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Facilitative, Multilateral Consideration of Progress

A compilation of questions to – and answers by – **Serbia**
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Title: Progress of the system for monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gases

Question From Party: European Union

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: Progress towards/achievement of the NDC

Question: The European Union notes the introduction of a ‘e GHG platform’ for the issuance of permits, starting in 2024, for installations emitting greenhouse gases. These installations are obligated to hold permits in accordance with Article 29 of Serbia’s Law on climate change. The European Union similarly notes the policy ‘M-1’ in the energy sector for these permits to become the basis of an emissions trading scheme. Can Serbia please provide an update on the progress of this policy and the scheme, in addition, explain how the 'e GHG platform' is used to inform Serbia’s national GHG inventory and broader monitoring, reporting and verification work and also how it supports tracking progress towards Serbia’s NDC?

Answer:

Regarding the integration of the e-GHG platform with the national GHG inventory and broader monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) activities, Serbia can provide the following update:

Plant operators report their greenhouse gas emissions through the e-GHG platform, while the activities covered by this reporting are also relevant to the corresponding IPCC categories used for national GHG inventory purposes. This ensures that data collected at the installation level corresponds directly with the sectors required for national inventory reporting.

Since emission calculations within the GHG Inventory are performed using standardized Excel templates, the Serbian Environmental Protection Agency can easily extract high-quality, granular data from verified annual emission reports, including fuel consumption quantities, net calorific values, emission factors and other relevant parameters.

Access to this primary, installation-level data allows the national inventory team to perform secondary calculations and cross-check the figures. This provides an additional layer of quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) for the national GHG inventory.

In addition, verified installation-level data can support the monitoring of progress towards Serbia’s NDC by providing information on emission trends in key emitting sectors. It can also contribute to monitoring the effects and contribution of individual policies and measures, particularly carbon pricing, by enabling changes in emissions from installations covered by the carbon pricing framework to be tracked over time.

Title: NDC scope - LULUCF sector

Question From Party: European Union

Question raised on: 09.09.2026 CEST

Question Category: NDC target (e.g. conditions, assumptions, methodologies)

Question: The European Union notes, in Section 3.5 and 3.6 of Serbia's first BTR, that the Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) sector is excluded from Serbia's NDC. Serbia inform in Section 3.6, Page 43, 'Serbia's choice to focus on total GHG emissions ensures that the country can accurately measure and report its overall climate impact, excluding the LULUCF sector, thereby allowing for straightforward tracking of its mitigation efforts across multiple sectors.' Could Serbia share the challenges and lessons learnt with improving GHG inventory data in the LULUCF sector? Also, what are the current policies and measures with the most significant impact?

Answer:

Regarding the challenges related to the LULUCF sector, Serbia's 2035 NDC target is expressed as an economy-wide GHG emission reduction target excluding LULUCF. This approach reflects, among other considerations, the remaining methodological and data-related challenges in the sector, particularly regarding the consistent identification and tracking of land-use changes.

At present, the LULUCF inventory still relies to a significant extent on Corine Land Cover data. While this provides an important basis for identifying land-use categories and changes, further improvements are needed in terms of spatial and temporal resolution, consistency of time series and the availability of country-specific activity data. Work is therefore ongoing to improve the use of Corine-based information and to develop more accurate and nationally appropriate datasets and methodologies.

At the same time, Serbia is working on the alignment and transposition of the EU LULUCF Regulation into the national legal and institutional framework. This process is expected to further strengthen data collection arrangements, institutional responsibilities, accounting methodologies and monitoring of emissions and removals from the sector.

An important lesson learned is that improvement of the LULUCF inventory cannot be achieved solely through methodological development. It requires sustained cooperation among institutions responsible for forestry, agriculture, land-use data, geospatial information and the national GHG inventory. Further capacity building improved institutional arrangements and access to higher-resolution national data will therefore remain priorities.

Regarding the achievement of Serbia's NDC target, the most significant contribution is expected from policies and measures in the energy sector, which is the largest source of national GHG emissions. Key measures include the accelerated deployment of renewable energy sources, energy-efficiency improvements and investments, as well as the gradual introduction of carbon pricing.