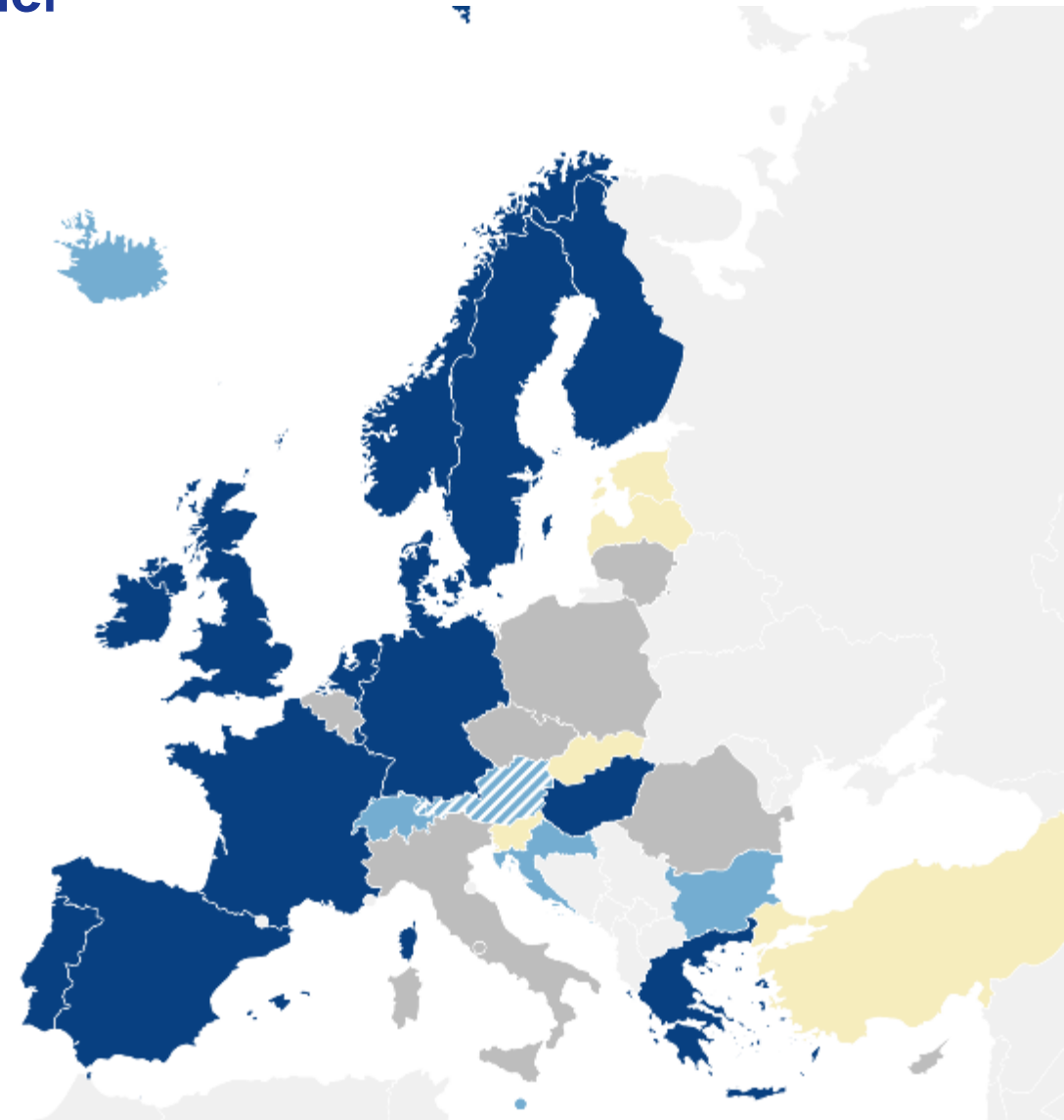
- LONG-TERM**
  - Denmark
  - France
  - Germany
  - Greece
  - Hungary
  - Ireland
  - Luxemburg
  - Netherlands
  - Portugal
  - Spain
  - Sweden
  - Finland
- NO LONG-TERM**
  - Bulgaria
  - Croatia
  - Malta
  - Austria

## Non-EU EEA

- LONG-TERM**
  - Iceland
  - Norway
  - United Kingdom
- NO LONG-TERM**
  - Switzerland
  - Liechtenstein

## NO LAW

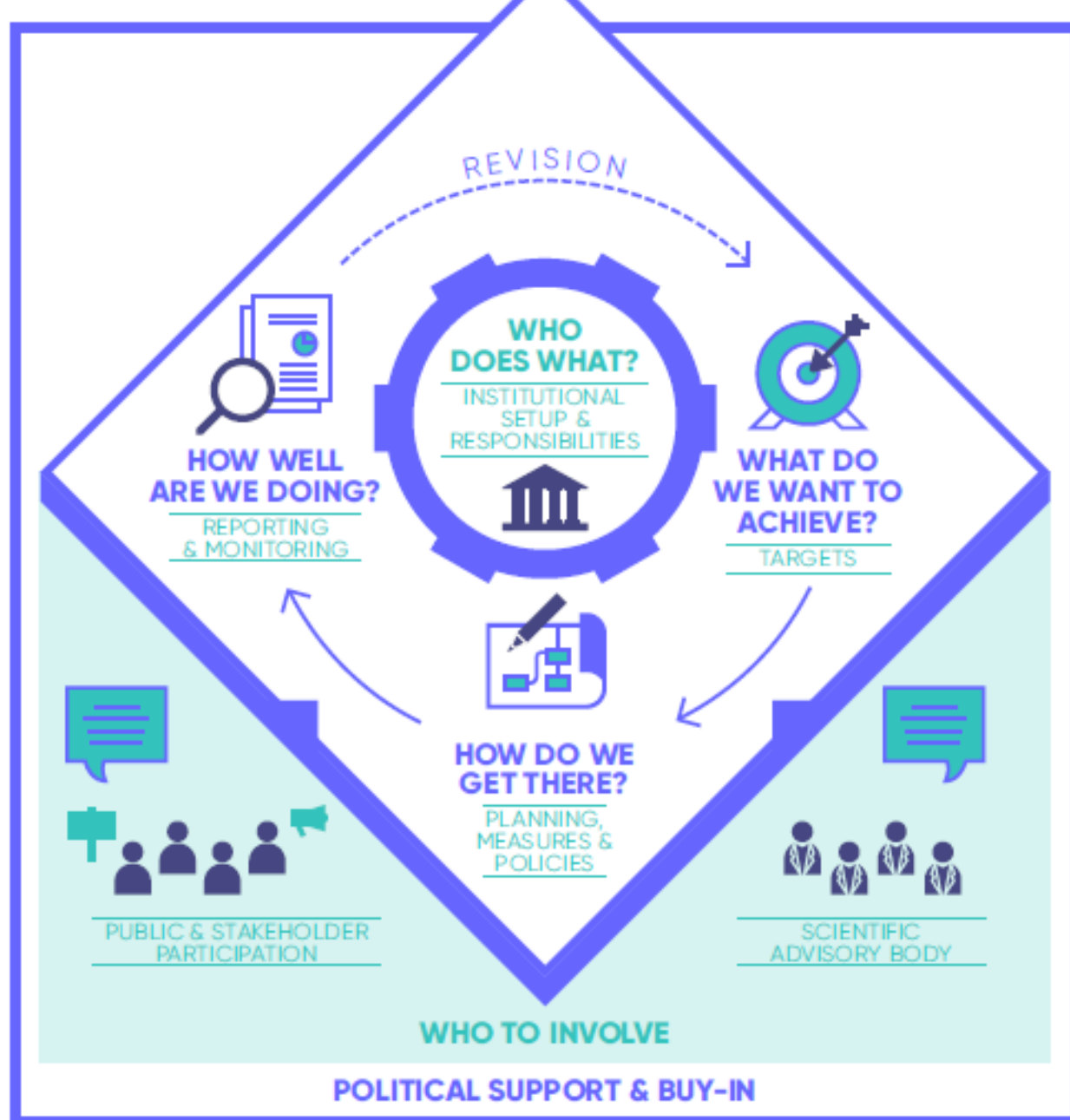
- IN CONSIDERATION**
  - Estonia
  - Latvia
  - Slovakia
  - Slovenia
  - Turkey
- NO INFORMATION**
  - Belgium
  - Cyprus
  - Czechia
  - Italy
  - Lithuania
  - Poland
  - Romania



Source: Ecologic Institute, 2022.



## A learning cycle for climate policy



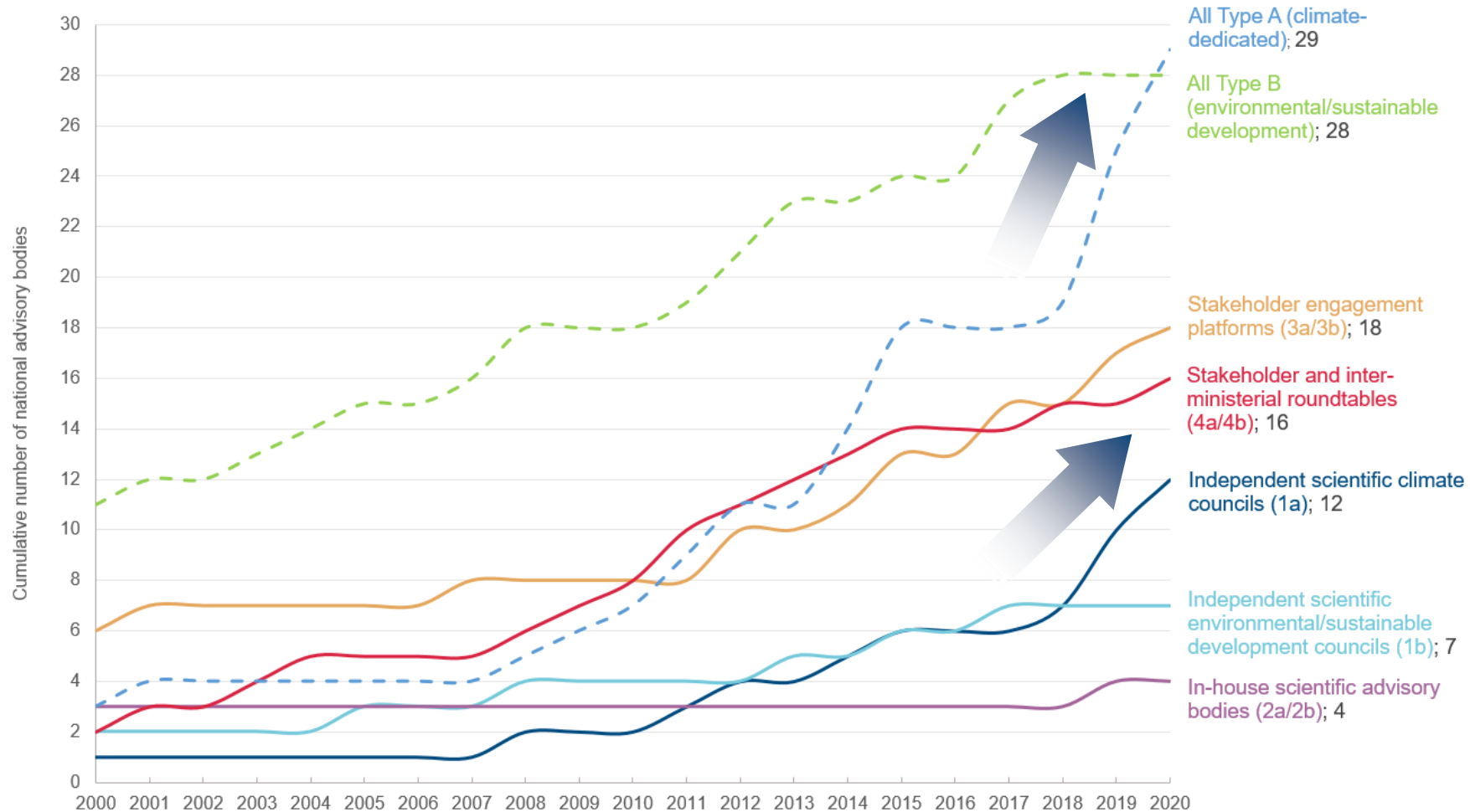
Source: Duwe and Evans (2020): *Climate laws in Europe: Good practices in net zero management*

# Policy cycle elements in the EU Climate Law

- **Targets** for 2030 and for 2050 – and a process for setting a 2040 target
- **Planning:** Adaptation strategies, Sectoral roadmaps // covered elsewhere
- **Policies:** // covered elsewhere (review of all main instruments every 5 years)
- **Progress monitoring:** new net zero progress assessment (no method)
- **Review of policies:** new mechanisms to check consistency with net zero
- **Scientific input:** new EU Climate Advisory Board! 15 Members, independent
- **Public participation:** adds climate neutrality to existing dialogue

# And national innovations can inform EU climate governance also

Development of national climate advisory bodies in Europe 2000-2020

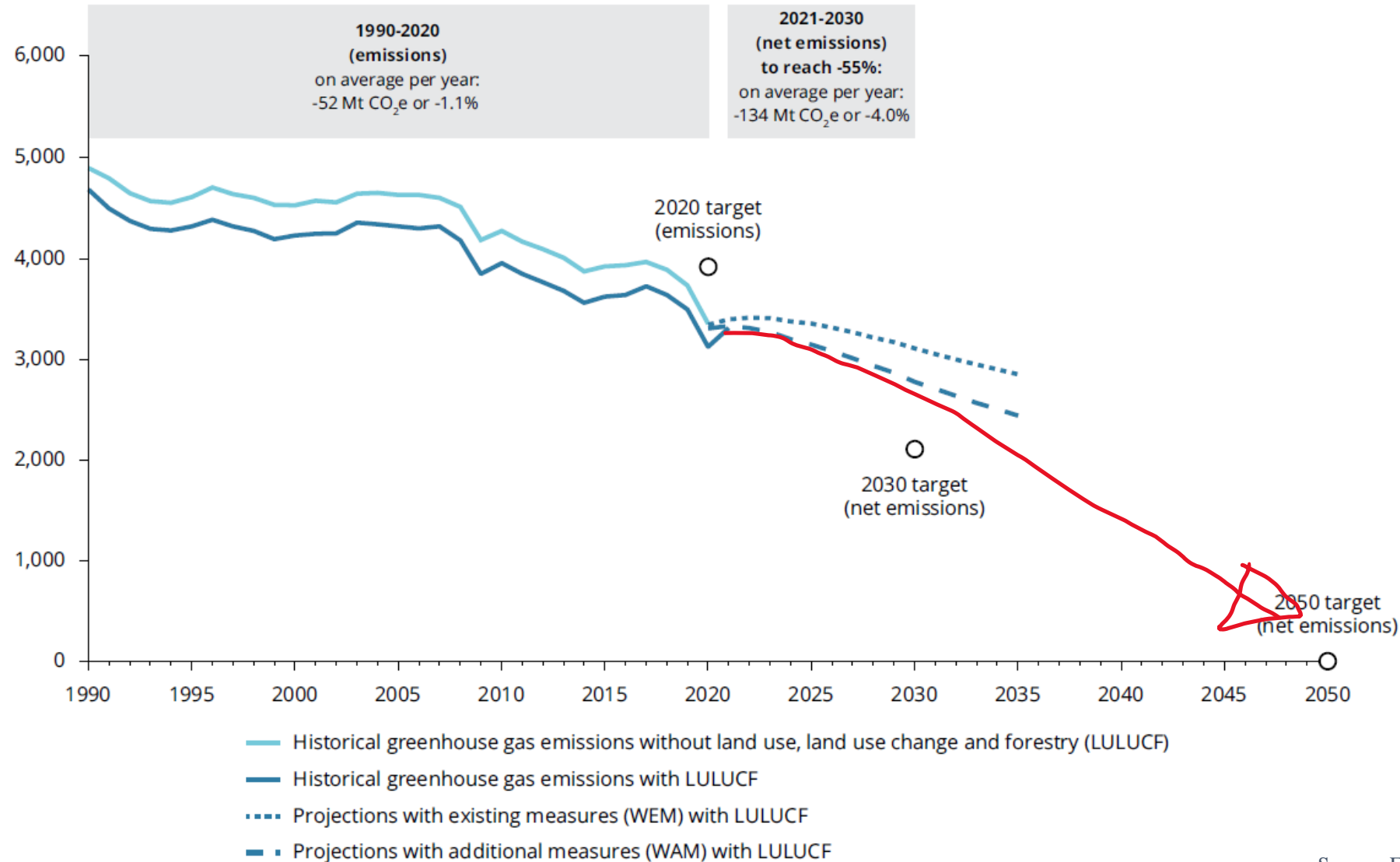


Evans, Nick; Matthias Duwe (2021): 'Climate governance systems in Europe: the role of national advisory bodies'. Ecologic Institute, Berlin; IDDRI, Paris.



**Figure ES.1 Historical trends and future projections for greenhouse gas emissions**

Million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (Mt CO<sub>2</sub>e)

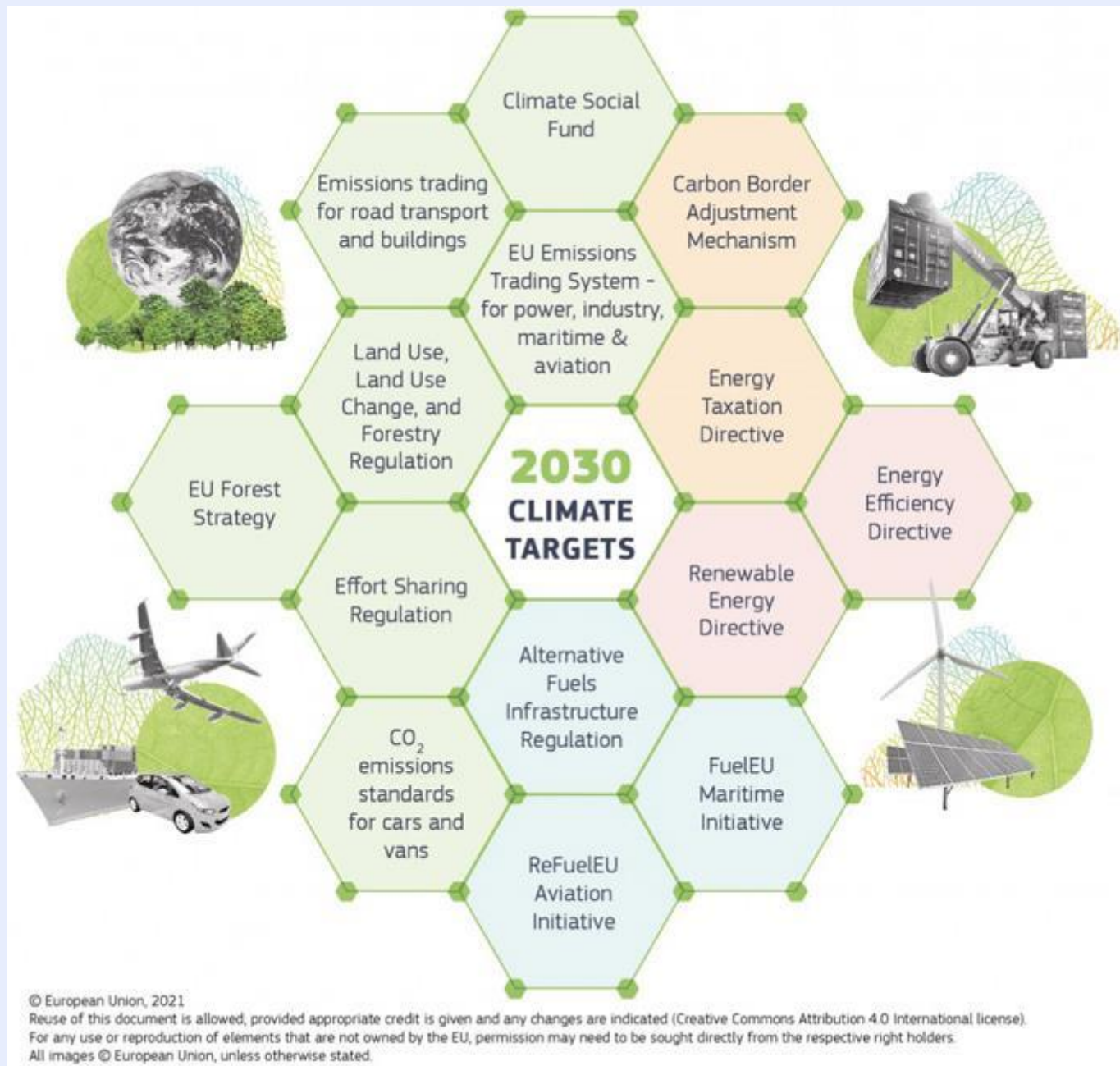


Source: EEA (2022) Trends and projections

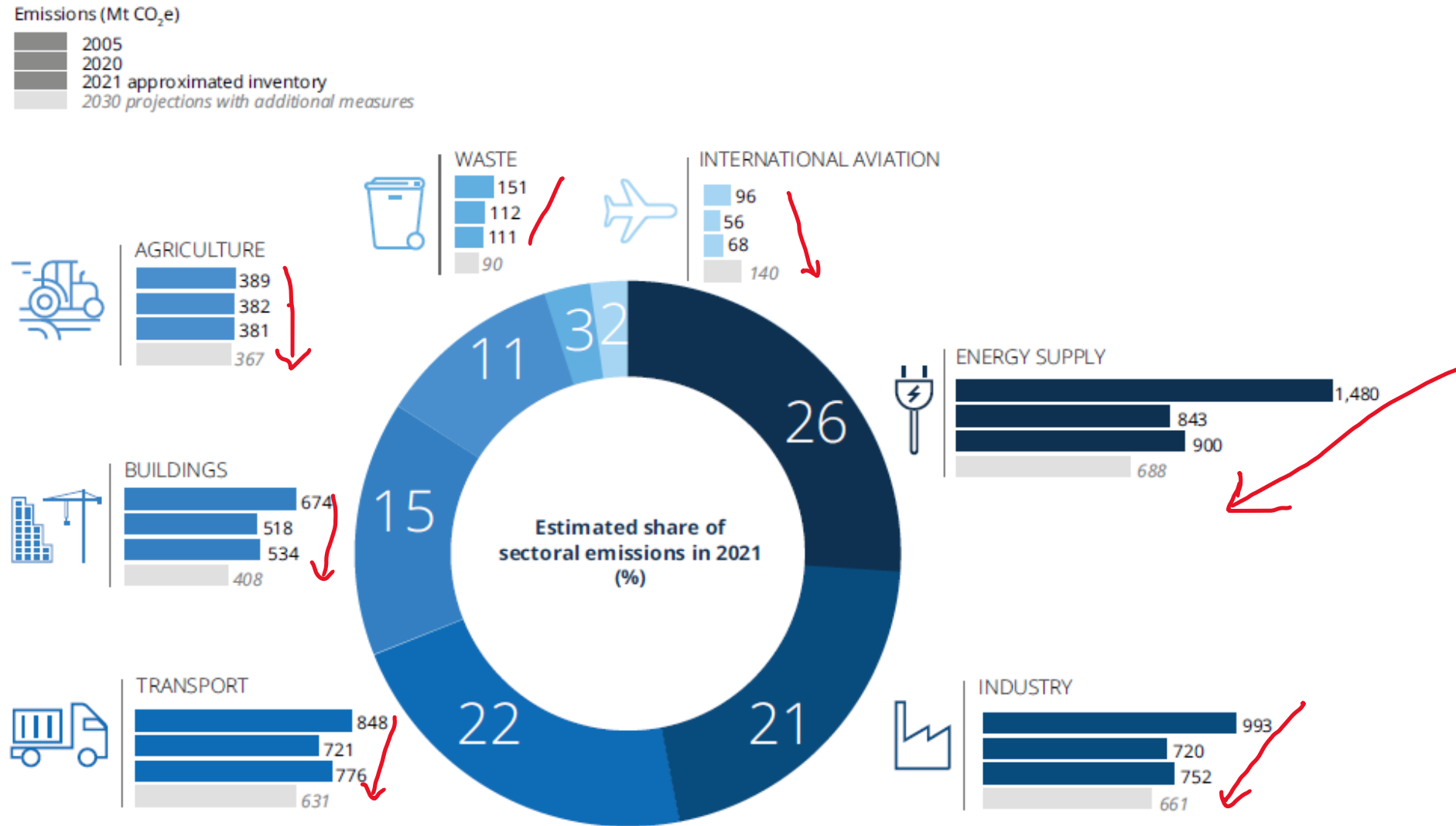
# EU climate policy toolbox ...

...has many different instruments inside.

Here: laws in the „Fit For 55“ package



**Figure 2.1** Sectoral trends and progress towards achieving 2020 and 2030 targets in the EU-27



**Notes:** The energy supply sector covers GHG inventory categories 1.A.1 and 1.B; industry covers categories 1.A.2 and 2; transport covers category 1.A.3; buildings covers categories 1.A.4 and 1.A.5; agriculture covers category 3; waste covers category 5; 'international transport' is reported under memo items.

MS, Member State; MtCO<sub>2</sub>e, megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent; WAM, with additional measures; WEM, with existing measures.

**Sources:** EEA (2021d, 2022b, forthcoming c); authors' own calculation.

THE CHOICE IS YOURS ...

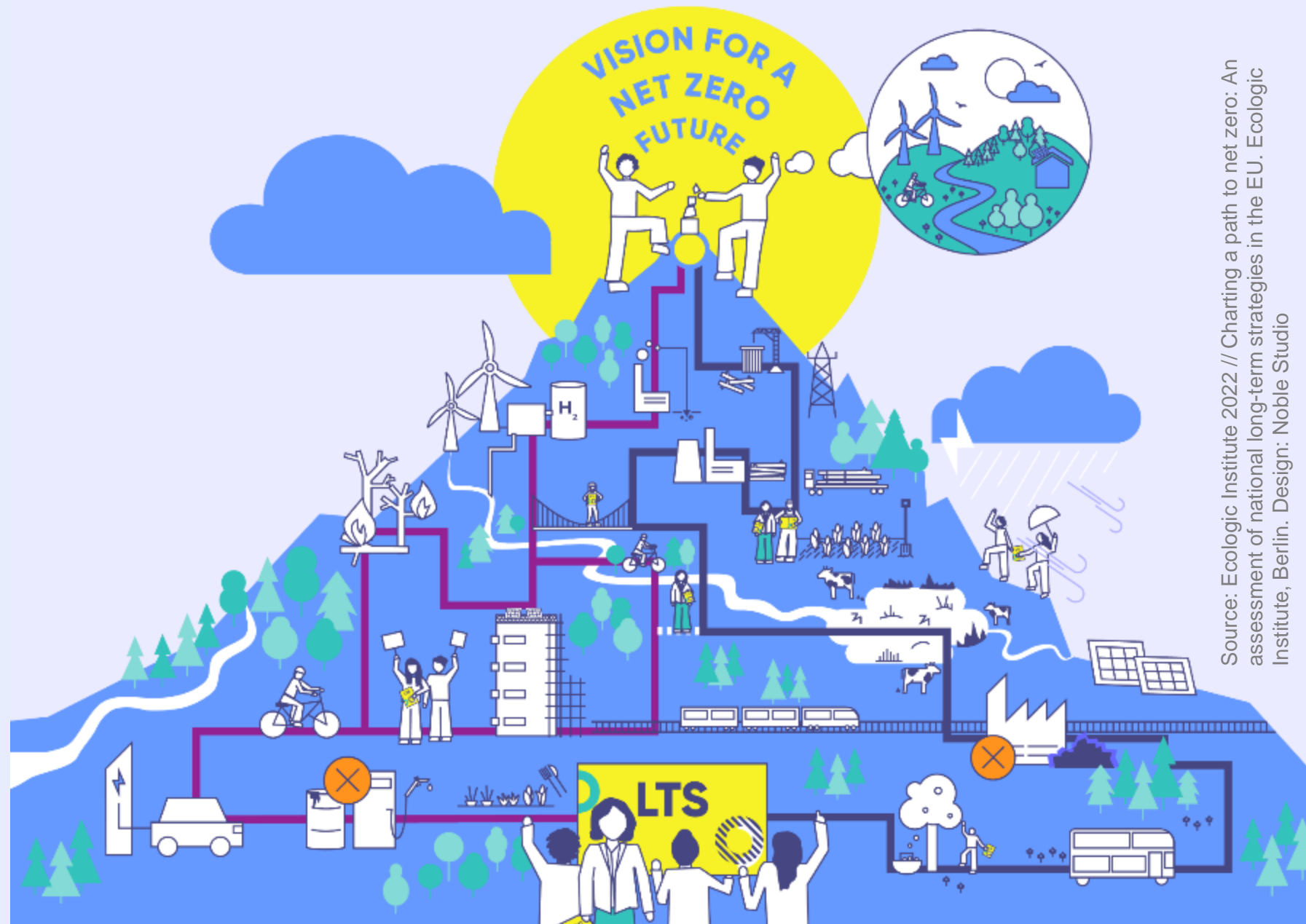
DESPAIR  
OR  
 HOPE



...COME IN



My passion:  
figuring out  
how we get to  
net zero





**Ecologic Institute**

Science and Policy  
for a Sustainable World

# Thank you for your attention!

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