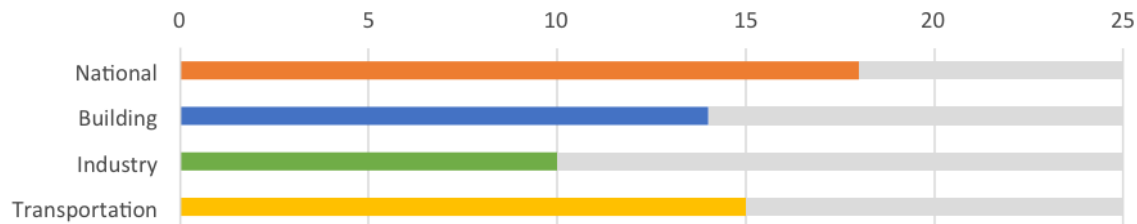


6

United Kingdom



Tying for sixth this year, the UK lost the top spot it had earned in the 2012 International Scorecard, falling below the winning country, Germany, by 8 points.

The UK has made great strides in the energy efficiency of its transportation sector, and policies are in place to provide incentives to both businesses and consumers to improve efficiency of transport. For example, some policies reward more efficient freight transport by providing grants to support a shift away from roads and toward rail, while other policies provide consumer incentives to encourage the use of alternative-fuel vehicles. The government plans to invest more than £70 billion in transport by 2021, including plans to build High Speed 2 (HS2), a high-speed railway.

The UK has also made commitments to energy reduction through its national policies, and it scored well in this category. The UK has set its energy efficiency target under the EU Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU), which would amount to an 18% reduction (of 28.5 megatonnes of oil equivalent) from the UK's 2007 business-as-usual project projection for 2020.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Energy consumption per square foot of residential building space is relatively high in the UK. Mandatory residential and commercial building codes apply in the UK, but updating its aging building infrastructure at the time of retrofit would greatly improve its buildings' efficiency. Some policies and measures have

been put in place to improve building efficiency, but many have been rolled back or reduced since 2012. In addition, the "Green Deal," which provides financing for energy efficiency improvements to homes and businesses, has been publically criticized for being less effective than expected.

The UK ranked low in the industrial sector, in 12th. There are a number of policies that can be put in place, such as requiring periodic energy audits and mandating on-site energy managers in manufacturing plants, that would help boost industrial efficiency in the UK. Other European countries such as Germany and Italy have implemented several policies to reduce the energy intensity of the industrial sector that may serve as model for UK policy development.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more information on the UK's energy efficiency policies and measures: <http://www.iea.org/policiesandmeasures/energyefficiency/?country=United%20Kingdom>

For more information on the UK's financing tool, Green Deal: <https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/helping-households-to-cut-their-energy-bills/supporting-pages/green-deal>