

**Institut français
des sciences et technologies
des transports, de l'aménagement
et des réseaux**

Transport issues in the context of the UNFCCC and beyond

ETRA Workshop « Transport & Climate Change :
European Researchers Act
July 6th, 2015



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What's UNFCCC ?

- UNFCCC

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)

- Near-universal membership

196 States are members

- Ultimate objective

“(...) stabilizing the GHG concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system (...)”



UNFCCC Parties Commitments (Art. 4)

All Parties (...), shall :

- Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion, including transfer, of technologies, practices and processes that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases (...) in all relevant sectors, including (...) **transport** (...);
...
- Cooperate in preparing for adaptation to the impacts of climate change;
...
- Promote and cooperate in the full, open and prompt exchange of relevant scientific, technological, technical, socio-economic and legal information (...);
- Promote and cooperate in education, training and public awareness related to climate change and encourage the widest participation in this process (...)

At least 4 of them are relevant for us today!

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What's a COP? Conference of Parties

COP = annual meeting of the UNFCCC « State Parties »

- COP
 - decision-making body: unanimity or consensus
- UNFCCC activity
 - two decades of work
 - over half a century of scientific measurement and observation
 - tackling a highly complex problem

2015, Nov 21 – Dec 8 → COP21, Paris

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Major Evolutions since 1994

Greater involvement of the Parties

- objectives of CO2 emissions
- more and more binding

Evolution in thinking

- mitigation
- adaptation



Adaptation and mitigation actions are complementary strategies for reducing and managing the risks of climate change

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COP 21 Major Challenges

As spelled out by the French Ministry of Sustainable Development

- reach a **universal and legally binding agreement**
- a synthesis of **national contributions**
- Redirect **investments**
- promote « **Agendas of Solutions** »



What about Transport? (1/2)

- Transport never at the core of UNFCCC COP discussions
- CO2 emissions reduction objectives considered globally.
- Slow evolution
 - mitigation
 - adaptation



What about Transport? (2/2)

Transport sector fits this analysis

- impacts climate change
- need to adapt

Transport sector develops specific measures

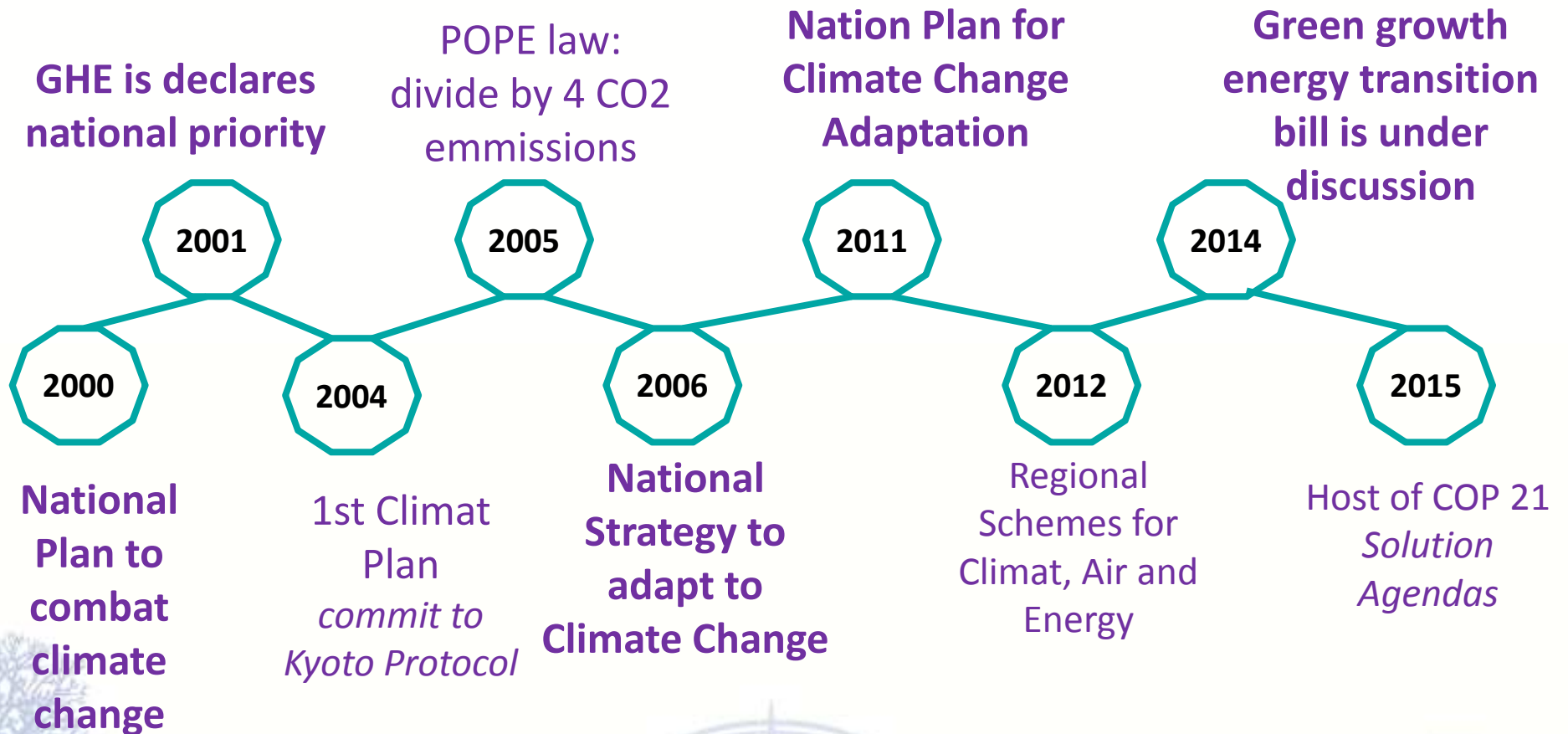
- adaption
- mitigation



The transport system is a critical support system for our societies and economies

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France is Taking Action



Transport is one Focus Area of the French Climate Change Policy

- Grenelle process outcomes in the transport sector
- National Plan for Climate Change Adaptation (2011 – 2015)
- Green growth energy transition bill (*under discussion in the Senate*)
- International cooperation



Policy impacts on research

European and National Research Agendas acknowledge the need to work on climate change mitigation and adaptation

Transport Research institutes, labs and universities participate in :

- **EU or nationally funded projects, among many**
 - Rising water levels and flooding in areas at risk
 - Studying watercourse erosion and securing bridges foundations
 - Droughts and rainfalls: anticipating risks and providing recommendations
 -
- **Specific activities of European Associations**
 - FOR EVER OPEN ROAD (FEHRL takes the lead on this research)
 - ETRA today has seized the opportunity to allow the researchers from many horizons to discuss and exchange on a global issue such as climate change and transport research



Policy Impacts Research

CFCC2015 « Our common future under climate change » conference», Paris, July 7-10th, 2015

- first time a purely scientific conference
- two sessions on transport
 - « Transport and Climate Change: Mitigation and Adaptation Measures for Transport Infrastructures »
 - « Decarbonizing Europe »

Today's Workshop: side event of CFCC2015

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From Research to Policy

Science and research play a major role

- futures and innovations
- solutions, policies and measures,
- credibility of the Paris agreement

**Let's keep on taking
transport research solutions
from labs to policy makers and to citizens!**



THANK YOU

