

Session SECONDMA2021 (2021)

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A compilation of questions to - and answers by - Romania [exported on 30-10-2021] by the UNFCCC secretariat

[Question by](#) United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Tuesday, 31 August 2021

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

[Type:](#) Before 31 August

[Title:](#) Input data for GHG emission projections

We thank the Romania for the opportunity to comment on the Fourth Biennial Report. Romania's Fourth Biennial Report notes that there were some challenges in preparing GHG emission projections for 2018-2040 and that further effort will be required to improve the quality of the input data used to develop these projections in future reporting. Can you tell us more about your plans to address these challenges in the next Biennial Report and any advice you would give to other Parties facing similar challenges?

[Answer by](#) Romania, Tuesday, 26 October 2021

Thank you for your question. As Romania reported in its Fourth Biennial Report, there are changes in domestic institutional arrangements since BR3 that already improved the activity for domestic compliance, monitoring, reporting, archiving of information, through some new legislative acts. These legislative documents were adopted in 2019 and they provide the necessary arrangements at national level to implement the above activities and to elaborate the reports on policies and measures and GHG emission/removal projections, as well as to submit them to the EU institutions and UNFCCC secretariat.

These arrangements are, as follows:

- The Government Decision no. 267 of 24.04.2019 establishing the implementation of the National System for Reporting of Policies and Measures and Projections of anthropogenic GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks by the national central authority responsible with climate change. This G.D. establishes the legal, institutional and procedural framework for collecting the necessary data to fulfil the reporting obligations assumed by Romania at European and international level, in accordance with the provisions of the Energy Governance Regulation (EU) no. 2018/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The National System assures the appropriate organisational framework to collect and properly process the data and information necessary for elaboration of Policies and Measures and Projections reports, including the implementation of a plan for quality assurance and control, as well as archiving all data and submitting the reports to EU and international institutions.

- The Government Decision 590/2019 provides the administration of the LULUCF sector in respect of Policies and Measures and Projections of the GHG emissions/removals related to this sector. For more details on the functioning of the institutional arrangements please refer to the chapter 3.4 of the BR4.

We consider that by having in place and implementing the appropriate institutional arrangements would support any Party to comply with its obligations under UNFCCC and Paris Agreement provisions regarding to the GHG emission projections.

Question by Japan at Monday, 30 August 2021

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: National support programme for vineyards and wine producers

"National support programme for vineyards and wine producers for 2019 - 2023" is mentioned in the BR4. What are important points in the context of climate change about restructuring of vineyards and wine producers?

In addition, are there any useful findings in relation to mitigation such as carbon sequestration and/or adaptation available in this sector?

Answer by Romania, Tuesday, 26 October 2021

Before 1989, in Romania the agricultural sector was part of a centralized economy, without private property. After 1990, in Romania, the vineyards came under the administration of rightful owners, small farmers, private properties, etc. Significant areas of vineyards have been replaced by crops, usually annual. The vineyards are part of the subcategory Cropland perennial use, and for LULUCF sector this category represents an important carbon sink, respectively a method of limiting climate change. "National program to support vineyards and wine producers for 2019-2023" mentioned in BR4 is a joint program of the Romanian authorities and the European Parliament and the Council, part of the CAP, common agricultural policies at the EU level over the last decade, which propose to adapt the sector to the continuing challenges of climate change.

- Restructuring of vineyards - it means replacing old plantations with new varieties that will perform despite of the challenges caused by climate change.

- The new vineyards established by this program will operate in accordance with the rules of cross-compliance, a joined mechanism in the field of environment, public health, animals and plants. Cross-compliance includes Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition and Statutory Management Requirements, and as mandatory it must ensure:

- (i) to prevent soil erosion by defining minimum soil cover and minimum land management practices; (ii) maintain soil organic matter and soil structure; (iii) protect biodiversity.

Question by New Zealand at Friday, 27 August 2021

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: Agriculture

1. Table 3 of BR4 describes potential methane mitigations in the form of improved livestock management, improved animal waste management, and reduction of fertilizer/manure use on cropland. Could Romania please provide more details on estimated emissions reductions from these mitigations?
2. Romania specifies a programme providing payments for agro-environmental and climate commitments under its third 'promoting best practices in agriculture' objective. Could more information please be provided on this programme, including how it is implemented and the guiding principles for what constitutes a climate commitment?
3. Improving livestock and manure management is noted as one mitigation action for agricultural emissions. Can more information be provided on this, including how the voluntary agreements were set up, what organisations were involved in addition to the farmers' association, the main objective of the plan, and the estimated potential impact on emissions?

Answer by Romania, Tuesday, 26 October 2021

1. Table 3 of BR4 describes potential methane mitigations in the form of improved livestock management, improved animal waste management, and reduction of fertilizer/manure use on cropland. Could Romania please provide more details on estimated emissions reductions from these mitigations?

Answer by Romania

For Agriculture sector, the estimated total effect of PAMs until 2040 was calculated for the group of PAMs, by considering the difference between the GHG emissions in WEM and WAM scenarios.

This approach was used mainly due to the lack of information related to the effects of individual PAM, the interaction among several PAMs and also the difficulty of estimation the effect of multi-sectoral policy.

For details related the assumptions considered for WAM scenario and estimated potential impact on CH₄ emissions, please see BR4 (chapter 5.10 and Table 87).

2. Romania specifies a programme providing payments for agro-environmental and climate commitments under its third 'promoting best practices in agriculture' objective.

Could more information please be provided on this programme, including how it is implemented and the guiding principles for what constitutes a climate commitment?

Answer by Romania

In order to avoid the negative side effects of certain agricultural practices, the EU through sustained policies from European funds for agriculture and rural development, offers Member States the opportunity granting compensatory payments to farmers providing public services through adopting environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

The environmental and climate measures included in the National Rural Development Program 2014-2020 for permanent natural and semi-natural meadows, extensively used traditional orchards and arable land, promotes an agriculture that involves avoiding or limiting the use of heavy machinery and avoidance of excessive use of chemical fertilizers along with the application of traditional agricultural techniques.

The measures included in the National Rural Development Program 2014- 2020, receiving agro-environmental payments, that could lead to GHG emissions reductions, are the following:

- M10 - Agro-environment and climate: for meadows with high natural value, important meadows for birds and important meadows for butterflies, the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides is prohibited; the traditional use of manure is allowed in specified quantities;
- M11 - Organic farming: conversion to organic farming methods and maintaining organic farming practices.

For details related measures listed above, please see the information available on Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, <https://www.madr.ro/pndr-2014-2020/implementare-pndr-2014-2020/masuri-de-meniu-si-clima/masuri-de-meniu-si-clima-2021.html>

3. Improving livestock and manure management is noted as one mitigation action for agricultural emissions. Can more information be provided on this, including how the voluntary agreements were set up, what organisations were involved in addition to the farmers' association, the main objective of the plan, and the estimated potential impact on emissions?

Answer by Romania

The PaM "Improving livestock and manure management" represents additional measures

assumed to be implemented in **WAM scenario**, as voluntary agreements. No further information are available at this moment related to the establishing of the voluntary agreements or the involved organisations. If available, in the next BR Romania will include the progress in this area.

For details related the assumptions considered for this measure and estimated potential impact on GHG emissions, please see BR4 (chapter 5.10 - Table 87, Table 88).

Question by New Zealand at Friday, 27 August 2021

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

Type: Before 31 August

Title: LULUCF

1. New Zealand is interested to understand more about the increase in GHG removals in the LULUCF sector since 1990. Could further detail please be provided on the principal drivers for this increase in removals?

Answer by Romania, Tuesday, 26 October 2021

Please find below several details related to the drivers that have impacted the estimation of the GHG emission/removals generated by the specific activities within the LULUCF sector, on the 1989-2018 period:

A. Activity Data (kha) were developed by using the information provided by the National Forestry Inventory cycle II, but also statistical information from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, respectively from the National Institute of Statistics, linearly interpolated and extrapolated;

B. At EU and national level were adopted and implemented policies and measures with medium and long-term impact on the sector, such as:

(i) Regulation (EU) no. 1305/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 - which has as key objectives: (a) conservation of carbon in existing forests, intensification of production in existing forests, (b) increasing the supply of harvested forest products, (c) improving forest management, (d) preventing deforestation, (e) strengthening protection against. Mitigation actions aimed at limiting emissions from agriculture and forestry, generated by key activities such as animal production and fertilizer use, as well as

the conservation of carbon sinks and the intensification of carbon sequestration activity in terms of land use, land use change and forestry;

(ii) National Forestry Strategy 2018-2027 - Harmonization of forest functions with current and future requirements through sustainable management of national forest resources;

(iii) National Rural Development Program (NRDP) (2014-2020);

C. Development of the country specific parameters for the carbon pools, which gradually led to the revising of the emission/removal estimations on the time series for an increased accuracy of the estimations;

D. Research-development studies led to the determination of organic soil/ mineral soil surfaces for each of the land use categories.



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UNFCCC - LAST PAGE OF EXPORT