

## Session SBI60 (2024)

Session starts: 01-03-2024 00:00:00 [GMT+1]

Session ends: 05-06-2024 23:30:00 [GMT+1]



## Multilateral Assessment

A compilation of questions to – and answers by – **Romania**  
exported on 05-06-2024 by the UNFCCC secretariat

Question by New Zealand at Thursday, 04 April 2024

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

Type: Before 04 April

Title: Incentive for scrapping older vehicles

In its NC8 and BR5 Romania reported that emissions from transport have increased by 65% between 1989 and 2020. New Zealand is interested in Romania's national programme for scrapping used vehicles, a planned policy in the transport sector. We understand this was due to be launched in 2023.

Is Romania able to provide further information about the national program for scrapping used vehicles, including the degree of uptake of the allowance, the numbers of vehicles scrapped, the proportion this is of the vehicle fleet, and the total cost of the subsidy? We would also be interested in any information on whether the policy will continue or of any planned changes.

Answer by Romania

Thank you for this question. Please find attached the Romania's answer.

Attachment: Incentive for scrapping older vehicles .pdf

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Question by New Zealand at Thursday, 04 April 2024

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

Type: Before 04 April

Title: Impact of labour migration

Romania's NC8 noted that the number of Romanians who emigrated abroad in 2018, 2019 and 2020 varied between 192,631 and 233,736 people (which represented approximately 1% of Romania's population). It explains that population migration has a negative influence on economic activity because the majority of people going abroad for work are young and active people.

New Zealand noted that the Romania's emissions projection scenarios use the same population projections, and the sensitivity analysis also uses the same population assumptions. We would be interested to learn whether Romania has considered other scenarios, such as a return of many migrants or increased immigration from other countries?

**Answer by** Romania

Thank you very much. In response to your question, we did not consider different scenarios regarding the evolution of the country's population for this projection exercise. We also think that a such approach would offer different and interesting perspectives from GHG projections point of view. We will try to take this approach into consideration for future submissions.

Nevertheless, following the census conducted in 2021, the National Institute for Statistics published the final results in May of last year. According to this publication, the population of Romania as of December 1, 2021 is 19,053,815 inhabitants, which differs from 19,167,000 reported in BR5 & NC8 for the same year, as a preliminary figure. This confirms that the decreasing trend continues. However, both the counted and the projected population numbers include all persons with Romanian citizenship, foreigners and stateless individuals who have their usual residence in Romania. Usual residence is the place where a person typically spends their daily rest period, excluding temporary absences for recreation, holidays, visits to friends and relatives, business, medical treatment or religious pilgrimages. Habitual residence may coincide with one's domicile or may differ, especially in cases where individuals choose to establish their habitual residence in a location other than their official domicile either within the country or abroad. Only persons who have lived in their usual residence for an uninterrupted period of at least 12 months prior the reference moment are considered to have their habitual residence in a specific geographical area. It should be noted, in close connection with the above question, that the resident population includes people who immigrated to Romania, but excludes people who emigrated from the country.

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**Question by** United States of America at Friday, 29 March 2024

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

**Type:** Before 04 April

**Title:** EU goal

The report does not note new domestic legislation or other policies to achieve the EU goal to reduce emissions 55% by 2030. How does Romania plan to achieve the EU goal?

**Answer by Romania**

Thank you for your question. At the page 122 of Romania 's 8th National Communication report, the section Planned policies and measures indicates the actions that are planned to be implemented at national level in line with the EU's Fit for 55 legislative package. During the development of BR5 & NC8, the components of the Fit for 55 package were still under discussion.

These policies and measures (PaMs) were included in the 'With Additional Measures' (WAM) scenario. The specified section of the NC8 explains how the revised Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR), under the new EU legislative framework, increased the EU's GHG emissions reduction target for non-ETS sectors from 29% to 40%, compared to 2005. This regulation also updated the objectives at the Member States' (MSs) level. For Romania, the target was raised from -2% to -12.7% by 2030, compared to 2005. Additionally, the revised LULUCF Regulation sets individual targets for MSs in the LULUCF sector. Thus, by 2030, Romania is projected to achieve GHG removals totalling - 25,665 kt of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

In 2023, subsequent to submission of the BR5 & NC8, the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament formally adopted all the essential components of the legislative framework required to implement the "Fit for 55" initiative. Details on policies relevant to the implementation of the NDC have been reviewed in light of the adoption of the "Fit for 55" legislative framework. The respective updates are included in the EU's submission of its revised NDC, which also contains details necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) as applicable to EU's NDC. Please also refer to the updated EU NDC, submitted by EU in October 2023, by accessing the link:  
<https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2023-10/ES-2023-10-17%20EU%20submission%20NDC%20update.pdf>.

In November 2023, the climate neutrality goal has been established through Romania's Long-Term Strategy, that has been approved by the Government Decision 1215/2023. The national objectives outlined in the Long-Term Strategy (LTS) and the Fit for 55 legislative package will be implemented at national level through the policies and measures included in the revised National Energy and Climate Plans (NECP) having the finalization deadline the end of June 2030. All relevant institutions are involved in discussion on the most appropriate PaMs that will achieve the national targets and contribute to the common European goals. The NECP will also undergo the Strategic Environmental Assessment procedure. This process involves the contributions and consultations with all stakeholders and civil society regarding the environmental impact of the proposed NECP PaMs. It aims to ensure the implementation methods do not harm the environment and preserve its integrity.

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**Question by** United States of America at Friday, 29 March 2024

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 04 April

**Title:** LULUCF removal

LULUCF removals appear to help compensate for a portion of total GHG emissions every year in Romania. Does Romania have long term plans to increase protected forest lands or reclaim agricultural land for afforestation?

**Answer by** Romania

Not answered

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**Question by** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Thursday, 28 March 2024

**Category:** All emissions and removals related to its quantified economy-wide emission reduction target

**Type:** Before 04 April

**Title:** Question to Romania on their National Strategy for Sustainable Development

Thank you, Romania for the opportunity to comment on your 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Report and 8<sup>th</sup> National Communication. In your “National Strategy for Sustainable Development” you aim to ensure food security and food safety by promoting sustainable production models. Can you please share lessons learned on how you worked with local farmers and industry leaders to help plan and implement this policy?

**Answer by** Romania

Thank you for your question. In accordance with the National Strategy for the Sustainable Development of Romania 2030, which proposes a phased transition to a new development

model, by introducing elements of the circular economy, increasing resource productivity, reducing food waste and waste, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR), in accordance with the specific legal prerogatives and with the priority objective of ensuring food security, elaborates and implements policies to ensure the full and efficient exploitation of the national agri-food potential.

Romania confirmed, together with the other member states of the European Union (EU), as well as the member states of the United Nations (UN), the commitment regarding the reduction with 50% of food waste by 2030, provided for in the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, adopted at the UN summit in New York in September 2015.

The assumption of this commitment was materialized in the registration of Romania among the first EU member states that established the legal framework for the achievement of this major objective (objective 12.3 of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development), by adopting, in 2016, the legal framework specific to the prevention and reduction of waste food. The process of developing and adopting the legal framework was based on the consultation and sustained dialogue with economic operators, with the business environment, with representative entities of the agri-food sector.

The regulation of measures to prevent and reduce food waste considered the implementation of the principle of economic circularity in the activity of economic operators, an intrinsic component of the concept of sustainable development.

The approval and financing of some projects that have food waste as main theme, within the MADR Sectoral Plan for Research & Development, are indicated below:

- ADER Project 15.1.1. "The socio-economic impact of food waste at the national level in the current context of crises related to food security and climate change", within the Sectoral Plan 2019-2022.
- ADER Project 18.1.2 - "Methods to reduce food waste in the agri-food chain, at the national level, in order to prevent and reduce the socio-economic impact, until 2030", within the Sectoral Plan 2023-2026.
- ADER Project 17.1.1 - "Research on the evolution of the food waste phenomenon at the national level, from the perspective of Romania's commitment to meeting the objective of sustainable development"; MADR's concern for the development and support of research in the agri-food sector is in line with the EU's interest in the development and support of research and innovation programs that have a role as a catalyst for competitiveness, economic growth and sustainable investments.

In accordance with the specific legal prerogatives, MADR undertakes, in addition to legislative measures, also specific non-legislative actions and measures, with the aim of raising the population's awareness of the negative effects of food waste, as well as changing the consumption behaviour of consumers, which consist of:

- conducting consumer information and awareness campaigns, the effects of which can be seen throughout the entire agri-food chain and which will contribute to the achievement of global objectives regarding the reduction of food waste;
- the conclusion of collaboration/partnership protocols with public authorities/institutions, as well as with entities from the agri-food sector/business environment regarding the running of consumer information and education campaigns, aimed at increasing awareness of the impact of food waste from the point of view of economic, social and environmental view;
- concluding an agreement with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the use, within the information and education programs, of an educational package published in 2019, called: "Do Good: Save Food! Educating future generations for a world with zero food waste!", which comprises four books, by age groups, namely 5-7 years, 8-9 years, 10-13 years, 14+ years. These educational materials are intended for use in consumer information and education campaigns in pre-university education units.
- the realization by MADR, in collaboration with the Department for Sustainable Development within the General Secretariat of the Government, of an advertising spot with an anti-food waste message, broadcast by private television stations and published on the European Union Platform on food waste and waste;
- running, on the occasion of the "International Food Waste Awareness Day (IDAFW)", on September 29 of each year, an information and education campaign for consumers, aimed at drawing attention to the seriousness of the dimensions of food waste.

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**Question by** Australia at Thursday, 28 March 2024

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

**Type:** Before 04 April

**Title:** Q1

Romania's *Sustainable Development Strategy 2030* includes an action to establish extended producer responsibility schemes for all types of packaging by 2024 (NC8 pg. 139). **Can Romania provide an update on the status of this measure?**

**Answer by** Romania

Thank you for this question. Please find attached the Romania's answer.

Attachment: Status of establish extended producer responsibility schemes for all types of packaging by 2024.pdf

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Session SBI60 (2024)  
Session closed at 05-06-2024  
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