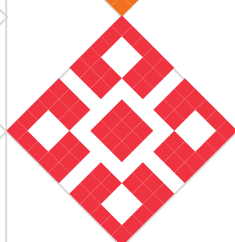
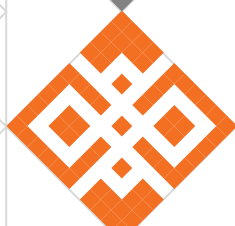
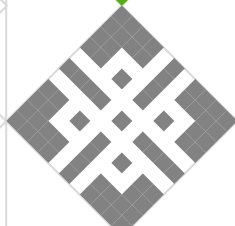
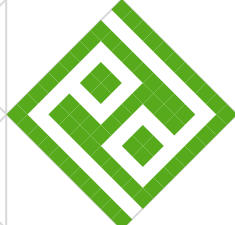
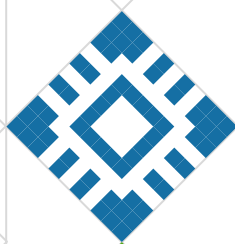


BULGARIA

2030



National Development
Programme



The National Development Programme BULGARIA 2030 is a strategic framework document of the highest order in the hierarchy of the national programming documents, which determines the vision and the overall goals of development policies in all sectors of state governance, including their territorial dimensions. The document sets out three strategic goals which will be implemented by government policies, grouped into five development areas (axes) and puts forth 13 national priorities.

The commitment to develop a national strategic document for the country's development in the medium and long term is enshrined¹ in the Government's Programme for the Republic of Bulgaria for the period 2017-2021, adopted by Decision No. 447 of the Council of Ministers of 2017. In preparing the National Development Programme BULGARIA 2030 special attention has been paid to the 2030 United Nations (UN) Agenda for Sustainable Development "Transforming our World" and to the 17 Global Sustainable Development Goals included therein. The Agenda and the Goals are regarded as a framework for the national development policies, while the National Development Programme BULGARIA 2030 itself – as the Government's response for their implementation².

The National Development Programme BULGARIA 2030 has stepped on a deliberate Analysis of the socio-economic development of the country after its accession to the European Union³, aiming to identify the key problem areas and gaps in the country's development policies, which has been discussed with the socio-economic partners within the Economic and Social Council and the National Council for Tripartite Cooperation.

Following the approval of the vision, goals and priorities of the National Development Programme BULGARIA 2030 by the Council of Ministers, the Government shall elaborate its intentions for each policy area and prepare an indicative financial framework, an ex-ante impact assessment and a mechanism to monitor and control the implementation of the strategic document.



¹ Measure 251 "Adoption of the National Development Strategy Bulgaria 2030" of Objective 68 "Ensuring conditions for high, sustainable, balanced and inclusive economic growth"

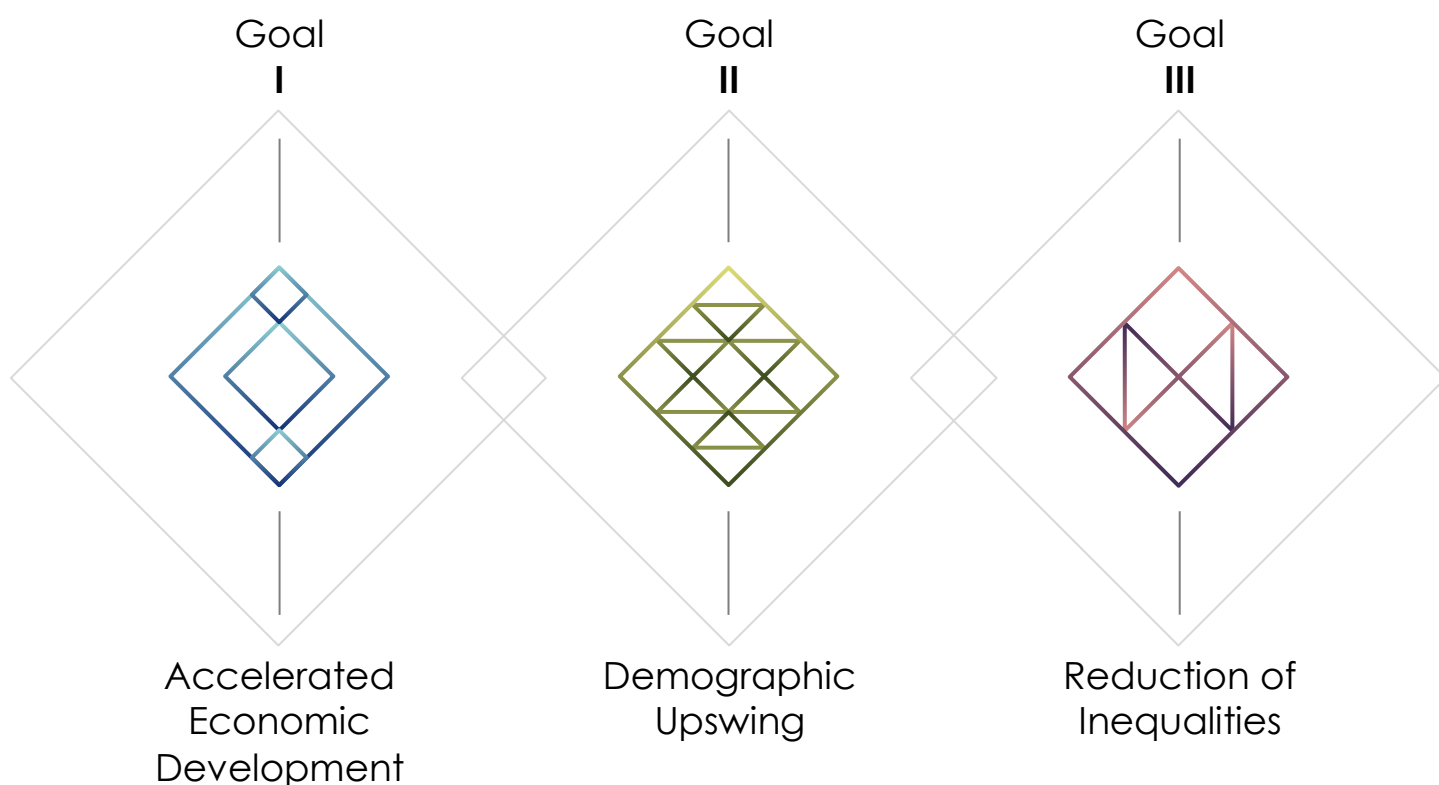
² Due to the specific nature of the 17th Sustainable Development Goal, which mainly concerns aspects of external cooperation policy to achieve the objectives of the Agenda for Sustainable Development, this document does not cover the Government's intentions in this area, insofar as they do not fall within the scope of national growth and development decisions. Bulgaria remains committed to achieving this goal and will intensify its efforts in the framework of development assistance to the less developed countries.

³ <https://www.minfin.bg/upload/41549/Bulgaria%202030%20analiz.pdf>

Vision

In 2030, Bulgaria will be a country of high standards of living and a competitive, low-carbon economy. The country will be developing and implementing innovations in every sector of the economy, adapting to the transforming world through its highly educated, creative, supportive and healthy society. It will be a fertile ground for ideas and a magnet for investment and human capital. The unique cultural and natural resources of the Bulgarian regions will be used responsibly and sustainably. They will be integrated with each other and with the world through high-speed road and optical links, establishing the country's position as a crossroads of ideas and goods in Europe and beyond. Bulgarian citizens will play an active role in the future of their country, have rich opportunities for personal and professional development and live in a just and tolerant society, in which their voice is heard.

Strategic goals



Goal I.

Accelerated Economic Development

Since the country's accession to the European Union (EU), Bulgarian products have become increasingly competitive and have steadily expanded their presence in global and EU trade. The average technological intensity of Bulgarian exports is increasing, but the country continues to export mainly low and medium-low technological products. At the same time, in the years after the economic crisis, the speed of economic convergence has declined significantly, with Bulgaria increasingly losing ground to comparable economies. The main policy objective by 2030 is to accelerate the economic convergence with the EU standard, through targeted and focused government support for increasing specialisation in products and industries characterized by a high technological and research intensity, which will facilitate gaining better and more prestigious positions in the global value chains. The timely technological transformation of the economy and the increase in resource efficiency have the potential to elevate the economy to a higher trajectory of growth, bringing the standard of living of the Bulgarian citizens closer to the average European levels.

Indicators

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
GDP per capita in PPS relative to the EU average, %	Eurostat	51.2	75.0	100
Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)	EC	36.2	Reaching the EU average	52.5
Resource productivity, euro/kg	Eurostat	0.4	1.5	2.2

Goal II. Demographic Upswing

Adverse demographic trends, including a negative rate of natural increase, intense emigration and an aging population pose serious challenges to the future functioning of the social security and support systems, health care, education and public finances. The labour market is already being adversely affected by these processes, with a clear outlook for exacerbation of the negative effects in the medium term. Overall, the current demographic picture in the country and its prospects for the medium and long term show that, should policies remain unchanged, the demographic factor will compromise the ability of the economic system to generate high and sustainable growth and reduce the effectiveness of economic policies aimed at securing (the prerequisites for) such growth. Therefore, a major strategic objective of the Government is to mitigate the adverse demographic trends and reverse them in the longer term.

Indicators

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Rate of natural increase, ‰	Eurostat	-6.6	-5.0	-0.7
Net migration ratio, ‰	Eurostat	-0.5	0.0	2.8
Old-age dependency ratio, %	Eurostat	32.5	36.5	30.5

Goal III. Reduction of Inequalities

Despite the observed process of smooth real convergence since Bulgaria's accession to the EU and the significant progress made in improving the standard of living of the population, the realised economic growth is not sufficiently inclusive to contribute to reducing social inequalities. The relative share of people at risk of poverty is among the highest in the EU. Income inequality continues to increase, with social transfers showing only limited impact on poverty reduction and inequality. At the same time, regional disparities in development in all socio-economic spheres and policy areas are deepening. The main goal of policy until 2030 is to achieve more inclusive and more sustainable growth by reducing social and territorial inequalities and promoting shared prosperity, and in giving priority to the protection of human rights.

Indicators

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Gini coefficient, %	Eurostat	39.6	33.0	30.9
Population at risk of poverty, %	Eurostat	22.0	18.0	17.1
Variation in GDP per capita (in PPS) by region, %	Eurostat	37.5 (2017)	34.0	30.1 (2017)

Development axes

The implementation of the strategic goals is envisaged through targeted policies and interventions, grouped into five interconnected and integrated development axes:



1

1

Innovative and Intelligent Bulgaria



2

2

Green and Sustainable Bulgaria



3

3

Connected and Integrated Bulgaria



4

4

Responsive and Just Bulgaria



5

5

Spirited and Vital Bulgaria

Development axis 1. Innovative and Intelligent Bulgaria

The main focus of this development axis boosting the competitiveness of the Bulgarian economy and transforming it into an economy based on knowledge and smart growth. Providing quality education for all throughout life, enhancing the role of science in the country's economy, while simultaneously providing an environment conducive to the creation of new products and markets and developing innovative enterprises has the potential to create a high-tech industrial base and bring the economy to a new and higher growth trajectory. At the same time, focusing policy on the qualitative aspects of human capital will create preconditions for maximal and quality employment.

Within this axis, the Government defines three national priorities:

- P1. Education and Skills
- P2. Science and Scientific Infrastructure
- P3. Smart Industry

Sustainable Development Goals





Education and Skills

The main objective of the priority will be to increase the quality of human capital through the formation of highly educated, innovative and active individuals, who are able to successfully become accomplished professionals and citizens, and thus contribute to their own well-being and the sustainable development of all social spheres. Education and training policy will cover each of the stages of personal development, following the principles of lifelong learning (LLL). They will be oriented towards increasing the scope and quality of education and training, with an emphasis on acquiring analytical skills and developing creative thought, enhancing people's ability to adapt to the technological transformation in time and the resulting changes in the labour market. The interventions envisaged will contribute to the achievement of certain aspects of Goal 4 "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all" from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The sustainable implementation of policies to include and integrate children and students in pre-school and school education and to reduce early school leaving rates will continue. In this context, priority will be given to integrated policies that ensure the right of every child to quality education and to prevent drop-out, with a focus on children and students from vulnerable groups. They will be implemented in conjunction with policies and measures aimed at increasing the share of high school graduates and promoting the participation of young people in formal and non-formal education and training. The higher level of education of young people is a prerequisite for increasing participation in the various forms and methods of lifelong learning and for improving the educational structure of the population.

To address the weaknesses in the quality of the educational service provided, the reform of the education sector will continue with a stronger focus on the acquisition of key competences for lifelong learning (including digital, language, social) from an early age, and simultaneously towards the formation of values. Important highlights in this regard are the acquisition of functional literacy, relevant (inter)disciplinary and applied knowledge and skills, as well as the development of creative and critical thinking, responsibility and problem-solving skills, and civic engagement. Emphasis will also be placed on enhancing public culture in terms of road safety. A key tool for policy implementation will be the sustained and consistent efforts to increase the attractiveness of the teaching profession and raise the social status of the Bulgarian teacher, to stimulate the professional development and to enhance the professional competences of pedagogical professionals, including supporting innovative teaching. They will be accompanied by investments in educational infrastructure and the modernisation of the facilities in kindergartens and schools, as well as in updating the curricula, which will help to turn kindergartens and schools into an attractive social environment thus improving educational results.

Significant efforts will be focused on increasing the applicability of school education to career development. In this regard, it will be of key importance to expand the geographical scope of the dual training system and to increase the opportunities for pursuing it in different professions, which should be tailored to the needs of businesses at the regional and local level.

Increasing coherence between the needs of businesses and society, on one hand, and programmes in higher education and vocational education and training, on the other hand, will remain a key aspect of policies. Closer cooperation and communication between the private and public sectors will be encouraged in the learning process and in research activities. These activities will also be indispensable in improving the quality of higher education, enhancing their role in generating innovative research and stimulating the relevance of curricula in a global context. In support of this, steps will be taken to consolidate public higher education institutions by providing financial incentives, focusing public support and increasing opportunities for public-private partnerships.

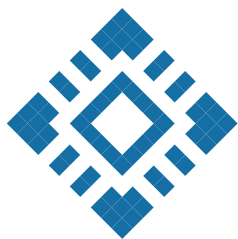
A special focus of government policy for raising the skills of the working-age population will be to offer effective lifelong learning opportunities. A system of incentives and mechanisms will be put in place to improve the skills of the population (including the elderly) to allow the reintegration of the unemployed into the labour market, including structurally unemployed, long-term unemployed and economically inactive low-skilled workers. Enhancing their skills and bringing them back into employment will help increase macroeconomic productivity while also playing the role of a tool for social inclusion.

Widespread interventions at all levels of the education system, as well as the system for qualification and retraining, will be geared towards overcoming the low level of digital competences and human capital in the country, which impedes the widespread use of information and communication technologies (ICT), services based on them and the implementation of digital growth. The measures will specifically target young people, the unemployed, and the economically inactive and disadvantaged groups, thus addressing social exclusion in addition to producing the targeted economic effects. A key tool in building the necessary digital skills of the population will be the development of partnerships with the private sector, based on the good practice of the Ministry of Education and Science with the IT Career Education Programme.

Indicators

Education and Skills

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Share of early leavers from education and training, %	Eurostat	12.7	7.0	10.6
Population (25-64 years of age), involved in education and training, %	Eurostat	2.5	7.0	11.1
Share of low performers in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) (average for the three subjects of the study), %	OECD	46.0	25.0	23.6



Science and Scientific Infrastructure

The main policy objective in the field of science and scientific infrastructure will be to stimulate and accelerate the process of development and implementation of innovations in different sectors of the economy, with educational institutions, research centres and businesses playing a key role, as well as the relationship between them. The focus will be on stimulating applied scientific developments and measures for their commercialisation and turning them into marketable products with high value added. The interventions envisaged will contribute to the implementation of certain aspects of Goal 8 “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”, as well as Goal 9 “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The amount and focus of funding for R&D-performing public research organisations will be increased on the basis of a clear system for prioritising public investment and “rewarding” institutions for their respective achievements, for deploying and adapting, where appropriate, the concept underpinning the Centres of Excellence, Competence Centres and Regional Innovation Centres. Efforts geared towards raising the standard of research institutions and modernising R&D equipment will continue, but the focus will be on increasing the efficiency of public R&D expenditures while seeking to improve the quality, operation and commercialisation of research output. Emphasis will be placed on developing regional and local laboratories for testing new technologies, promoting entrepreneurship in research organisations, maintaining successful clusters, addressing research infrastructure gaps, and optimising shared infrastructure capacity. The stimulation of scientific activities in the country and the investments in scientific infrastructure will aim to exploit local potential and strike a balance in their intensity in the regional context, while respecting the identified comparative advantages of the regions and the opportunities for smart specialisation.

Efforts to build capacity and develop human resources in the R&D system will continue, with interventions focusing on enhancing the attractiveness of scientific careers and attracting and retaining scientists and researchers. The implementation of measures for closer integration of the Bulgarian research community with the international one will continue, enhancing the involvement of Bulgarian scientists and companies in partnership projects and of Bulgarian patents and research in globally recognised registers, which will put scientific developments in the country in the forefront, in the context of global research trends.

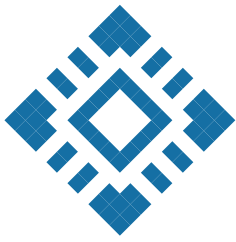
In addition, cooperation between higher education institutions, research institutes and businesses will be stimulated in order to effectively gear R&D towards the needs of the market and society, as well as to increase their value added by harnessing the synergies arising from such cross-sectoral links. An important additional objective will be the expansion

of R&D in the private sector and the integration of new technologies into business processes. Construction of shared scientific infrastructures that will serve as a point of contact will be of key significance in this respect.

Indicators

Science and Scientific Infrastructure

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
R&D expenditure, % of GDP	Eurostat	0.8	2.5	2.1
Share of scientific publications, among the 10% most cited in the world, European Innovation Scoreboard, %	EC	2.7	Reaching the EU average	11.5
European Innovation Scoreboard	EC	“Modest innovator”	“Moderate innovator”	-



Smart Industry

The policy in the field of smart industry will aim to stimulate the process of digitalisation of the real economy. Prerequisites will be created for the modernisation and automation of Bulgarian enterprises. The interventions envisaged will contribute to the achievement of certain aspects of Goal 8 “Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all”, as well as Goal 9 “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Providing the right conditions for digital transformation of businesses and adequate support for this process will create opportunities to gain higher market shares in existing and emerging product niches. Efforts will be focused on the following areas: strengthening the link between science and industry in the country for the development of Industry 4.0 through the creation of a fund to finance Bulgarian artificial intelligence and Industry 4.0 projects, a centre for testing Industry 4.0 technologies, as well as project proposals that have applied under the Horizon 2020 Framework and have received a Stamp of Excellence, but have not received programme funding; accelerated integration of Bulgaria into European and international programmes, initiatives and networks related to the development and implementation of Industry 4.0; technological upgrading through the implementation of standards, establishment of infrastructure, formation of specific mechanisms to stimulate the development and market introduction of technological innovations (new products, services and production processes); building human, scientific, organisational and institutional capacity for the development of Industry 4.0 in Bulgaria.

The policy will also focus on targeted support for increasing the specialisation in products and industries characterised by high technological and R&D intensity, which will allow the creation of high value added products in the country.

A special focus of the interventions will be the development and implementation of innovative products, processes and business models aimed at enhancing the resource efficiency of the economy, as well as supporting and implementing innovations addressing the as yet high carbon intensity of the economy.

In pursuing the smart industry policy financial instruments will be used with the aim of expanding their scope and reaching as many potential beneficiaries as possible. The policy focus will continue to be on enterprise financing, with a particular accent on small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as innovative start-ups, targeting the development, production and sustainable marketing of innovations through start-up funds, as well as venture capital funds for the subsequent stages of enterprise development.

Indicators

Smart Industry

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Global Competitiveness Report (GCR),rank	WEF	25th in the EU	20th in the EU	-
Integration of Digital Technology, DESI, %	Eurostat	18.1	50.0	41.1
Share of high-tech exports in total exports, %	Eurostat	5.9 (2017)	15.0	17.9

Development axis 2. Green and Sustainable Bulgaria

The main focus of this development axis is the sustainable management of natural resources, so as to enable the satisfaction of the needs of the economy and society, while maintaining environmental sustainability, so that these needs can continue to be met in the long term. In the context of the efforts to optimize the use of resources, as well as to ensure food security for the population, policies for developing sustainable and diversified agriculture will be continued.

Within this axis, the Government defines three national priorities:

P4. Circular and Low-Carbon Economy

P5. Clean Air and Biodiversity

P6. Sustainable Agriculture

Sustainable Development Goals





Circular and Low-Carbon Economy

The main purpose of this priority will be to increase resource – and in particular energy – productivity, following the principles of circular economy and promoting the integration of low-carbon, resource-efficient and waste-free technologies. The focus will be on the transition from landfilling to prevention, reuse, recycling and recovery of most of the generated waste in industrial processes and households. Its rational and responsible use will be a major prerequisite for improving the environment and for achieving sustainable economic growth. The implementation of the priority will address Goal 7 “Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all”, Goal 8 “Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all”, and Goal 12 “Ensure Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Government policy will be aimed at reducing the resource intensity of the economy at higher rates compared to the EU Member States. As the Bulgarian economy is the most resource-intensive within the Community, the focus will be on transforming the country’s linear economy into a circular one. Actions will be taken to raise the rate of circular (secondary) use of materials in the economy. In order to reinforce the results, low-carbon, resource-efficient and waste-free technologies will be implemented. The introduction of eco-innovation activities, including new eco-products and technologies, will play an important role in supporting businesses. At the same time, efforts will be made to create new jobs in the green and blue economy. Low resource efficiency will also be addressed through actions to reduce the amount of waste generated in the production process, including in the implementation of projects within the framework of public procurement and concessions.

Measures will be taken to improve energy savings in energy production, transformation and transmission, introducing economic incentives to increase energy efficiency for energy companies and consumers. Market incentives will be introduced to reduce the energy consumption of businesses, including by supporting investments in energy efficient equipment and construction and creating the preconditions for the deployment and efficient management of micro-grids for renewable energy. The reduction of household energy intensity will continue to be encouraged.

In view of the challenges posed by climate change, as well as the need to reduce the country’s dependence on energy imports, an increase in the share of energy from renewable sources will be encouraged. The diversification of energy sources will also support the development of interconnectors and other natural gas supply links. The Government will strive to extend the operational life of Kozloduy NPP Units 5 and 6, and will also endeavour to build new 2,000 MW of nuclear power capacity on the territory of the country, to be gradually phased in after 2030. The utilisation of the available coal potential will continue in strict compliance with the

environmental requirements, including the emission limits for harmful substances set by the legislation, as will the avoidance of emissions of harmful airborne substances exceeding said limits. Coal power plants producing energy from coal will continue to be of strategic importance for the energy security and competitiveness of the economy, however their phased decommissioning is envisioned, given that the operational resource of these facilities will be exhausted after 2030.

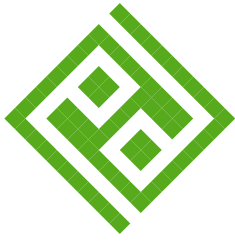
The share of composted bio-waste and recycled municipal, industrial and construction waste in waste management will be increased at the expense of their incineration and disposal. Measures will be taken to improve access for citizens and businesses to separate collection and recycling systems, building on and extending existing requirements. Financial incentives to support the separate collection of waste as well as the use of recycled raw materials will be provided. In order to improve recycling efficiency and increase the amount of recycled municipal waste, additional mandatory separate collection of bio-waste and textile waste will be introduced. Reducing landfilling rates will also continue to be stimulated through currently mandatory extended producer liability regimes for mass-produced waste, with a focus on increasing the amount of recycled waste and promoting reuse. At the same time, the reclamation of landfills of non-compliant municipal waste will continue with priority, and measures will be taken to prevent illegal waste dumping and the resulting pollution. The implementation of the polluter pays principle will, in turn, provide the necessary financial incentives to reduce waste.

In order to achieve the shift to a resource efficient, circular and low-carbon economy, the use of financial instruments will be expanded, which will mobilize private sector financing for investment solutions that need to be supported by “patient” and venture capital in a long term perspective.

Indicators

Circular and Low-Carbon Economy

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Renewable energy in gross final energy consumption, %	Eurostat	18.7 (2017)	27.0	17.5 (2017)
Recycling of municipal waste, %	Eurostat	36.0	55.0	47.0
Change in greenhouse gas levels outside the ETS range compared to 2005,%	Eurostat	3.1	0.0	-10.2



Clean Air and Biodiversity

The main purpose of environmental protection policy will be to improve the air quality and in particular to reduce the concentration of fine particulate matter (PM). Conservation and maintenance of the rich biological and landscape diversity of the country and its regions will remain a particular focus of the policy. The implementation of this priority plays a significant role in the achievement of Goal 3 “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”, Goal 13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”, Goal 14 “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development” and Goal 15 “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”, and certain aspects of Goal 8 “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all”, Goal 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” and Goal 12 “Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In order to improve air quality, the Government’s policy will be centred on reducing the emissions of some of the most significant pollutants – PM, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and ammonia in the country. Practical structural measures will be implemented to tackle air pollution and to harmonise air quality goals with specific key sectoral policies, such as energy and transport. The focus of urban policy will be on the development of sustainable urban transport systems, aiming at ensuring better and more sustainable urban transport, including by limiting car traffic in major cities, and to this end, the expansion of the metro system will continue in the capital city, which will significantly alleviate traffic in the busiest sections of the city and have a positive impact on the air quality of the city. Efforts to upgrade the urban transport vehicles in major cities in the country will continue. At the same time, the use of eco-friendly vehicles will be encouraged. Measures will be taken to address household heating (as a major source of PM emissions). In addition, steps will be taken to maintain an urban environment which is beneficial for air quality, incl. green infrastructure, maintenance of green areas, cleaning of polluted and poorly maintained road surfaces, etc.

The biodiversity policy will be aimed at preserving and maintaining biodiversity in the territory of the country. Continued interventions planned in the National Priority Action Framework for NATURA 2000 aimed at improving the conservation status of species and habitats will continue to fund activities related to the management of protected areas and areas of the National Ecological Network, as well as the financing of activities under the National Ecological Network, and preparation and implementation of national biodiversity strategy documents. Activities will be undertaken to adapt regions to climate change, as well as to

mitigate the effects of climate change in order to protect ecosystems. At the same time, measures will continue to be implemented to improve compliance with environmental legislation, more efficient management of protected territories and areas, as well as fuller utilisation of available financial resources.

Indicators

Clean Air and Biodiversity

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Biocapacity deficit, global hectares per capita	European Environment Agency	0.01 (2014)	Remaining below the EU average	2.51 (2014)
Population exposed to PM ₁₀ contamination levels above the emission limit values, %	European Environment Agency	77.6 (2017)	0.0	17.0 (2017)



Sustainable Agriculture

The main purpose of this priority will be the development of a smart, sustainable and diversified agricultural sector that guarantees the food security of the population. Successful implementation of the planned interventions will contribute to the achievement of Goal 2 “– End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”, as well as certain aspects of Goal 14 “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development” and Goal 15 “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Interventions in the agricultural sector will continue to focus on improving competitiveness, including through greater emphasis on research, technology and digitalisation, as well as the development of the value chain. In addition, efforts will be focused on mitigating and adapting to climate change, promoting sustainable development and efficient management of natural resources such as water, soil and air, protecting biodiversity, improving ecosystem services, and safeguarding habitats and landscapes.

Priority will be given to investments in the production of fruits, vegetables, as well as in animal husbandry and organic production, in which the country has traditions and potential for development. Sectoral interventions will also target the beekeeping and wine sectors. The significant potential for the development of organic production in the country will be harnessed not only through financing opportunities within the CAP, but also via the structuring of financial instruments that will improve farmers’ access to financial resources, so as to enable them to invest in the development of organic farming. This, in turn, will lead to a sustainable use of available resources and a stabilisation of farmers’ incomes.

In the next ten-year period, priority will be given to investing in improving the physical condition and functionality of the country’s existing irrigation and drainage infrastructure, which also includes engineering systems related to protection against the adverse effects of water. The aim is to significantly increase the utilization rate of existing irrigation systems, which will make the sector more competitive.

Key to the development of agriculture will also be the advent of digital technology. Investment in modernisation and precision farming technologies will be stimulated, due to their essential importance for improving the efficiency of production in the sector and enhancing its potential for greener and less resource-intensive food production, and for developing the value chain.. In addition, efforts will be made to raise farmers’ awareness of the nature and benefits of the bio-economy, the use of digital technologies, as well as the

acquisition and improvement of farmers' skills as regards the introduction of new technologies and practices, including digital ones, on the farm.

With regard to the fisheries sector, the policy will focus on improving the condition of the fishing fleet, the quality of fishing infrastructure, as well as the material and technical base of aquaculture farms.

Indicators

Sustainable Agriculture

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Labour productivity in the agricultural sector, % of the economy total	Eurostat	21.9	30.0	38.9
Share of processed agricultural products in total exports of products of agricultural origin, %	NSI	53.3	57.0	-
Share of organic farming area in total agricultural area, %	Eurostat	2.7 (2017)	Reaching the EU average	7.0 (2017)

Development axis 3. Connected and Integrated Bulgaria

The main focus of this development axis is to provide the prerequisites for enhancing the competitiveness and sustainable development of the country's regions, such as improving transport and digital connectivity, as well as promoting local development, based on the specific local potential.

Within this axis, the Government defines three national priorities:

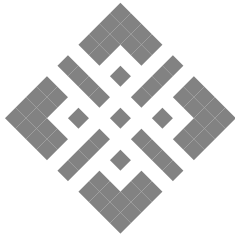
P7. Transport Connectivity

P8. Digital Connectivity

P9. Local Development

Sustainable Development Goals





Transport Connectivity

The main purpose of the policy will continue to be to provide better connectivity between the settlements in the country and better accessibility. Efforts to improve the existing rail, road, water and air transport infrastructure will lead to improved business and trade conditions, while also contributing to a higher level of safety in the country's transport system. This priority will play a significant role in the implementation of Goal 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote the well-being for all at all ages" and Goal 11 "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

With regard to railway infrastructure, significant additional investments will be made to improve its technical condition, including the construction of the Trans-European Rail Network on the territory of the country. The operational parameters of the railway infrastructure will be improved in accordance with the service demanded in the country and safety requirements. In order to achieve a higher quality of rail services and to increase the amount of passengers and freight transported, these measures will also be accompanied by actions aimed at the overall improvement of the technical characteristics of the rolling stock of railway undertakings. Expected growth in the use of rail transport will have a positive effect on air quality in the country. By establishing connections with the rail networks of neighbouring countries, the existing insufficient integration of the national railway network with the European railway system will be addressed, which opens opportunities for the economic development of the country, including cross-border cooperation.

Efforts to improve the quality of road infrastructure in the country, as well as to provide more efficient transport services and secure universal mobility, will continue. Priority will be given to the timely construction of the Trans-European Road Network, including the completion and maintenance of the existing sections. It will be essential to complete the motorways along the most important routes of the country. The motorways built so far are located mainly in the southern part of the country, which is why the completion of the Hemus motorway will be of utmost importance for the development of the economy of Northern Bulgaria and the entire transport sector. Interventions will also focus on improving the quality of roads, including municipal roads. Efforts to improve connectivity with Romania will continue through the construction of new bridge structures over the Danube.

The policy focus will remain on improving the overall technical condition of the port infrastructure, as well as the Bulgarian section of the Danube waterway. Efforts will continue to enhance the condition of the existing combined transport infrastructure, which does not qualify for modern transshipment and transport activities. Measures will also be taken to build direct operational/logistical links between rail and maritime transport, as well as to improve the technical state of railway lines and facilities. The construction of intermodal terminals,

equipped in accordance with the requirements for combined transport, will facilitate the overall development of transport and trade in the country.

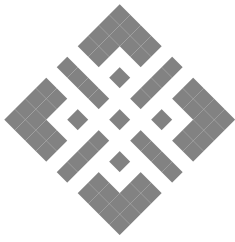
As regards air transport, efforts to increase capacity and improve the status of existing airport infrastructure, its efficient management, and its integration with the rest of the transport infrastructure in the country will be continued. This will contribute to the realisation of the overall and local economic potential, creating favourable conditions for the development of trade and tourism in the country.

In addition to improving the quality of the existing transport infrastructure, work will continue in the deployment of smart transport systems, as well as in the introduction of digital information exchange for freight transport, which will help reduce administrative burdens and improve logistic operations.

Indicators

Transport Connectivity

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Efficiency of train services, GCR	WEF	3.1	3.7	4.3
Completion of the TEN-T Road Core network, %	EC	50.0 (2016)	100.0	72.9 (2016)
Number of road traffic fatalities per 100,000 inhabitants	Eurostat	9.6 (2017)	Reaching the EU average	4.9 (2017)



Digital Connectivity

The main policy focus will be establishing a modern and secure digital infrastructure as a basis for offering more services through digital management and collaboration. This priority will play a significant role in the implementation of Goal 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” and Goal 9 “Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Digital connectivity is the core of digital transformation. It is a set of horizontal policies for the separate components and needs targeted arrangements for digital cooperation, broad involvement of all stakeholders and seeking consensual solutions of national interest, which are to be implemented proactively and transparently, with a focus on human rights protection in the digital ecosystem. Secure cyberspace and trust are the drivers of demand and use of ICT-based products and services and are key factors for the successful digital transformation. The cross-border nature is a challenge that needs to be met with a new type of organisation and interaction.

Efforts will be focused on providing conditions for the overall digitalisation of the economy. Digital connectivity is an important factor not only for the competitiveness of enterprises, but also for promoting social inclusion and for the development and use of e-government services. In order to ensure the development of ICT, the necessary digital infrastructure will be established as a platform for the provision of various electronic services. Measures in this area will concentrate on improving access to high-speed Internet in less populated regions and its active use by the population and businesses, as well as on the development of high-speed mobile Internet in the country.

Increasing access to high-speed internet in rural areas will be an important prerequisite for developing smart and sustainable agriculture, stimulating the local economy and improving quality of life by providing access to a new generation of public and private digital services. To this end, government support will involve broadening the range of high-quality wireless broadband services through the freeing up of the radio spectrum for mobile Internet and active participation in initiatives for the provision of free public Wi-Fi. In order to ensure the effectiveness of these investments, they will be accompanied by measures to increase the digital literacy of the population and stimulate the use of digital services by society and businesses.

The investments for the introduction of 5G mobile networks in the country will be crucial for the digitalisation of the Bulgarian economy and public services. These next-generation networks will greatly contribute to the development of Industry 4.0 models, including

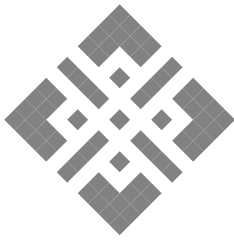
automation of processes and communication between devices via the Internet of Things, enhancing private sector productivity. The high speeds of these types of networks will also support development and projects in the fields of electronic and remote healthcare, smart cities, augmented reality, security, logistics and autonomous vehicles.

Establishing a modern digital infrastructure, combined with parallel efforts to raise the level of the necessary digital skills of the population under the Education and skills priority, as well as supporting the digitalisation of business activity, will transform the economy into a data-driven one, in an innovative and inclusive information society, ensuring a high quality of life for citizens. Open and shared information and knowledge will contribute to a broad facts-based public discussion. Efforts will also be directed towards implementing a clear, comprehensive and broad range of actions to tackle the spread and impact of online misinformation and to safeguard established democratic values.

Indicators

Digital Connectivity

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Connectivity dimension, DESI	EC	51.6	Reaching the EU average	59.3
Ultrafast broadband take-up, DESI, %	EC	9.7	40.0	22.3
5G readiness, DESI, %	EC	0.0	80.0	14.2



Local Development

The purpose of this priority will be to utilise the identified local development potential, as well as address local problems and challenges. Successful implementation of the planned interventions within the priority will contribute to addressing some aspects of Goal 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, Goal 6 “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” and Goal 2 “End hunger achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

This priority is intended exclusively for territorial purposes, following the so-called “place-based approach”, at the heart of which is the territorial unit (location, place, region) and its specific characteristics and needs. The main goal of this priority is to benefit from and capitalize on local resources and opportunities in addressing specific local needs. The approach benefits from an *a priori* higher policy effectiveness, given that it involves addressing specific problems and potentials, identified locally with greater understanding. Mechanisms will be sought for the territorial focus of interventions, which, through an integrated approach, will allow for the best use of local potential, as well as addressing local problems and challenges. The implementation of integrated territorial investments, as well as the implementation of community-led local development, will allow achieving synergistic effects of the implemented interventions. The development and strengthening of a partnership culture of stakeholders at the local and regional level will be encouraged, including the partnerships between public and private organisations, local authorities, the non-governmental sector, etc., working together to address specific territorial issues.

Territorially focused interventions will address problems and challenges, such as: lack of attractive employment opportunities, skills shortages, integrated acquisition of basic vocational skills, defining pathways and measures to enhance the skills of low-skilled adults, of workers, including disadvantaged adults, poor investment in connectivity and basic services, significant youth drain, lack or poor quality of environmental and road infrastructure, climate change, etc. The aim will be to support employment and growth in the regions, to maintain and improve the quality of the environment, and to adapt to adverse climate change, invest in infrastructure and better access to public services, healthcare, vocational training, quality education, digital connectivity, etc. The development of sustainable urban mobility by investing in low-conflict and secure transport systems and road infrastructures will be supported. Interventions in the field of organic farming, circular economy and eco-tourism can offer good opportunities for growth and employment in certain territories (e.g. rural areas).

Considering the growing risk of natural disasters caused by climate change, a strong coordination mechanism will be established with functions for monitoring, controlling and managing the risk of disasters, including floods, landslides and fires. The policy focus will remain on implementing measures aimed at flood prevention and protection, incl. for the construction and maintenance of green infrastructure and in combination with grey infrastructure. Action for reducing the possible negative effects of climate change will be continued by creating and managing green belts against floods and erosion, infrastructure measures contributing to the management of landslides, erosion and abrasion processes, etc. (including the construction of green and blue infrastructure). Early warning systems will be further strengthened, including the technical capacity in disaster risk forecasting and management.

The specific focus of policy will again be the construction and/or rehabilitation of technical infrastructure in locations that still fail to offer quality living conditions to the population. Efforts will be concentrated on increasing the efficiency of water use through the reconstruction and modernisation of the depreciated water supply network. Priority will be given to activities in wastewater management and increasing the connectedness of the population to wastewater treatment plants, while improving treatment technologies.

Indicators

Local Development

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
European Regional Competitiveness Index (RCI), median	EC	19.6	20.0	52.6
Variation in the employment rate by region, %	Eurostat	6.1	Reaching the EU average	5.3
Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment, %	Eurostat	63.2 (2017)	78.0	73.9 (2017)

Development axis 4. Responsive and Just Bulgaria

This development axis is focused on building effective and responsible public institutions that are sensitive to the needs of businesses and the needs of citizens. Efforts to improve the quality, efficiency and fairness of the legal and regulatory framework will contribute to improving the business climate and the investment environment, as well as the quality of life of citizens. At the same time, a particular policy focus on disadvantaged groups and individuals will allow for more inclusive and more sustainable growth and shared prosperity for all.

Within this axis, the Government defines two national priorities:

P10. Institutional Framework

P11. Social Inclusion

Sustainable Development Goals





Institutional Framework

The purpose of this priority will be to improve the institutional framework, with efforts aimed at reducing regulatory burdens, improving the quality, predictability and sustainability of the policies of the executive and the regulatory environment, strengthening the independence of the judiciary and reducing the risk of corruption, which will improve the business environment and the international competitiveness of the economy. Successful implementation of interventions in these areas will address Goal 16 “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The main focus will be on reducing the administrative burden and improving the quality of the services provided. In this context, measures will be taken to introduce complex administrative and business lifecycle stage services aimed at reducing the time, cost and number of interactions with the administration from a consumer perspective. The channels through which citizens and businesses can receive administrative services in accordance with their needs will be expanded. The digitalisation of administrative services will be of major importance, introducing a model for a fully internet-based application submission and acceptance, and minimizing the contact points for these activities. The opportunities for interaction and communication between citizens and businesses, on one hand, and the administration, on the other hand, will be expanded, both in the process of developing and designing services, and in their provision and monitoring.

A key direction in improving the institutional environment in the country will be to improve the quality of the policies implemented by the executive through the full implementation of the principles of good governance: long-term planning, dialogue and partnership with stakeholders in policy making, decision-making based on data and quality forecasts, sustainability of decisions taken, performance management and open management through accountability and civil society involvement.

Another key element in addressing institutional inefficiencies will be the reforms of the judiciary, taking further steps to strengthen its independence and optimise its structure. In order to increase confidence in the judiciary, work will be done to strengthen the integrity and authority of the judiciary, which can only be achieved through high quality and timely court decisions. Ensuring uniformity of case law, as well as impartiality and objectivity of the work of the judiciary will be crucial to preventing potential abuse and impose zero tolerance for corruption. Important factors to achieve this are a transparent legislative process, clear regulations and enforcement, and effective and high-quality judicial protection. In addition, measures will be taken to balance the workload of courts at the regional level in order to speed up judicial procedures in key economic areas.

Institutional capacity will also be supported through measures to improve regulatory quality in the country, by investing in the adoption of good practices from the international regulatory experience, as well as by enhancing administrative capacity in this area. Efforts to raise the quality of the law-making process will continue, with a focus on continuing the formation of administrative capacity to assess the impact of legislation. Measures to improve the accountability and transparency of regulatory processes to reduce uncertainty in the investment process will also be an important element. Significant efforts will be made to improve the regulatory environment towards enhancing its clarity, predictability and sustainability.

Efforts for the implementation of e-government services will continue by completing the necessary infrastructure, interconnecting key registers and ensuring interoperability for the transition to automated data and electronic document sharing. E-government policy will be aimed at minimizing the number of instances, paths and time it takes for citizens and businesses to use administrative services, reducing administrative burden and improving living and business conditions. Investments will be made for the digitalisation of administrative services at both the central and local level. A key aspect of this policy will be the provision of a user-friendly interface and the consolidation of contact points for the use of digital administrative services through clearly differentiated Internet portals. This will also require investment in the digitisation of all databases relevant to the provision of administrative services, including national and local archives, as well as expanding of the use of horizontal e-government systems and the inter-registry exchange environment by administrative authorities. An important element will also be the transition to the use of shared e-government resources, such as the State Hybrid Private Cloud and the Unified Electronic Communications Network. Active work will be done on the implementation and application of new technologies in the administration based on the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and others. They will facilitate the automated provision of real-time information, the processing of big data sets and the protection and traceability of data usage. Open data policy will also continue to evolve by opening up new data sets of the public institutions.

By 2030, Bulgaria will build a fully-fledged integrated national cyber security ecosystem with the capacity to adapt to the dynamics of global cyber threats and to respond to large-scale attacks against Bulgarian information resources. It will be fully integrated with the European Union's cyber security system and recognised as a reliable partner of leading European structures.

The introduction of e-procurement and concession award procedures will also help to increase the transparency of the award choice and the opportunity to participate in the tender process, as well as shorten the duration of the processes. This will reduce the risk of corruption and fraud and improve the effectiveness of public-private partnership processes.

The introduction of the national electronic identification scheme will be crucial for the utilisation of electronic administrative services. In this regard, in addition to stimulating digital skills through the education and training system, market incentives will also be introduced to increase the use of electronic identification by businesses, as well as the electronic signature in the identity documents of all citizens.

Indicators

Institutional Framework

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Institutions pillar, GCR, rank	WEF	26th in the EU	20th in the EU	-
Worldwide Governance Indicators, World Bank	World Bank	59.9	75.0	79.9
Online Services Index (OSI), E-Government Development Index (EGDI), UN	UN	0.76	Reaching the EU average	0.85



Social Inclusion

The main purpose of this priority will be to reduce social inequalities and contribute to the active social inclusion of vulnerable groups by enhancing their ability to get a job, improving their skills, promoting their socio-economic integration, improving their access to quality social services and overcoming severe material deprivation and poor living conditions. The implementation of the planned interventions will address Goal 1 “End poverty in all its forms everywhere” and some aspects of Goal 2 “End hunger achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”, Goal 5 “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”, Goal 8 “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all” and Goal 10 “Reduce inequality within and among countries” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Providing prerequisites for inclusion in employment will remain a key policy instrument for the social inclusion of vulnerable groups. Active labour market measures will address existing labour reserves in the economy that are outside employment – the low-educated and those without qualifications, young people, people with disabilities, people of pre-retirement age, as well as the structurally unemployed. A particular emphasis will be placed on the realisation of young people in the labour market, the long-term unemployed and the Roma, through support for a quick transition from school and unemployment to work and successful inclusion in an active economic life, including through internships, apprenticeships, professional, non-formal and informal learning and skills acquisition. Innovative practices, self-employment mobility, as well as starting up businesses and entrepreneurship will be incentivised as a successful way of creating sustainable and quality jobs economy in an effort to increase the level of economic activity and employment of people with reduced mobility or living in rural, mountainous or remote areas. In the context of low and declining levels of demographic replacement, interventions will continue to be implemented to increase the employability and adaptability of the elderly in order to for them stay longer in the labour market. Support will be given for promoting economic diversification, job creation in high value-added sectors and the transition to a low-carbon economy, as well as the development of alternative employment as a form of support for individual and social entrepreneurship. Targeted support will remain for initiatives and measures that facilitate access to work, improve working conditions and quality of workplaces, and reconcile family and work life.

Efforts aimed at improving the functioning and effectiveness of the social assistance system will continue, where ensuring adequate and sustainable social payments will be of primary importance. Efforts will also be made to improve the planning of social services at the national level by creating a National map of social services funded by the state budget. The map will be developed on the basis of a local needs analysis. In this way, the state will

undertake the creation of a full network of social services across the country in the long term. This change will make services more accessible to all who need them.

Policies aimed at the elderly will be geared towards improving their access to integrated social and health services by providing more support at home and in the community to the elderly who are dependent on care, as well as making the long-term care system more effective. The deinstitutionalisation of child and elderly care will also be a targeted endeavour, as well as the provision of home care services, care services in a specialised environment, mobile services, including the necessary infrastructure and equipment delivery.

The policy concerning the rights of persons with disabilities will aim to outline the inherently horizontal nature of all sectoral policies that should be involved in supporting people with disabilities. An individual approach will be applied, in compliance with and implementing the requirements of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, with a view to promoting, protecting and guaranteeing the full and equitable exercise of the rights and freedoms of persons with disabilities on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria and establishing conditions for their social inclusion in the community. Efforts to provide the necessary and adequate socio-economic support will be continued.

The policy of basic material assistance for the most deprived persons living in extreme poverty and social exclusion will continue. Target groups will be provided with individual food packages and warm lunch, extending the effective scope of social assistance programmes and contributing to reducing the number of people living in poverty.

An additional policy focus will be to address the problem of the poor housing conditions of part of the population. Steps will be taken to build municipal housing to accommodate the most deprived among the vulnerable groups. At the same time, alternative solutions will be sought, such as the use of financial instruments and the provision of loans with preferential conditions to the target groups.

Indicators

Social Inclusion

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Income ratio of the poorest and the richest 20% of households	Eurostat	7.7	5.5	5.2
Population at risk of poverty or social exclusion, %	Eurostat	32.8	25.0	21.9

Development axis 5. Spirited and Vital Bulgaria

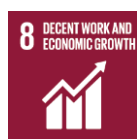
This development axis is oriented towards the individual and enhancing of his quality of life. The main focus is on improving the health status of the population, as a key determinant of quality of life, but also as a prerequisite for inclusion in employment and social activity. At the same time, the policy addresses the higher intangible needs of the individual and seeks to provide the prerequisites for making the individual a creative and complete person.

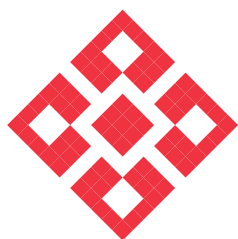
Within this axis, the Government defines two national priorities:

P12. Health and sport

P13. Culture, Heritage and Tourism

Sustainable Development Goals





Health and Sport

The main purpose of this priority will be to improve the health characteristics of the population and thus improve the quality of human capital in the country. The policy focus will be on ensuring equal access to quality health services for all. Achieving the set objectives will play a key role in the achievement of Goal 3 “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Efforts to optimise the cost structure of healthcare will continue, with an emphasis on increasing the role and importance of outpatient care and developing long-term care. The main focus will be on addressing the widespread risk factors that threaten the health of the population, such as smoking, alcohol use, obesity, unbalanced diet and low levels of physical activity. In order to reduce premature and preventable mortality, methods and means will be sought to increase the effectiveness of health promotion and prevention policies, including the promotion of a general culture of health.

With regard to hospital care, efforts will be made to optimise it, with the focus being on improving efficiency. The funding model for hospitals will be revised, as well as the valuation of clinical pathways, and they will be redefined wherever necessary. At the same time, through the National Health Card, the structure of the health network will be adapted to the needs of the population, guaranteeing to every Bulgarian citizen equal access to health services at all levels of outpatient and hospital care. The aim is to achieve a territorial focus of the interventions that will improve the access of the population to primary, specialised and hospital care, especially in hard-to-reach and remote locations in the country. Considering the fact that modern medicine has made transplantation the best life-saving treatment for organ failure, the efforts will also be directed towards promoting donation and the development of transplantation in the country.

In addition, measures will be taken to improve the quality of the provided health services on the ground, to improve the material and technical base of the state hospitals in the district cities, to increase the provision of medical equipment and medical specialists, as well as to improve the emergency response of medical care for road accidents. At the same time, mechanisms will be sought to overcome the unfavourable prospect of the increased migration of medical specialists and the small number of nurses, including those wishing to study and subsequently pursue the profession, as well as overcoming the identified territorial disparities with regard to the availability of medical professionals.

In the area of drug policy, efforts to meet the needs of the population of quality, affordable, proven in therapeutic practice and cost-effective medicinal products will be continued. Mechanisms that have a positive impact on health status will be sought, which in the long run will lead to improved health outcomes. The measures that will be implemented in order to

meet the growing challenges will be focused on ensuring the financial sustainability of the system and will put patients' safety first, ensuring their financial protection and equitable access.

The development of e-health will be a major policy focus, with efforts to build a National Health Information System using modern e-health technologies to deliver cost-effective care producing better results. Targeted efforts in this area will contribute to improving the access and quality of health services; ensuring transparency in the management of financial costs; shortening patient care time; improving the quality of services in healthcare and organising, controlling, planning and forecasting activities in the healthcare system; providing an opportunity for the cross-border exchange of health information of EU citizens on the basis of a regulated electronic information exchange; disease prevention and health promotion, using modern technologies to promote and manage preventive health care; creating an environment for uniform access to imaging "patient diagnosis"; introducing a system for assessing the quality and safety of health care.

The introduction of e-health will help increase the capacity to provide various remote healthcare services, such as the development and implementation of the concept of telemedicine, especially for patients in hard-to-reach and remote areas, and for patients with special needs – patients with chronic diseases, the elderly, etc., as well as the introduction of innovative applications for mobile patient monitoring services, which will also help improve population access to certain health services.

Efforts in the field of sport will be focused mainly on increasing the population's physical activity and participation in sports activities with a special focus on students. In order to support organised sport for all, the construction of a small-scale sports infrastructure aimed at providing an environment for daily physical exercise, amateur sports and entertainment, as well as specialised playgrounds, will continue to address the identified challenge posed by limited access to such infrastructure. At the same time, efforts will be made towards defining a comprehensive and coherent policy allowing the maintenance and operation of the sports infrastructure that has been built in recent years, as well as the mechanisms for incentivising its wider use by the population.

Student sports policy will aim to ensure optimal conditions for physical education classes and sports activities through targeted interventions for the renovation of gyms and other school sports infrastructures. This will facilitate the take-up of physical exercise by adolescents and endow them with an attitude geared towards a healthy lifestyle and with motivation for pursuing sports and sporting events.

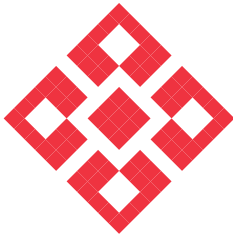
The government's youth policy will continue to focus on building the personal and professional skills and qualities of young people in Bulgaria through the provision of youth services. Cooperation between state, regional and local institutions, social partners and non-governmental organisations engaged in policies and activities to support young people will provide conditions for a better life for young people, including their development, engagement and participation in society. Creating platforms for quality youth participation in the processes of drafting, implementing and monitoring policies that address the interests of young people in the Republic of Bulgaria remains a policy priority in this field. An important element of youth policies will be the activities aimed at young people in small towns and rural areas. Increasing access to quality services and information, developing youth work and

intercultural dialogue, by creating a supportive and inclusive environment for young people, will remain key policy instruments.

Indicators

Health and Sport

indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Healthy life years	Eurostat	66.2 (f)	67.5 (f)	64.0 (f)
		62.9 (m) (2017)	64.0 (m)	63.5 (m) (2017)
Unmet need for medical care,%	Eurostat	1.9	Reaching the EU average	2.0
Share of the population who do not exercise or play sports,%	Euro-barometer	68 (2017)	Reaching the EU average	46 (2017)



Culture, Heritage and Tourism

The main purpose of this priority will be to develop and preserve cultural wealth and to utilise its potential as a tool for social cohesion, stimulating creative and innovative thought, and generating economic benefits. The priority will make a significant contribution to achieving some of the objectives of Goal 8 “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”, Goal 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” and Goal 12 “Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns” from the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Cultural policy will focus on the role of culture and related creative industries as a factor of identity and cohesion, creating tight-knit and inclusive societies, improving the quality of life of individual citizens and stimulating creative and innovative thinking. Activities will be undertaken to support local cultural centres, including theatres, community centres, libraries, museums, galleries, etc., using the achievements of modern (digital) technologies to increase the accessibility of the cultural product created. At the same time, methods will be sought to optimise the funding mechanisms for cultural activities and institutions in order to include the private and independent creative sector, balance social benefits and economic viability, and enhance strategic and spatial planning. An important priority will be to strengthen the place of Bulgarian culture and create opportunities for participation of Bulgarian artists and institutions in global cultural processes, including through its promotion abroad and presenting Bulgarian art on the European and world stages.

Efforts to promote cultural diversity and to preserve and utilise the rich cultural heritage will continue as a resource for the sustainable development of the country and its regions. Measures will be taken to promote it nationally and internationally, including through the exchange of information and the introduction of good practices. In addition, steps will be taken to build the necessary material and technical infrastructure to create key registers and digitise cultural assets, including the management of cultural heritage. In order to make Bulgarian museums, libraries and cultural centres a factor for regional development, the process of their modernisation for the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage of the country will continue. For the implementation of the activities and measures related to culture and cultural heritage, an integrated approach and interaction with the measures under Local Development priority and Social Inclusion priority will be applied.

Tourism policy will mainly focus on sustainable development and the promotion of higher value-added tourism products, the reduction of seasonality in the sector, and the diversification of the tourism product. Further efforts will be made to support the development of products in the growth phase, such as health, festival, environmental, sports and golf tourism, as well as other specialised and niche products where the country and its

regions hold potential. The development of products in the introduction phase, such as cultural, religious and wine tourism will also be incentivised as a priority. The promotion of the Bulgarian tourist product will be realised through advertising campaigns focusing on its unique qualities. As a result, prerequisites will be created for the maximum utilisation of the rich cultural, historical and natural resources of the country, while the specialisation of the regions in specific tourism products in accordance with their competitive advantages will also contribute to the territorial balance of growth.

Along with these interventions, progress made in meeting other priorities, such as enhancing the connectivity and accessibility of the regions, improving the quality of technical and environmental infrastructure, etc., will also contribute to the achievement of policy objectives in this priority. Special efforts will be also made to improve the security of public spaces, as well as to reduce environmental pollution, addressing some of the major problems that reduce the attractiveness of the country as a tourist destination.

Indicators

Culture, Heritage and Tourism

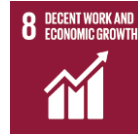
indicator	source	baseline value	target value	EU average
Share of the population participating at least once a year in cultural or sport activities, %	Eurostat	28.6 (2015)	40.0	63.8 (2015)
Average bed occupancy rate in tourism accommodation, %	NSI	39.2	50.0	-

RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT AXES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

DEVELOPMENT AXES

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Intelligent and Innovative Bulgaria



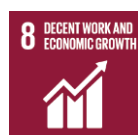
Green and Sustainable Bulgaria



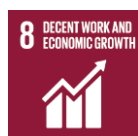
Connected and Integrated Bulgaria



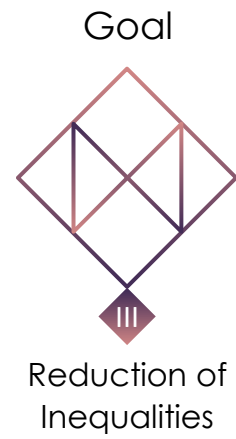
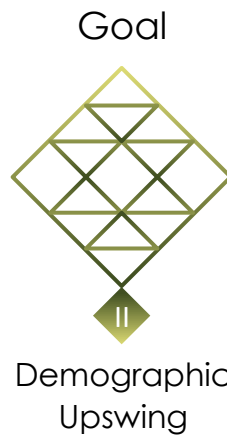
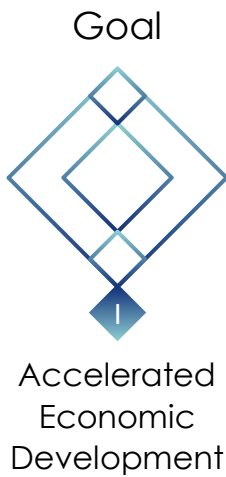
Responsive and Just Bulgaria



Spirited and Vital Bulgaria



RELATIONS BETWEEN GOALS, DEVELOPMENT AXES AND PRIORITIES



Intelligent and Innovative Bulgaria



- P1 Education and Skills
- P2 Science and Scientific Infrastructure
- P3 Smart Industry



Green and Sustainable Bulgaria



- P4 Circular and Low-Carbon Economy
- P5 Clean Air and Biodiversity
- P6 Sustainable Agriculture



Connected and Integrated Bulgaria



- P7 Transport Connectivity
- P8 Digital Connectivity
- P9 Local Development



Responsive and Just Bulgaria



- P10 Institutional Framework
- P11 Social Inclusion



Spirited and Vital Bulgaria



- P12 Health and Sport
- P13 Culture, Heritage and Tourism



Annex

Indicator metadata

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value ⁴	Target value	EU average ⁴	Link
Goal 1	GDP per capita in PPS relative to the EU average, %	Eurostat (yearly)	Gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure of economic activity. It is defined as the value of all goods and services produced in a country minus the value of the goods and services used to produce them. The indicator divides the GDP by the country's population and relates it to its purchasing power standard (PPS), addressing differences in price levels internationally. The indicator is relative to the EU average, set at 100.	51.2	75.0	100.0	GDP per capita in PPS

⁴ Indicated current values for Bulgaria and the respective average levels in the EU are for 2018 unless another year is mentioned in brackets (). The data used is as of 31.12.2019.

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
Goal 1	Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)	EC (yearly)	DESI is a composite indicator that tracks the progress made by the EU Member States in the field of digitalisation. It is structured into five dimensions: Connectivity, Human Capital, use of internet Services, Integration of Digital Technology, and Digital Public Services. The rating scale is from 0 to 100, with 100 indicating that digital technologies are fully embedded in the economic and social life of the population.	36.2	Reaching the EU average	52.5	DSM - DESI
Goal 1	Resource productivity, euro/kg	Eurostat (yearly)	This indicator provides the ratio of the gross domestic product (GDP at constant prices in euro) to the domestic material consumption (DMC) in a kilogramme equivalent, calculated as direct material input (DMI) minus physical exports (PE): $DMC = DMI - PE$.	0.4	1.5	2.2	Material-flows-and-resource-productivity
Goal 2	Rate of natural increase, ‰	Eurostat (yearly)	The rate of natural increase is the ratio of natural population change during the year (live births less deaths) to the average population of that year. The value is expressed per 1,000 people.	-6.6	-5.0	-0.7	Population change

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
Goal 2	Net migration ratio, ‰	Eurostat (yearly)	The net migration ratio is calculated as the difference between the total population change and the rate of natural increase, along with an additional adjustment. The value is expressed per 1,000 people.	-0.5	0.0	2.8	Net migration
Goal 2	Old-age dependency ratio, %	Eurostat (yearly)	This indicator is the ratio between the number of persons aged 65 and over and the number of persons aged between 15 and 64. The value is expressed per 100 persons of working age (aged 15-64).	32.5	36.5	30.5	Old dependency ratio
Goal 3	Gini coefficient, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The Gini coefficient is used to statistically characterise the distribution of disposable income between the poor and the rich in society. It is assumed that it expresses their irregularity, the value of 0 indicating complete equivalence or equality, and the value of 100% - its absolute absence.	39.6	33.0	30.9	Gini coefficient of equivalised disposable income

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
Goal 3	Population at risk of poverty, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator calculates the relative level of poverty in a given territory, taking into account the proportion of households that have net equivalent disposable income below the poverty line. The poverty line represents 60% of the average total disposable net income per equivalent unit. Due to the different composition and number of persons in households, an equivalent scale is applied according to which the first adult of 14 years of age and over receives a weight of 1, the second adult of 14 and over receives a weight of 0.5, and each child under 14 receives a weight of 0.3. The weights are assigned to each household member and summed up.	22.0	18.0	17.1	At-risk-of-poverty rate

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
Goal 3	Variation in GDP per capita (in PPS) by region, %	Eurostat (yearly)	Variation in GDP per capita (in PPS - a notional currency that has the same purchasing power, i.e. can buy the same amount of goods and services in all EU Member States) by region within the country concerned. The EU average level is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the variation by country.	37.5 (2017)	34.0	30.1 (2017)	Regional gross domestic product
P1	Share of early leavers from education and training, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator represents the relative share of people aged 18 – 24 who have completed at most basic education and are not participating in education and training, in the population of the same age.	12.7	7.0	10.6	Early leavers from education and training
P1	Population (aged 25-64) participating in education and training, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator represents the relative share of people aged 25-64 who participate in formal and non-formal education and training, compared to the population of the same age. The reference period for participation in education and training is four weeks before the inquiry.	2.5	7.0	11.1	Participation in education and training

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P1	Share of low performers in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) (average for the three subjects of the study)	OECD (every three years)	The indicator shows the relative share of 15 – 16 year-old students for the average of the three areas of study (reading, mathematics and science), whose results are lower than the identified baseline level of proficiency, in the total number of students participating in the study. The results of the participants in the study are ranked on a scale divided into several levels of achievement. At each level, there are tasks with certain difficulty. The average score per student indicates at what level the most difficult tasks are that he/she can accomplish, and this in turn shows what knowledge and skills he/she has. The second level is defined as a critical threshold (or baseline) in students' achievements.	46.0	25.0	23.6	OECD - PISA

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P2	R&D expenditure, % of GDP	Eurostat (yearly)	Research and development (R&D) involves any creative and systematic work undertaken to increase the volume of knowledge, including knowledge about man, culture and society, and to develop new applications of available knowledge. R&D covers basic and applied research and experimental development. The R&D expenditure indicator is defined as all expenditure incurred within the R&D statistical unit, irrespective of the source of funding.	0.8	2.5	2.1	Statistics on research and development
P2	Share of scientific publications, among the 10% most cited in the world, European Innovation Scoreboard, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator is a measure of the effectiveness of the research system, as the highly cited Scopus publications are assumed to be of higher quality. The numerator shows the number of scientific publications among the 10% most cited Scopus publications worldwide, and the denominator shows the total number of scientific publications in a given country.	2.7	Reaching the EU average	11.5	EIS

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P2	European Innovation Scoreboard (EIS)	EC (yearly)	The EIS distinguishes between 27 indicators, structured into four main groups as follows: 1) "Framework conditions" (amount of human resources; attractive research systems; innovation-friendly environment), 2) "Investments" (financing and support in venture capital and company investments in R&D), 3) "Innovation activities" (innovation and connection activities, intellectual assets accumulation activities) and 4) "Impacts" that captures the effects of companies' innovation activities. The EIS classifies countries into groups as follows: "Innovation leaders" are countries with an index level above 120% of the EU average, "Strong innovators" are countries with an index between 90% and 120% of the EU average, "Moderate innovators" are countries with an index level between 50% and 90% of the EU average, and "Modest innovators" are countries with an index level below 50% of the EU average.	"Modest innovator"	"Moderate innovator "	-	EIS

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P3	Global Competitiveness Report (GCR), rank	WEF (yearly)	The main purpose of the index is to assess the ability of each country to provide welfare for its citizens. A number of benchmarks are used to achieve this, broken down into 12 main categories – Institutions, Infrastructure, Macroeconomic Stability, Health, Skills, Product Market, Labour Market, Financial System, Technological Readiness, Market Volume, Business Development and Innovation.	25 th in the EU	20 th in the EU	-	Global-competitiveness-report
P3	Integration of Digital Technology, DESI, %	EC (yearly)	The Integration of Digital Technology dimension is one of five groups of indicators in the DESI Composite Index. It is calculated as the weighted average of the two sub-indicators: Businesses Digitisation (60%) and e-Commerce (40%) on a scale of 0 to 100, with 100 indicating that digital technologies are being used to the fullest extent in the organization of enterprises.	18.1	50.0	41.1	DSM - DESI

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P3	Share of high-tech exports in total export, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The figures show the share of exports of all high-tech products in total exports. High-tech products are defined in accordance with SITC Rev.4 and include the following products: space devices, office and computer equipment, electronics and telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, scientific instruments, electrical machinery, chemistry, non-electrical machinery, weapons. EU total exports do not include intra-EU trade.	5.9 (2017)	15.0	17.9	High-tech exports
P4	Renewable energy in gross final energy consumption, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator is calculated as a percentage of gross final energy consumption from renewable sources and gross final energy consumption from all sources of energy defined by Directive 2009/28/EC. The normalised amount of electricity generated from hydroelectric power plants and wind power facilities is used, which is calculated by multiplying the installed capacity of hydroelectric power plants and wind generators for each year of the studied period by the average electricity production per unit of power over the whole period.	18.7 (2017)	27.0	17.5 (2017)	Energy database

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P4	Recycling rate of municipal waste, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator measures the amount of recycled municipal waste divided by the total amount of municipal waste treated. Recycling includes material recycling, composting and anaerobic treatment. Municipal waste consists predominantly of waste generated by households but may also include similar waste generated by small businesses and public institutions.	36.0	55.0	47.0	Recycling rate of municipal waste
P4	Changes in greenhouse gas levels outside the ETS range compared to 2005, %	European Environment Agency (yearly)	The calculation of the indicator is based on the emissions covered by the Effort Sharing Decision (406/2009/EC). The Effort Sharing Decision sets national annual binding targets for emissions not covered by the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). These emissions are calculated by deducting verified ETS emissions, CO ₂ emissions from national aviation and NF ₃ emissions from total national emissions.	3.1	0.0	-10.2	ESD

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P5	Biocapacity deficit, global hectares per capita	European Environment Agency (yearly)	The indicator measures the difference between the composite indicators of biocapacity and ecological footprint, illustrating the extent to which a country degrades the environment beyond the capacity of nature to regenerate. Biocapacity is the ability of ecosystems to produce biological material used by humans and to absorb waste generated by humans under current technology and processes. The ecological footprint measures the bio-productive soil and water surface needed by a country to produce its consumption or to absorb waste generated under current technology and processes.	0.01 (2014)	Remaining below the EU average	2.51 (2014)	Ecological footprint, biocapacity and biocapacity deficit per person
P5	Population exposed to PM ₁₀ contamination levels above the emission limit values, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator measures the percentage of the population living in urban areas with PM ₁₀ concentrations exceeding the daily limit value (50 µg/m ³) for more than 35 days in a calendar year.	77.6 (2017)	0.0	17.0 (2017)	Urban population exposed to PM10 concentrations

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P6	Labour productivity in the agricultural sector,% of the economy total	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator measures labour productivity in the agricultural sector, comparing it to the total labour productivity achieved in the economy. Labour productivity is a composite economic indicator that compares the result achieved (Gross value added) to the invested labour factor (average annual number of employees – internal concept) in the implementation of a certain economic activity in a certain economic territory for a certain period of time.	21.9	30.0	38.9	GVA by industry breakdowns Employment by industry breakdowns
P6	Share of processed agricultural products in the total exports of products of agricultural origin, %	NSI (annually)	The indicator reflects the ratio of exports of processed products of agricultural origin (C10, C11 and C12 codes of section C of NACE.BG-2008) to total exports of unprocessed agricultural products (section A of NACE.BG-2008) and processed products of agricultural origin.	53.3	57.0	-	References and analyses under the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)
P6	Share of organic farming area in total agricultural area, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The area converted or in a process of conversion to organic production (if it complies with Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 of 28 June 2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products) as a proportion of the total agricultural area.	2.7 (2017)	Reaching the EU average	7.0 (2017)	Agriculture database

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P7	Efficiency of train services, GCR	WEF (yearly)	A rating based on the World Economic Forum survey evaluating the frequency, accuracy, speed and cost of train services using a scale from 1 (extremely inefficient, among the worst in the world) to 7 (extremely efficient, among the best in the world) . The EU value is calculated as the arithmetic mean.	3.1	3.7	4.3	Global-competitiveness-report
P7	Completion of the TEN-T road core network, %	EC (unspecified frequency)	Length of the TEN-T road core network completed at the end of the relevant year compared to the total length, including planned sections and sections to be upgraded. The statistics reflect the official maps contained in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013. The term 'completed' refers to 'existing' infrastructure, which does not necessarily mean that the infrastructure requirements, as stated in the abovementioned regulation, have already been met. The time horizon for the completion of the TEN-T core network is 2030.	50.0 (2016)	100.0	72.9 (2016)	Completion of TEN-T Core Network
P7	Number of road fatalities per 100 000 inhabitants	Eurostat (yearly)	Persons who died within 30 days of a traffic accident per 100,000 inhabitants.	9.6 (2017)	Reaching the EU average	4.9 (2017)	Road fatalities per 100 000 inhabitants

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P8	Connectivity dimension, DESI	EU (yearly)	The Connectivity dimension is one of the five groups of indicators in the DESI composite index. It is calculated as the weighted average of the five sub-dimensions: fixed broadband (18.5%), mobile broadband (35%), fast broadband (18.5%), ultrafast broadband (18.5%) and broadband price index (9.5 %). The rating scale is from 0 to 100, with 100 indicating that the population is fully connected to digital technologies at a relatively affordable price.	51.6	Reaching the EU average	59.3	DSM - DESI
P8	Ultra-fast broadband take-up, DESI, %	EC (yearly)	Relative share of households with a subscription for an ultra-fast broadband connection (at least 100 Mbps) in the total number of households.	9.7	40.0	22.3	DSM - DESI

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P8	5G readiness, DESI, %	EC (yearly)	<p>The percentage score of the 5G readiness indicator is based on the amount of spectrum in a country used by 5G technology. The percentage is calculated based on the amount of spectrum assigned to each 5G pioneer band compared to the maximum possible amounts, which are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 700 MHz band: 60 MHz (703-733 & 758-788 MHz) • 3.6 GHz band: 400 MHz (3400-3800 MHz) • 26 GHz band: 1000 MHz within 24250-27500 MHz <p>All three radio frequency bands have the same weight.</p>	0.0	80.0	14.2	DSM - DESI

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P9	European Regional Competitiveness Index (RCI), median	EC (every three years)	The index is calculated as the median of the RCI values by region in the respective territory. The RCI consists of 11 indicators representing different aspects of competitiveness. These indicators measure the strengths and weaknesses of a region. They are classified into three groups: Key Indicators, Performance Indicators, and Innovation Indicators. The Key Indicators group includes five categories: 1) Institutions; 2) Macroeconomic stability; 3) Infrastructure; 4) Health and 5) Primary education. Performance indicators include three pillars: 6) Education, training and lifelong learning; 7) Labour market efficiency; and 8) Market size. At the most advanced stage of development of a regional economy, the drivers of development are part of the Innovation Group, which consists of three categories: 9) Technological readiness; 10) Business complexity and 11) Innovation.	19.6	20.0	52.6	European Regional Competitiveness Index

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P9	Variation in the employment rate by region, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator measures regional employment disparities across the country. It is calculated as the coefficient of variation of the employment rate (20-64 years of age) by statistical regions (NUTS 2). The value of the indicator is 0 when the employment rate is the same in all the regions and increases as the disparities in the employment rate between the regions increase. The EU average is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the variation by country.	6.1	Reaching the EU average	5.3	Employment rate of the age group 20-64 by NUTS 2 regions
P9	Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment, %	Eurostat (yearly)	The indicator is defined as the relative share of the population connected to urban wastewater treatment plants with at least secondary wastewater treatment, in the total population.	63.2 (2017)	78.0	73.9 (2017)	Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment
P10	Institutions pillars, GCR, rank	SIV (yearly)	The Institutions pillar is among the 12 pillars of the Global Competitiveness Index and takes into account the assessments of security, social capital, checks and balances, public sector quality, transparency, property rights, corporate governance.	26 th in the EU	20 th in the EU	-	Global-competitiveness-report

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P10	Worldwide Governance Indicators, World Bank	WB (yearly)	The Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) project takes account of aggregate and individual indicators across six dimensions: voice and accountability, political stability and absence of violence, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, control of corruption. These aggregate indicators combine the views of a large number of respondents from businesses, citizens and experts. They are based on over 30 individual data sources produced by various research institutes, think tanks, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and private sector companies. The indicator has a normalized scale from 0 to 100 according to the results of the different countries in the study scope, 100 indicating the best results in indicators of good governance among the countries.	59.9	75.0	79.9	WGI

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P10	Online Services Index Pillar, E-Government Development Index, UN (EGDI)	UN (every two years)	The E-Government Development Index presents the state of development of E-Government among the United Nations Member States. Along with evaluating website development models in a country, the index includes features related to accessibility, such as infrastructure and educational levels, so as to reflect how a country uses information technology to promote access and to include its people. The indicator has a normalised scale from 0 to 1 according to the results of the different countries in the scope of the survey, where 1 indicates the best results in the development indicators of E-Government among the countries.	0.76	Reaching the EU average	0.85	E-Government Development Index
P11	Income ratio of the poorest and richest 20% of households	Eurostat (yearly)	The ratio of total income received by the top 20% of income earners in population (highest quintile) to that of the bottom 20% of income earners (lowest quintile). Revenues should be understood as equivalent disposable income. The indicator is based on EU-SILC (statistics of income, social inclusion and living conditions).	7.7	5.5	5.2	Income quintile share ratio

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P11	Population at risk of poverty or social exclusion, %	Eurostat (yearly)	Relative share of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion in all respondents. This indicator corresponds to the sum of persons who are: at risk of poverty or severely deprived, or living in very low labour intensity households. Persons are counted only once, even if they are present in several sub-indicators. At-risk-of-poverty are the people with equivalent disposable income below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold which is set at 60% of the national average equivalent of disposable income (after social transfers). Material deprivation encompasses indicators related to economic tension and long-term resources. People living in very low labour intensity households are those aged 0-59 years, living in households where adults (aged 18-59 years) work 20% or less of their total employment potential in the last year.	32.8	25.0	21.9	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P12	Healthy life years, years	Eurostat (yearly)	The Healthy life years (HLY) indicator measures the number of years a person is expected to live in a healthy state. HLY is a health duration indicator that combines information on mortality and morbidity. The health status is determined by the lack of restrictions on day-to-day operation. The indicator is calculated separately for men and women. The indicator is also called Disability-free life expectancy (DFLE).	66.2 (f) 62.9 (m) (2017)	67.5 (f) 64.0 (m)	64.0 (f) 63.5 (m) (2017)	Healthy life years and life expectancy at birth, by sex
P12	Unmet need for medical care, %	Eurostat (yearly)	Unmet need for medical care concern one's own judgment about whether or not one needs examination or treatment for a specific type of health service but did not have or did not seek it for the following three reasons: "Financial reasons", "Waiting list" and "Too far to travel". Medical care refers to individual health services (medical examination or treatment, except dental care) provided by or under the direct supervision of doctors or equivalent professions in accordance with national health systems. Data are expressed as percentages among the population aged 16 and over.	1.9	Reaching the EU average	2.0	Self-reported unmet need for medical care

	Indicator	Source (frequency)	Short description	Baseline value	Target value	EU average	Link
P12	Share of the population who do not exercise or play sport, %	Eurobarometer (unspecified frequency)	Share of the population stating that they do not play sports or perform physical exercise, in the total population.	68 (2017)	Reaching the EU average	46 (2017)	never exercise or play sport
P13	Share of the population participating at least once a year in cultural or sport activities, %	Eurostat (unspecified frequency)	Share of population over 16 years of age indicating that they have participated at least once in cultural or sport activities in the last 12 months, in the total population.	28.6 (2015)	40.0	63.8 (2015)	Frequency of participation in cultural or sport activities
P13	Average occupancy of beds in accommodation facilities, %	NSI (yearly)	The ratio of the number of overnight stays to the total number of available bed nights for all categorised and functioning accommodation facilities with 10 or more beds.	39.2	50.0	-	Tourism NSI