

# Adaptation preparedness scoreboard:

## Summary for Romania

### Disclaimer

Based on the scoreboard in Commission Staff Working Document SWD(2018)460 accompanying the evaluation of the EU's strategy for adaptation to climate change. For referencing this Commission analysis from June 2018, please use the full version in the SWD.

### SUMMARY

#### Overall progress

Climate change adaptation in Romania is currently in the implementation phase. Eleven of the scoreboard indicators – mainly related to the existence of coordination structures, stakeholders' involvement in policy development, risk and vulnerability assessments, and the identification of adaptation options – have a positive score. Eight indicators are assessed as being 'in progress'. Eleven indicators receive a negative assessment. They include several indicators related to implementation and all of the scoreboard indicators related to monitoring and evaluation of adaptation activities.

#### Adaptation strategies

The National Climate Change and Low Carbon Green Growth Strategy (2016-2030)<sup>1</sup>, covering both mitigation and adaptation, was adopted in 2016. It updates and extends the previous National strategy on tackling climate change 2013-2020<sup>2</sup> adopted in 2013.

At sub-national level, adaptation strategies have been developed by three municipalities: Braşov, Sibiu and Târgu Mureş (covering about 3% of the population of Romania).

#### Adaptation action plans

A National Climate Action Plan<sup>3</sup> with a distinct adaptation component was adopted in 2016.

At sub-national level, climate adaptation plans were developed by three municipalities referred to above: Sibiu, Târgu Mureş and Braşov.

We could not find information on the existence of separate sectoral adaptation plans. However, the 2016-2030 National Climate Change and Low Carbon Growth Strategy and the 2016-2020 National Climate Action Plan include a series of sectoral adaptation actions

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<sup>1</sup> Strategia naţională privind schimbările climatice și creșterea economică bazată pe emisii reduse de carbon pentru perioada 2016-2030 [National Climate Change and Low Carbon Green Growth Strategy 2016-2020], Annex 1 to Government Decision 739/2016, URL: <http://www.mmediu.ro/categorie/strategia-nationala-privind-schimbarile-climatice-rezumat/171>

<sup>2</sup> Ministerul Mediului și Schimbărilor Climatice, 2013, Strategia națională a României privind schimbările climatice 2013 – 2020, URL: [http://www.mmediu.ro/beta/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/2013-10-01\\_SNSC.pdf](http://www.mmediu.ro/beta/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/2013-10-01_SNSC.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Planul național de acțiune pentru implementarea Strategiei naționale privind schimbările climatice și creșterea economică bazată pe emisii reduse de carbon pentru perioada 2016-2030 [National action plan for the implementation of the National Climate Change and Low Carbon Green Growth Strategy 2016-2020], Annex 2 to Government Decision 739/2016, URL: <http://www.mmediu.ro/categorie/strategia-nationala-privind-schimbarile-climatice-rezumat/171>

for the following priority sectors: industry; agriculture and rural development; tourism and recreational activities; public health; human environment, infrastructure and urbanism; transport; drinking water and water resources; forestry; energy; biodiversity; insurance; education.

## **Step A: Preparing the ground for adaptation**

### **1 Coordination structure**

The Ministry of Environment<sup>4</sup> is the central body responsible for coordinating the adaptation policy-making process, strategies and actions.

As regards horizontal coordination, a National Commission for Climate Change (NCCC) was established to ensure inter-ministerial coordination with respect to climate change objectives. A working group composed of representatives from relevant ministries has also been set up and has held several consultations regarding the implementation of the national action plan. These included consultations with municipalities (vertical coordination).

### **2 Stakeholders' involvement in policy development**

A stakeholder consultation process took place during the development of the 2016-2030 Strategy and 2016-2020 Action Plan. The first version of the 2016-2030 Strategy was also subject to a public consultation.

Transboundary cooperation has so far included participation in transnational projects related to adaptation, as well as activities facilitated by the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, such as joint planning, sharing of best practices and joint capacity building.

## **Step B: Assessing risks and vulnerabilities to climate change**

### **3 Current and projected climate change**

The Romanian National Meteorological Administration monitors meteorological parameters and extreme weather events, while the National Administration Romanian Waters is responsible for monitoring surface water, ground water and its quality.

Climate projections for Romania were obtained through statistical and dynamic downscaling methods, applied to global and regional climate models, based on IPCC AR4 emissions scenario A1B. Results from numerical experiments with a combination of models under different scenarios have also been analysed to provide information on climate change over the Romanian territory.<sup>5</sup>

Impact and vulnerability assessments were carried out for six sectors: water, agriculture, forestry, energy, urban, and transport.

With the exception of flood risk, we found no indication that risk and vulnerability assessments consider transboundary risks.

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<sup>4</sup> See: <http://www.mmediu.ro/>

<sup>5</sup> Bojariu R, Bîrsan MV, Cică R, Velea L, Burcea S, Dumitrescu A, Dascălu SI, Gothard M, Dobrinescu A, Cărbunaru F, Marin L,, 2015, Climate change – from physical basis to risks and adaptation (in Romanian with abstract in English), Editor Printech, Bucharest, 200 p, ISBN: 978606-23-0363-1, DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.1.1341.0729, URL: <http://www.meteoromania.ro/anm/images/clima/SchimbariClimatice2014.pdf>

#### **4 Knowledge gaps**

Knowledge gaps regarding climate change impacts on the water sector, flood risk management, and the energy sector were identified in the 2016-2030 strategy, but information could not be found on the processes in place for prioritising and addressing such gaps.

#### **5 Knowledge transfer**

Adaptation-relevant information is provided on the website of the National Meteorological Administration and the Ministry of Environment. It includes brief information on the adaptation policy framework and links to the national strategy and action plan. Vulnerability and risk assessments and adaptation tools are not the subject of specific sections on these websites. Several projects with capacity-building components have recently been conducted in Romania.

### **Step C: Identifying adaptation options**

#### **6 Adaptation options' identification**

The national action plan proposes adaptation options for 12 sectors: industry; agriculture and rural development; tourism and recreational activities; public health; human environment, infrastructure and urbanism; transport; drinking water and water resources; forestry; energy; biodiversity; insurance; education.

Mechanisms are not yet in place to coordinate disaster risk management and climate change adaptation.

#### **7 Funding resources identified and allocated**

Adaption actions are financed through the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF). By 2017, EUR 639 million had been disbursed to ESIF-funded projects linked to the European thematic objective "promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management". The National Action Plan indicates that adaptation would also be financed through national and local funding sources, but information could not be found on expenditure from such sources.

### **Step D: Implementing adaptation action**

#### **8 Mainstreaming adaptation in planning processes**

New draft legislation on environmental impact assessments includes adaptation considerations, but is yet to be formally adopted by Parliament. Disaster risk analyses take into account climate projections. Adaptation is yet to be mainstreamed in land use, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies. However, the national action plan foresees a number of actions related to these sectors and the national Territorial Development Strategy mentions measures related to climate change adaptation. Adaptation considerations have been integrated in sectoral strategies on rural development and flood risk management and in the National Sustainable Development Strategy. Adaptation has not yet been mainstreamed in insurance policies.

#### **9 Implementing adaptation**

Some adaptation actions are being implemented, e.g. at sectoral level for agriculture, water management, and flood risk management, or at local level regarding coastal erosion, flood protection or analysis of climate change impacts.

Information regarding specific cooperation mechanisms to support implementation at sub-national level could not be found; nor could we identify any procedures or guidelines issued by the Romanian authorities for assessing the impact of climate change on major projects or programmes and for facilitating their adaptation.

Specific mechanisms for ensuring the involvement of stakeholders in implementation were also not identified.

## **Step E: Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation activities**

### **10 Monitoring and reporting**

Reports on the implementation of the NAS/NAP have so far not been published, and there appears to be no system in place for monitoring the integration of climate change adaptation in sectoral policies. No information on reporting by sub-national administrations is available.

### **11 Evaluation**

The new 2016-2030 climate change strategy does not contain any provisions regarding its review. The actions foreseen by the national action plan are intended to be evaluated after 2020. Information could not be found on the involvement of stakeholders in monitoring and evaluation of national adaptation policy.