

The roadmap in short

The roadmap advocates for a better, well-coordinated, long-term climate strategy. The ultimate goal? Making Belgium carbon-neutral by 2050. Here's how we can get there:

1. Mobility & logistics

- From 2020, **company cars** will only be subsidised if they are **electric**. Fuel cards will be a no-no; private and public charging stations alike will need to be widely available.
- By 2020, we need to have developed an ambitious **investment plan for public transport and cycling infrastructure**. Experts also see great potential in so-called mobility nodes.
- It may still have been a sore point in the recent electoral campaign, but the roadmap leaves no doubt: from 2025 onwards, we need to implement **road pricing**.
- From 2030, **cars** with classic combustion engines will no longer be sold or registered. As early as 2025, new **vans** will need to be powered in alternative ways.
- From 2030, travelling by water or rail needs to be the cheapest, most comfortable travel alternative in Europe. An **aviation and/or kerosene tax** will be indispensable.

2. Spatial planning & construction sector

- Between 2020 and 2030, we will need to develop a new type of **spatial planning**. Particular attention will go to economic nodes, access to mobility, flood risks, renewable energy, strengthening biodiversity and agriculture and climate adaptation.
- By 2025, all buildings will need to have a roadmap detailing how the building can become climate-neutral by 2050.
- To prevent a carbon lock-in, phasing out oil- and gas-powered installations needs to be our top priority. Essential steps to achieve this include **improving fiscal policy** for the renovation of existing buildings, and implementing a so-called 'building stop'.

3. Industrial sector & materials

- From 2030, new installations will no longer be allowed to emit CO₂; old installations will need to invest in becoming **climate-neutral**.
- From 2030, large industrial clusters in Belgium and its neighbouring countries will need to implement **new, sustainable production processes** at a large scale.
- By 2040, **large-scale circular material flows** will need to be in place.

4. Agriculture, food & forests

- By 2030, Flanders needs to have gained 10.000 hectares of forest. The eventual aim is to hit **50.000 extra hectares of forest** by 2050.
- As for the **cultivation of crops**, we need to focus on ecologic cultivation, precision agriculture, less intensive tillage and organic fertilisers.
- **Greenhouse farming companies** will change the way they heat their greenhouses, switching away from oil in 2030 and from gas in 2050.
- Between 2020 and 2050, **livestock numbers** will steadily decline, as we will eat less meat. We will be able to further reduce livestock-related emissions through a **better management** of fodder and agricultural companies in general.

5. Electricity

- To successfully integrate renewable energy into our **electricity market and infrastructure**, action will need to be taken **across Europe**.

- Scientists urge Belgium to swiftly implement the EU's *Clean energy for all Europeans* package.
- From 2030, Belgium's energy system should be able to more or less entirely depend on **renewable energy and its storage**.

What does this entail for Belgium?

The researchers make it clear: our country needs a **climate agreement** as soon as possible, including:

- a clear definition of **long-term targets**
- **measures enshrined in law**
- **clear deadlines** for Belgium and all its stakeholders
- a monitoring mechanism. Experts suggest an **independent climate panel** or climate centre. Developing new knowledge centres and getting support from the academic world will help us achieve this.