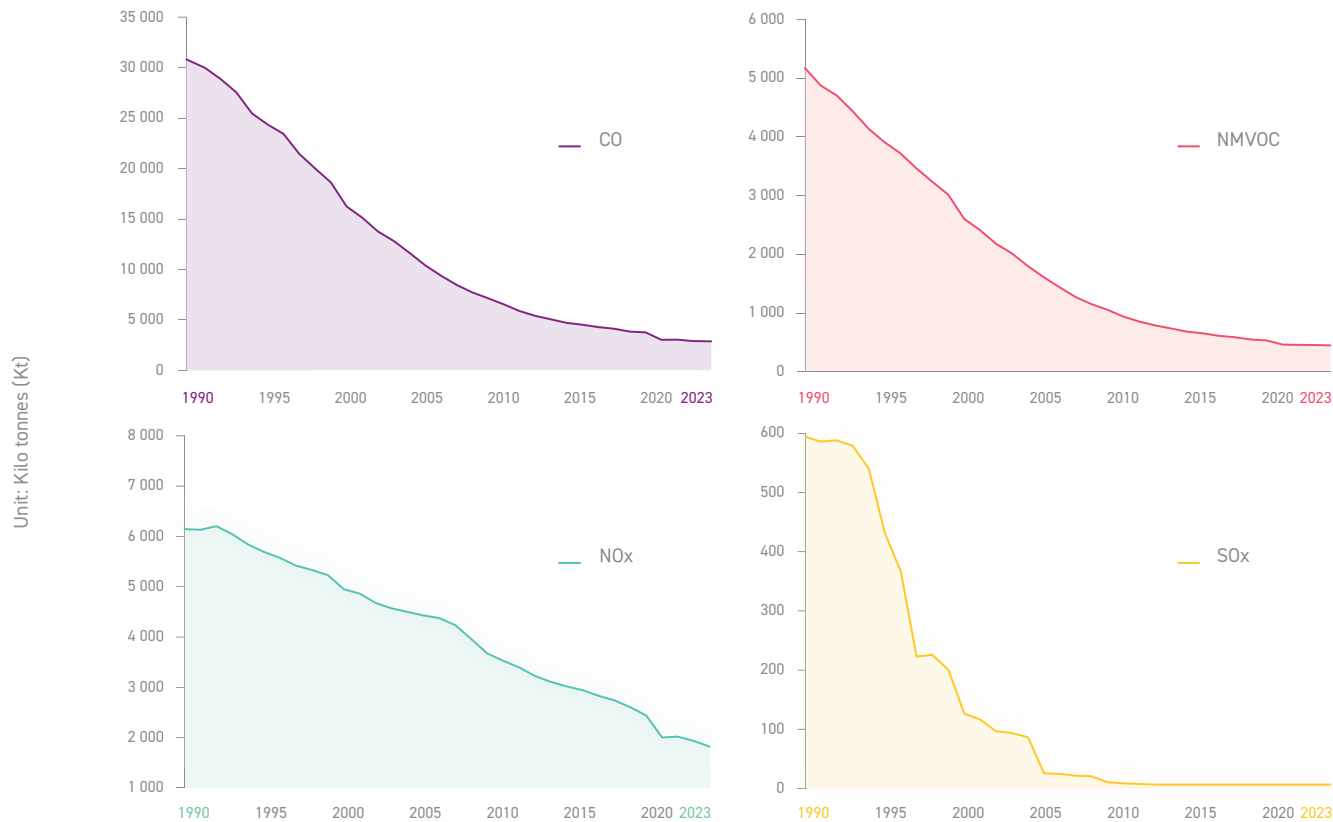


FIGURE
39.b

SINCE 1990, FUELS ARE PROGRESSIVELY BECOMING CLEANER
RESULTING IN EXHAUST EMISSIONS REDUCTION BY OVER 80%

Source: European Environmental Agency



Since 1990, emissions from road transport have declined substantially in the EU-27. SOx emissions are now approximately 99% lower than in 1990, while NMVOC and CO emissions have decreased by over 91%, and NOx emissions by around 71%. These significant improvements are the result of the partnerships with the automotive industry aiming at improving the fuel-engine efficiency and leading to multiple environmental benefits. The travel restrictions imposed due to the Covid pandemic caused a significant reduction in emission values. However, despite travel restrictions being lifted and vehicles returning to the road, emissions have continued to decrease compared with pre-pandemic values.