

Outline of the climate plan

Version valid from July 2023

**Objective**

*Having a climate plan is mandatory for large and/or energy-intensive subsidy R&D applicant companies as well as for all types of companies that apply for Strategic Transformation Support (see also: "for which organisations"). This climate plan sets out how the relevant company site will make the transition towards a low-carbon business in a* [*climate-neutral Europe by 2050*](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/climate-strategies-targets/2050-long-term-strategy_en)*, taking into account the objectives of the* [*Flemish Energy and Climate Plan*](https://energiesparen.be/vlaams-energie-en-klimaatplan-2021-2030) *(Horizon 2030).*

*Through this template, the subsidy applicant must demonstrate that they have a climate plan****.*** *In addition, the Flemish government wants to gain insight into the needs and expectations of entrepreneurs with regard to the main technical and economic preconditions to facilitate their climate plans (availability of hydrogen or CO2 -network, cost of electricity or hydrogen, technology, infrastructure requirements, technological developments, etc.).*

*The detailed rationale for the climate plan itself is not part of this explanation, but should be available for review by VLAIO staff. Having a climate plan is an eligibility requirement, but is not in itself a subject of the evaluation of the subsidy application. VLAIO does not conduct a substantive study of the feasibility of the climate plan.*

*Except to the extent required by law, VLAIO will treat this data as confidential and will only publish aggregate data.*

**For which organisations?**

*For projects submitted from 1 October 2022, an outline of the climate plan must be attached to the subsidy application if the (co-)applicant:*

* *is a large enterprise according to the* [*European SME definition*](https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject/welk-bedrag-kan-je-krijgen-de-subsidie-onderzoeksproject-0)

*OR*

* *is an energy-intensive enterprise, i.e.: has a final energy consumption[[1]](#footnote-2) of more than 0.1 PJ[[2]](#footnote-3) (petajoule) at the site level.* *This is based on the location in the Flemish region where most of the economic valorisation of the requested subsidy will take place. These applicants belong to the target group of Energy Policy Agreements (EBOs).*

*Only for applications for Strategic Transformation Support (STS):*

* *all types of enterprises must complete this document. Alternatively, it is also allowed to attach a full climate plan with the subsidy application.*

**How do you complete this explanation?**

*Chapter 1 covers the identification of the site for which the climate plan was prepared, as well as the justification for signing the EBO or submitting a climate plan earlier. Chapter 2 briefly explains how the company is addressing the climate plan. The summary table in chapter 3 sets out the main measures in the company's climate plan.*

*The substantiation does not have to be attached, but must be available for inspection by VLAIO staff or delegated personnel. Keep explanations short and to the point.*

*The mandatory energy audit for non-energy intensive large companies[[3]](#footnote-4) is also a useful resource for the climate plan.*

*VLAIO is aware that the figures submitted are estimates (targets) only, based on various assumptions (the availability of energy carriers, energy prices, evolution of existing technologies and new developments, the availability of necessary infrastructure such as electricity, hydrogen and CO2 grids, etc.).*

**Further Modalities**

*Please complete Chapter 1 with each new subsidy application. An updated climate plan summary (chapters 2 and 3) is not required if the applicant has a VLAIO-accepted climate plan summary that is less than 4 years old (reference date: submission date of subsidy file).*

*For VER[[4]](#footnote-5) companies joining the Energy Policy Agreement (EBO) for the period 2023-2026, the climate roadmap to be submitted under the EBO to the Verification Office[[5]](#footnote-6), is sufficient as a climate plan for VLAIO.* Upon joining an energy policy agreement (EBO), the deadline for preparing a climate plan is changed to 31/12/2024.

*Joining an EBO is only possible for sites with a final energy consumption of more than 0.1 PJ.*

*For sites of the companies that only own an office building/car fleet (and where no production processes are applicable), an elaborated version of this outline document can suffice as a climate plan.*

# The Applicant

## Company and site address:

Please indicate below the location of company’s site in Flanders where the majority of the valorisation of the requested subsidy will take place.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Company number (BE.0XXX.XXX.XXX): |  |
| Municipality: |  |
| Street and no.: |  |
| Briefly summarise (in just a few sentences) the business activities of the specific site. |  |

## Contact Person

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| First name: |  |
| Job title: |  |
| Phone number: |  |
| Email: |  |

## EBO and earlier submission of a climate plan

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. The company joins the EBO | yes / no |
| If yes: date of joining |  |
| 2. The company is an energy-intensive business | yes / no |
| 3. The company is an ETS-company (VER) | yes / no |
| 4. The company has already completed chapters 2 and 3 of this memorandum in the past 4 years as part of a VLAIO subsidy application. | yes / no |
| If yes: subsidy application reference number |  |

*Companies complete this ‘outline to the climate plan’ document in full upon submission. There are three exceptions to this:*

*- A company that has already submitted an ‘outline of the climate plan' for the relevant site to VLAIO in the past 4 years does not need to complete part 2 and part 3.*

*- ETS (VER) companies joining the EBO also do not have to fill in part 2 and part 3.*

*- A non-ETS (non-VER) company that has joined EBO may deliver parts 2 and 3 later. They have a choice: either complete the ‘outline of the climate plan’ document in full upon submission OR they can choose to complete only part 1. Parts 2 and 3 must then be submitted by 31 December 2024.*

# Internal company action plan

*Briefly discuss how the energy transition is being addressed within the company.*

*Please include information about:*

* *energy and/or climate reports (e.g. GRI[[6]](#footnote-7), CDR[[7]](#footnote-8), energy plan, energy audit, sustainability report,[[8]](#footnote-9)etc.)*
* *(audited) climate roadmap (e.g., in the context of SBTi[[9]](#footnote-10))*
* *climate plans prepared within the company*

*Provide references to these documents, including any public sources.*

*These documents must be consultable by VLAIO staff or delegated personnel.*

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*Which function within the company is responsible for preparing the company for the energy transition and how is governance conducted? Who within the company is responsible for monitoring and implementing climate measures?*

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# Summary of climate measures

*Please summarise in the table below the measures that will lead to a substantial reduction in climate impact. In each case, briefly describe the measure, the anticipated timing, the expected impact (targets), and the basic requirements to enable the measure.*

* Non-energy-intensive (<0.1 PJ) sites of large companies should cover at least time horizon 2030.
* Energy-intensive sites should cover at least time horizon 2030 and 2050. Multiple scenarios can be specified if applicable.

*Indicate any topics that are not relevant. Climate adaptation and circular economy are optional. Add more rows as needed.*

*Do not send more detailed information about the climate measures (as set out in the climate plan); instead, keep the specification available for inspection by VLAIO staff or delegated officials.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Description of Concrete Measure(s)** | **Anticipated Timing** (year) | **Expected Impact** (what impact is envisaged?) | **Basic Requirements** (What are the obstacles to implementation, if any?) |
| **Internal Business Processes** process heat, cooling, machinery, etc.; energy and if relevant greenhouse gases such as F-gases, N2O, CO, CH4, etc. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Buildings** HVAC, lighting, office equipment, etc. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Company Transport** goods transport, mobility of employees, including leased cars |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Production of renewable energy on-site** solar energy, wind energy, etc. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Water** process water, sanitary applications, rainwater collection, water reuse, etc. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Climate adaptation (optional)** measures aimed at anticipating climate change |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Circular Economy (optional)** reuse of materials, limiting input virgin material, recycling, etc. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

*For energy-intensive sites only: base on the table above and list which aspects are difficult to make more sustainable in the short term. For each of these aspects, indicate what long-term measures (horizon 2050) could be considered to still achieve a transition towards carbon neutrality.*

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1. Final energy consumption is the final net amount of energy delivered to the site without taking into account conversion and transport losses (power plants, refineries, etc.) as defined in Annex 1 of the Energy Policy Agreements for the period 2023-2026. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. For your information: 0.1 PJ final energy consumption corresponds to 27.8 GWh of electricity, gas, fuel oil, diesel, heat etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. See the Decision of the Flemish Government amending the Decision of the Flemish Government of 1 June 1995, regarding general and sectoral provisions on environmental hygiene, the Energy Decree of 19 November 2010 and the Decision of the Flemish Government of 27 November 2015, implementing the Decree of 25 April 2014 on the environmental permit, regarding various provisions on energy efficiency and renewable energy, Title II, Sections 6.5.9 and further. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. VER companies are organisations that fall under the European Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Verification Agency Benchmarking Flanders - <https://www.benchmarking.be/nl/default.asp> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. GRI: Global reporting initiative - <https://www.globalreporting.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. CDR: Carbon disclosure project - <https://www.cdp.net/> and [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. sustainability report in accordance with the Act of 3 September 2017 (EU Directive 2014/95/EU on disclosure of non-financial and diversity information) [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. SBTi: <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-10)