



Title: How green are the national recovery plans?

A cross-check of 10 draft National Recovery and Resilience Plans and their National Energy & Climate Plans

Date: Tuesday 23 March, 10h00-13h00

Platform: ZOOM

Concept

By 30 April, Member States will have to submit their final National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs) to the European Commission in order to unlock the biggest investment plan in Europe's history. The EU will restart its economy under the greatest green stimulus ever seen, with 37% of the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) allocated to the European Green Deal and 30% of the Multiannual Financial Framework dedicated to climate.

Drafts of the NRRPs have already been sent by most Member States to the European Commission which has provided initial feedback. However, the level of detail of most draft plans is varied and not all the information is made publicly available by the governments.

On 18 December 2020, EU institutions reached an agreement on the RRF which will be the main new instrument to channel the funds of the Next Generation EU Recovery Package. The final text adopted has complemented the original proposal made by the European Commission with important provisions tackling five key aspects: **green dimension, climate tracking methodology, "do no significant harm" principle, consistency with other initiatives and consultation process.**

Member States will have to ensure that reforms and investments contained in their Recovery Plans contribute to the green transition including biodiversity. The RRF has also established that it shall only support measures respecting the "do no significant harm" (DNSH) principle. Member States are required to provide a summary of the consultation process carried out with a broad range of stakeholders, including civil society, local and regional authorities and youth organisations, and explain how the inputs of the stakeholders are reflected in the plan. Member States are also required to justify the various criteria and provide an explanation on how their Recovery Plan is consistent with other relevant plans and funds, in particular: National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) and Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes.

While these provisions are now enshrined in law, there are several bottlenecks which threaten their full implementation:

- clarity on the application of the green dimension and the climate tracking methodology, where substantial discretion and flexibility might generate unwanted loopholes and ineffective spending
- lack of time to carry out proper assessments ensuring effective compliance with all the five dimensions
- synergies with other initiative such as Partnership Agreements which have a different timespan than the Recovery Plan
- different national legal frameworks regulating the public consultation processes which would not guarantee the same conditions for the participation of stakeholders and the public
- the fact that National Energy and Climate Plans will only be reviewed by 2023

Together with representatives of national civil society organisations we are going to analyze the National Recovery Plans of 10 Member States.

We will focus on the link between the national Recovery Plans and the current National Energy & Climate Plans (NECPs) and in three sectors which are important to achieve **the national GHG emissions binding targets under the Effort Sharing regulation**: transport, building and agriculture. We will also discuss whether fiscal measures, such as carbon taxes, are being considered by governments to contribute to environmental ambition.

Participants include the NGO community (both EU and national), local and regional authorities and EU institutions (European Commission, Permanent Representations to the EU, European Parliament).

Draft Agenda

Introduction

10h00 Barbara Mariani, EEB

10h05 Agnese Ruggiero, Carbon Market Watch

Keynote speaker

10h10 Timon Wehnert, Wuppertal Institute

10h25 Mario Rajn, Mayor of Krizevci (Croatia) and board member of Energy Cities

10.35 Overview of 10 draft National Recovery Plans and discussion (5 minutes each intervention + 5 minutes for questions and comments after each intervention)

10.35 Slovenia: Umanotera (Andrej Gnezda)

10.45 Hungary: CAAG (Andras Lukács)

10.55 Latvia: Green Liberty (Jānis Brizga)

11.05 Poland: Polish Green Network (Izabela Zygmunt)

11.15 Italy: Legambiente (Edoardo Zanchini)

11.25 Break (10 min)

11.45 Bulgaria: EPI- Economic Policy Institute (Yasen Georgiev and Petko Kovachev)

11.55 Czech Republic: CDE - Centre for Transport and Energy (Jana Maussen)

12.05 Spain: ECODES (Monica Vidal)

12.15 Austria: Umweltbuero (Bernhard Zlanabitnig)

12.15 Portugal: ZERO (Francisco Ferreira)

12.35 Q&A (25 min)

12.50 **Wrap up and closing:** Patrick ten Brink, EEB Vice-Secretary General and EU Policy Director

You can already register here: <https://eeb.org/how-green-are-the-national-recovery-plans-23-march-webinar/>

The LIFE PlanUp project tracks the development of national energy and climate plans in 5 EU Member States: Spain, Italy, Poland, Romania, Hungary. To support rapid decarbonisation in Europe, the project promotes good practices in the transport, agriculture and building sector. It fosters dialogue on low-carbon policy-making between local, regional and national authorities, civil society organisations and academia.



