

# May-June 2021 UN Climate Change Conference

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Session ends: 01-06-2021 23:59:59 [GMT+1]



## Multilateral Assessment

A compilation of questions to - and answers by - Bulgaria  
exported on 02-06-2021 by the UNFCCC secretariat

Question by United States of America at Monday, 05 April 2021

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Climate Change Mitigation Act

Could you outline some of the lessons learned in the implementation of the enforcement mechanisms set by your Climate Change Mitigation Act?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

The Climate Change Mitigation Act sets two of the flexible mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol, that have been applied in Bulgaria during the first commitment period of KP.

We had Joint Implementation Mechanism for domestic projects which were approved according to the principles of additionality and avoiding of double counting.

28 JI projects have been approved in Bulgaria and 21 of them have already achieved and verified emission reductions. The implementation of those projects led to greenhouse gas emission reduction around 10 million tons carbon dioxide equivalent until 2012.

Under the Green Investment Scheme we traded a part of country's AAUs and successfully financed a number of green projects - 654 414t/ CO<sub>2</sub> eq. reductions of GHG.

The National Green Investment Scheme is implemented by Trust Eco-Fund. The funds are designated to be used for financing of the projects aiming at improving of energy efficiency of state and municipal public buildings, as well as for promoting the use of electric and hybrid vehicles by public institutions.

Since the two mechanisms are project based we gained valuable experience in evaluation of projects and compliance with the main prerequisites for admissibility of activities under the Kyoto Protocol.

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Question by United States of America at Monday, 05 April 2021

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Monitoring of policies and measures

How has your policies and measures monitoring and assessment mechanism informed the refinement/development of your PaMs to make them more effective? Could you provide examples of some of the PaMs that have become more effective over time?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

The monitoring and assessment mechanism on the implementation of policies and measures are according to the Third National Action Plan on Climate Change for period 2013-2020 (NAPCC). This mechanism requires the reporting on the NAPCC implementation every two years, and the drafting of regular and final reports.

The first report on the implementation of the Third NAPCC of Bulgaria, which covers 2013–2016 and was published in 2017, presents information on measures included in the NAPCC, by sector and priority axis, including their mitigation impact (direct and indirect); a performance analysis within the reporting period (such as status of implementation, progress towards achievement of the target milestones and reasons, if any, for delay or failure to achieve the targets); and details of financial resources, as well as proposals submitted by the members of the interministerial working group for changing, updating or withdrawing measures.

The mitigation effect of substituting coal with natural gas is the most significant. Other policies that have delivered significant emission reductions are Bulgaria's programme for accelerated gasification, increasing high-efficiency combined production, energy efficiency audits and audits for the implementation of prescribed measures in the industry sector, as well as transport sector policies to introduce intelligent transport systems along national and urban road networks and increase the share of electric public transport, covering railways, trolleybuses, trams and the metro.

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Question by United States of America at Monday, 05 April 2021

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Measures for hard to decarbonize sectors

Could you explain how your 33 enumerated climate measures address "hard-to-decarbonize" sectors and industries (given that 10 relate to the energy sector, 7 to the transport sector, 6 to the LULUCF sector, 6 to the agriculture sector and 3 to the waste sector, with 1 being cross-sectoral (energy/waste sector))?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

The domestic mitigation actions still that are related to the energy sector and aims to improve energy efficiency in buildings and increase the share of RES in heat consumption by commissioning combined systems with solar thermal collectors and heat

pumps.

The other planned action is related to the agriculture sector and aims to introduce low-carbon technologies and methods in crops production. Among the mitigation actions that provide a foundation for significant additional action are in the transport sector concerning the rehabilitation and modernization of existing road infrastructure and the introduction of a mandatory energy efficiency scheme.

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Question by United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Thursday, 01 April 2021

Category: Progress towards the achievement of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Long-term fossil fuel strategy or policies

We note Bulgaria's progress made in reducing energy sector emissions where, like the UK, fuel switching from coal to gas has been an impactful measure. Please could Bulgaria expand on whether they have a long-term policy or strategy to reduce fossil fuel reliance across all sectors?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

Bulgaria's Integrated National Climate and Energy Plan until 2030, has been developed in accordance with the requirements laid down in Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 and officially submitted to the EC at the beginning of the 2020.

It sets out the main objectives and measures for the implementation of Bulgaria's national energy and climate policies in the context of EU law, and the principles and priorities for energy sector development for the period 2021-2030.

The objectives set out in the INECP are as follows:

- promoting low-carbon economic development;
- developing a competitive and secure energy sector;
- reducing dependence on fuel and energy imports;
- ensuring that energy is available at affordable prices to all consumers.

The national energy priorities can be summarised as follows:

- increasing energy security and diversifying the supply of energy resources;
- developing an integrated and competitive energy market;
- using and developing energy from renewable sources based on available resources, network capacity and country specifics;
- enhancing energy efficiency by developing and implementing new technologies for a modern and sustainable energy sector;
- consumer protection by ensuring fair, transparent and non-discriminatory conditions for the use of energy services.

In addition to the Integrated National Climate and Energy Plan until 2030, Bulgaria has prepared the Long-term strategy (LTS) in order to achieve the goal for climate neutrality by 2050, identifying the main decarbonisation vectors in all sectors of the economy, the policy and measures options and the emission reduction path to achieve this end, in different scenarios. All sectors must contribute to reducing emissions, increasing efficiency and innovation, promoting improvements, notably in buildings, agriculture, waste management and industry, with the energy system making the greatest contribution, particularly as regards electricity generation and transport. Currently, the LTS are on the final stage of the approval on the national level before submitted officially to EC.

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Question by New Zealand at Thursday, 01 April 2021

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Third National Action Plan on Climate Change

Could an update please be provided on the impact of the Third National Action Plan on Climate Change (2013-2020)?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

In 2017, the official report, approved by the Council of Ministers, has been published with the results of the implementation of the policies and measures from the Third National Action Plan on Climate Change for the period 2013-2017. The report could be found on the link: <https://www.moew.government.bg/en/national-action-plans-on-climate-change-and-reports/>.

The final report on the impact of the of the Third National Action Plan on Climate Change for the whole period 2013-2020 will be prepared and approved until the end of the 2021.

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Question by New Zealand at Thursday, 01 April 2021

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Convention on Wetlands under the Biological Diversity Act

Could an update please be provided on implementation and progress towards the restoration and sustainable management of wetlands, and the protection and preservation of wetlands in forest areas through the Convention on Wetlands under the Biological Diversity Act?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

During the reporting period, within the procedure BG16M1OP002-3.015 "Implementation of priority measures in wetlands" under priority axis 3 of OPE 2014-2020, the following 4 projects are implemented:

- Management of succession processes and improvement of the quality of the habitats of protected species in the wetland "Srebarna" - 8 532 373 lv.;
- Improvement of the water regime and management of the succession processes in wetlands of international importance "Ropotamo Complex", "Poda Area" and Lake Vaya - 8 427 161 lv.;
- Implementation of priority measures in Ramsar site "Belenski Islands Complex", Persina Nature Park - 1 660 382 lv.;
- Activities for improving the condition of wetlands Durankulak Lake and Shabla Lake - 2 297 435 lv.

All four projects are expected to be completed in 2024.

All the information on the projects could be found on the link:

<http://2020.eufunds.bg/en/6/0/Project/Search?ProjectRegNum=XuPd2%2BfFfom6iiq%2F%2BBWLF5FjZgUWGHkH&ShowRes=True&IsProgrammeSelected=False&IsRegionSelected=False>

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Question by New Zealand at Thursday, 01 April 2021

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: LULUCF sector mitigation actions

Numerous mitigation actions for the LULUCF sector are listed in the policies and measures summary table encouraging afforestation, reforestation, forest management and restoration. However, removals from Forest Land under both the WEM and WAM scenarios are projected to decline out to 2030, could further details please be provided on why this is and how Bulgaria intends to manage this decline?

Answer by Bulgaria, Monday, 31 May 2021

The main reasons for the overall decrease of the uptakes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Forest Land category are 1) the increase in harvesting and 2) the increase of the average age of the forest stands.

Bulgarian forests are managed in accordance with forest management plans and programmes which provide guidance on management and set the quantity of wood from forests to be used over a period of 10 years ahead. The design of forestry plans and programmes follows the principles of sustainable forest management. Therefore, the future mitigation actions in the forestry sector should implement the active forest management and a rejuvenation of the forest.

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Question by New Zealand at Thursday, 01 April 2021

Category: Assumptions, conditions and methodologies related to the attainment of its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

Type: Before 05 April

Title: Emissions pricing

In its report, Bulgaria notes that emissions are priced through measures such as the EU ETS and the EU energy taxation directive. Does Bulgaria plan to introduce any other forms of emissions pricing, such as border carbon adjustments?

As the EU member state, Bulgaria will follow the EU policy in order to implement effective carbon pricing throughout the economy, as it is introduced in the Communication of the European Green Deal. Currently, the new carbon pricing mechanisms (as border carbon adjustments) are under development.

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Session closes at 01-06-2021

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