



Facing Climate Change

The Consequences of climate change

1. We experience heats and droughts in summer

In Slovakia the temperature has been regularly measured since 1871. Within last 100 years the average annual temperature has increased by 1.1 °C. The 12 hottest years were all between 1990 and 2020. The highest measured temperature ever was reached in Hurbanovo in the south-west of Slovakia on July 20th 2007, it was 40.3 °C. We have many hot and dry days in summer. The humidity of air is low and the soil is dry.



We need to cool air in towns and frequently water fields.



2. There are precipitation changes and local floods

The annual amount of precipitation hasn't decreased in Slovakia since 1980-ies. However, there are differences between regions. In Orava, in the north, it has decreased, while in the most of our area it has increased.

There are more extremes in the portion of precipitation. We have longer periods without rainfalls, and then some days with downfalls and heavy rains. It caused some local floods.



Ružomberok, May 2010

Trenčín, August 2019

Around 40 cars were damaged or completely destroyed in Vrátna Dolina valley after heavy downfalls in 2014.

3. Weather extremes and strong winds are more frequent

The temperature can change even by 10 degrees from one day to another, especially in spring and autumn.

Due to the temperature and air pressure extremes, there are strong winds and storms. In 2004 a windstorm in the High Tatras destroyed a large forest cover.



4. We observe some negative changes in ecosystems

Forests cover more than 40% of the area of Slovakia. Less humidity makes trees more vulnerable to insects, fungi, bacteria and viruses. In the Tatras bark beetle outbreaks has caused enormous damage.



Bark beetles attack trees.

High temperature and droughts result in migration of trees and animals to higher places, for example, ticks that cause encephalitis. Mild winter helps ticks survive and therefore, there are more and more of them.



5. Sahara dust appears in the air

Over the recent years the dust from African Sahara Desert, carried by strong wind cycles, reaches central Europe once or twice a year. It causes "sand rain".



Paris Climate Agreement

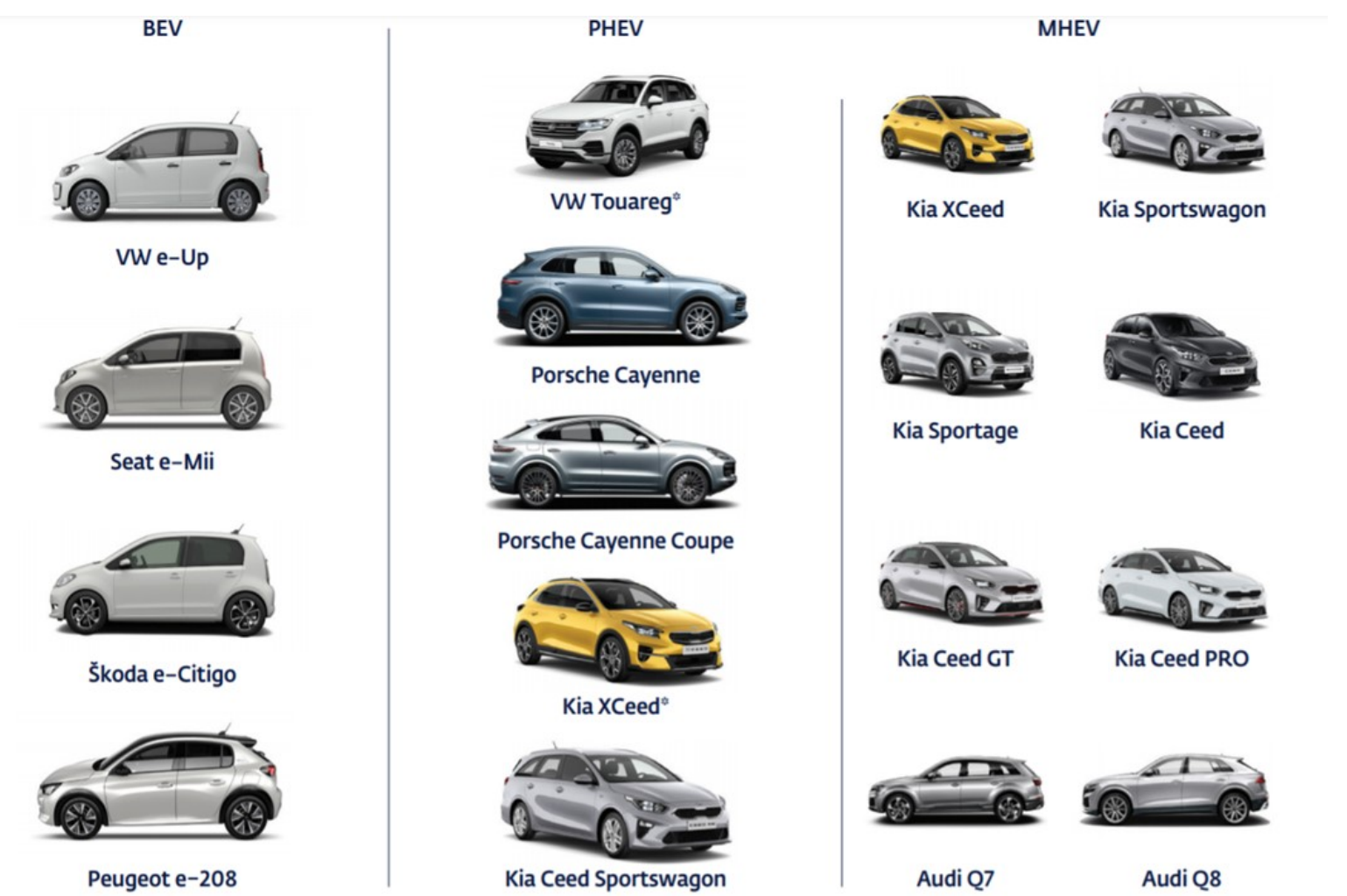
On Earth Day, April 22nd 2016, Slovakia signed the Paris Agreement. Our goal is to reach climate (carbon) neutrality by 2050.

- The important points of our low-carbon energy strategy are:
- to reduce the exploitation of coal, gas and oil
 - to keep and increase the usage of nuclear power and hydropower
 - to increase the share of solar and biomass energy



Some of the concrete steps and commitments we have done

- The automotive industry has 50% share of the total industrial production in Slovakia. In March 2019 the Government adopted "Action Plan to Develop E-Mobility" with 15 specific measures. The most attractive measure was the financial support of 8,000 € for all those who purchase an e-vehicle and 5,000 € per plug-in hybrid.
- The Ministry of Economy has also provided the financial support for the construction of public charging stations.



Electric and Partly Electric Models Produced in Slovakia

- The amount of coal is gradually reduced in our thermal power plants and it is combined with and substituted by biomass.
- In 2023 the state donations for coal mining will be stopped. About 100 million euros are donated annually. Electricity production from coal will also be stopped. However, it will still be used for heating.
- By 2027 all coal mines have to stop its operation and close. Coal cannot be used as the source of energy any more.

