



Q&A on 2050 Roadmap to a low-carbon bioeconomy

Q.1 The 80% decarbonisation target was already set in the previous 2050 Roadmap. Given how ambitious the Paris agreement for climate change is, shouldn't you have aimed for a higher level?

The Paris agreement does indeed put more pressure on combatting climate change. However, its implications on EU policy have yet to be assessed. We therefore decided to maintain the trajectory of the Commission's 2050 roadmap. Moreover, our Roadmap is a dynamic document which will be reviewed to take into account policy, technology or industry developments as they arise.

Q.2 Why did you decide to publish the new Roadmap now?

We are already significantly transforming our production base, advancing technology and further reducing our emissions. It was therefore time to take stock of our progress. We are now also at a critical point in time because indeed most of the policies that will shape our operating environment over the next decade are and will be shaped in the next ten years. ETS is one, but so is the circular economy, the forthcoming review of the bioeconomy strategy or the future EU Framework Programme for Research and Development. This is the reason why we say it is critical to look at the best way to align policy, research and financing conditions.

Q.3 What has CEPI done since 2011?

Since the first Roadmap CEPI has identified breakthrough technologies with a high decarbonisation potential thanks to the [Two Team Project](#). The winner of this unique competition, [Deep Eutectic Solvents](#), which has received funding from Horizon 2020, has the potential to reduce process energy intensity by at least 40% and investment costs by 50% compared to traditional chemical pulping technology. The [Age of Fibre](#) publication also showcased the industry's most ground-breaking products, demonstrating the industry's innovative power. Meanwhile, the industry continues to reduce its total (direct and indirect) greenhouse gas emissions, with a 44% decrease per tonne of product since 1990. On top of that since first pioneering our Roadmap in 2011 our industry has invested €15 billion euro in Europe.

Q.4 The first Roadmap was followed by the [Two-Team Project](#) and the [Age of Fibre](#). Are you planning to publish similar follow-up projects in the next five years?

Our Roadmap will be followed by a range of initiatives. We are currently looking at:

- Mapping existing energy efficiency investment practices across our industry
- Preparing for the ETS Innovation Fund to support large-scale technology demonstrators
- Developing better information on investment support schemes for SMEs in our industry with our national partners
- Further investigating with our social partners the skills needed for future employment in industry

Q.5 You talk a lot about investment - has industry benefited from EU investment instruments?

Some of the pulp and paper industry have indeed benefited from EU investment instruments. However, we also see that SMEs are struggling with funding requirements. We will address this in the second half of 2017 with a practical guide on investment for SMEs.