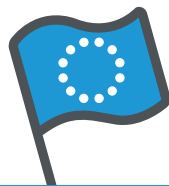


#MindTheGap2030

Alternatives to liquid fuels are not yet just around the corner – but the **2030 deadline for reducing the EU's GHG emissions by 55%** is. And every second and every degree of emissions reduction counts for the future of our planet.

GHG

↓ 55% by 2030



European renewable ethanol is produced to strict EU sustainability criteria that protect the environment and has achieved reduced GHG emissions year on year since 2011. What's more, it's a ready-made, homegrown solution: renewable ethanol is the most immediate, cost-effective, sustainable and socially inclusive way to meet the EU's 2030 goals to reduce GHG emissions.

The problem? **If we artificially cap sustainable biofuels** like European renewable ethanol today, we are creating a gap in the **sustainable**

energy supply for tomorrow. That gap can only be filled by one thing: **imported fossil fuels.** Casting away a viable option like European sustainable renewable ethanol risks throwing away our future.

It's time to stand up and recognize the benefits of biofuels, and perhaps more crucially, the problems that capping European renewable ethanol beyond reasonable measure could cause for efforts to achieve EU climate, energy and food security ambitions.

Renewable ethanol is crucial for the EU's climate agenda



Renewable ethanol is the only sustainable fuel option for ICE and hybrid cars on the road today and is needed to move Europe toward its FF55 goals

- The EU has a target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least **55% by 2030**, as set by the Fit for 55 package.
- Even as the market share of electric vehicles increases, petrol cars and hybrids will remain predominant on Europe's roads for decades. **Low-carbon liquid fuels** such as renewable ethanol are a **proven, cost-effective way to decarbonise them.**
- European renewable ethanol has achieved **reduced GHG emissions year on year since 2011.**
- E10 is a petrol grade that contains up to **10% ethanol**, making it a sustainable way to fuel most internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles on the road today.
- **ePURE members' ethanol reduces GHG emissions from today's vehicles** – more than 75% on average compared to fossil petrol.
- The carbon dioxide (CO₂) released when ethanol is used in vehicles is offset by the CO₂ captured by the crops grown to make the ethanol, therefore **reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions.**

European renewable ethanol is produced sustainably

Ethanol production

The ethanol production process includes several steps, of which the most important are:



extraction of sugars from feedstock



fermentation



distillation



dehydration

The process can vary slightly depending on the feedstock used.

EU renewable ethanol is produced from European crops and agricultural wastes and residues according to strict sustainability criteria

- European renewable ethanol is produced to strict EU standards that protect the environment.
- It is produced sustainably, optimising resource efficiency by using mostly agricultural waste and residue material.
- In 2018 the EU agricultural area used to cultivate crops for European ethanol and its co-products was just 2.2% of EU utilised arable area. EU ethanol is a low-ILUC-risk biofuel.
- The Commission's Renewable Energy Progress reports regularly confirm that cultivation of feedstock used in biofuel production in the EU has no particular adverse environmental impacts.
- Existing European legislation, including the Renewable Energy Directive, already provide with sufficient safeguards to disincentivize the use and accounting for of high ILUC risk biofuels.

EU renewable ethanol makes a strategic contribution to Europe's energy independence and food security

Production and use of renewable ethanol can contribute to the economy by supporting EU farmers, creating high-protein animal feed and food, and ensuring secure and affordable energy for Europeans

- **EU biofuels production creates food, feed and fuel**, significantly strengthening Europe's strategic autonomy by offsetting the need to import animal feed and displacing the use of crude oil in transport.
- In 2020, ePURE members produced 4.22 million tonnes of animal feed while continuing to supply fuel ethanol to offset fossil petrol.
- Ethanol production is a large source of income for Europe's farmers, boosting rural economies and spurring innovation.
- Because **renewable ethanol is produced domestically, it can reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels and ensure energy security** for Europeans.



TIME FOR A REALITY CHECK:

Adjusting the cap for renewable ethanol in the EU can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, boost rural economies, contribute to EU food security, support Europe's drive to a circular economy and provide secure and affordable energy. We're calling on policy makers to stand up, and act before we create a gap in the energy mix that can only be filled by imported fossil fuels.

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