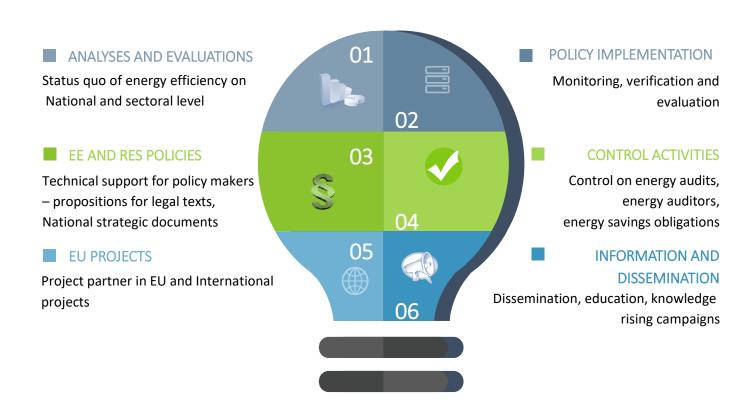




# АГЕНЦИЯ ЗА УСТОЙЧИВО ЕНЕРГИЙНО РАЗВИТИЕ SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY





## **BULGARIA: FACTS AND NEWS**

### February 2021

Key Facts		
Final Energy Consumption 2019	In total 9 698,8 ktoe (NSI) Industry: 2 672,9 ktoe Transport: 3 409,7 ktoe Households: 2 159,9 ktoe Services: 1 268,1 ktoe	
Energy Efficiency Target 2030	Decrease in the consumption of primary energy by 27.89 % and a decrease by 31.67 % in final energy consumption as compared to the PRIMES 2007 reference scenario	
Total cumulative target for energy savings over the period 2021-2030 under Article 7(1)(b) EED	4 357,55 ktoe	
RES target 2030	Share of at least 27,09 % of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption	
Inhabitants 2019	6,97 million (NSI)	

#### I. Resilience and Recovery Facility grants allocation:

# Recovery and Resilience Facility: Maximum grant allocations\* (current prices)

	For 70% of the amount available	For 30% of the amount available	Total
Bulgaria	4.6	1.6	6.3

<sup>\*</sup> The current maximum financial allocation is indicative based on the Commission's Autumn 2020 Economic Forecast for real GDP growth in 2020 and 2021. The 30% allocations will be revised by June 2022, based on actual outturn data from Eurostat.

The amount available for grants is  $\leq$ 312.5 billion in 2018 prices, which corresponds to  $\leq$ 337.96 billion in current prices. The difference is due to the standard conversion from 2018 to current prices, calculated by applying a fixed 2% deflator to the annual amount of commitments.

The Recovery and Resilience Facility will make €360 billion available in loans, on top of the €312.5 billion it makes available in grants. Member States can request a loan worth up to 6.8% of their 2019 Gross National Income as part of the submission of their recovery and resilience plan.

#### NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA (Draft Feb. 2021)

In medium term, the country's recovery strategy is based on the National Development Programme: BULGARIA 2030. The document covers the national decisions for growth and development and defines

three strategic goals (accelerated economic development, demographic recovery and reduction of inequalities under which the Government outlines its intentions in five areas of development and raises 13 national priorities. Although BULGARIA 2030 was adopted by the Government in early 2020, just before the outbreak of the pandemic and the accompanying economic challenges, the strategic choice of goals and priorities not only remains relevant but it is further justified by the revealed vulnerabilities and difficulties in the functioning of socio-economic systems.

The Green Transition is at the forefront of the Recovery and Resilience Plan, concentrating almost half (47%) of the total costs foreseen. This way, Bulgaria contributes to the implementation of the common EU objectives for gradual decarbonisation. In doing so, efforts are focused on three main pillars: (i) creating the conditions for accelerated deployment of renewable energy sources and hydrogen; (ii) enhanced actions to increase the energy efficiency of the economy; (iii) sustainable mobility.

Goal: Share of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption (2024) – 24%

**Goal:** Cumulative decline in the energy intensity of the economy for the period 2021-2024 r. – 10%

**Goal:** Cumulative reduction in the carbon intensity of the economy for the period 2021-2024 – 10%

#### PILLAR: INNOVATIVE BULGARIA

#### COMPONENT: LOW-CARBON ECONOMY

#### 11 reforms and investments in total:

- Establishing a National Decarbonisation Fund;
- Developing a definition of "energy poverty" for households in the Energy Efficiency Act for the purposes of financing energy efficiency projects;
- Energy efficiency of the building stock;
- Programme to finance single energy efficiency measures in one-dwelling buildings and multi-dwelling buildings that are not connected to heat and gas transmission networks;
- Energy efficient municipal systems for outdoor artificial lighting;
- Mechanism to finance energy efficiency and RES projects together with electricity bills;
- One-stop-shop;
- Support producers of energy from RES. Develop, facilitate and accelerate international trade in guarantees of origin;
- Digital transformation and development of information systems and real-time systems of the Energy System Operator in a low-carbon economy;
- Preparing and adopting a National Roadmap to improve the conditions for unleashing the potential of hydrogen technologies and mechanisms for production and supply of hydrogen;
- Design, build and commission infrastructure adequate for transmission of hydrogen and low-carbon gaseous fuels for supply of power stations and other consumers in coal regions in the Republic of Bulgaria;
- Scheme to support pilot projects for production of green hydrogen and biogas.

Cost estimation: Indicative estimates of the costs for attainment of the component's objectives – total 3 604.3 million BGN.

These investments and reforms, in their entirety, will result in decreased national energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, thereby contributing significantly to the green transition targets and the targets of the Integrated Plan "Energy-Climate". Furthermore, the above investments and reforms will contribute directly to achievement of the objectives of the pan-European flagship initiatives "Renovation" and "Scale-up"

#### II. National Long-Term Renovation Strategy

The National Long-Term Renovation Strategy, developed according to the requirements of the Directive 2010/31/EU on the energy performance of buildings, amended by Directive (EU) 2018/844 has been adopted by the Council of Ministers on 27 January 2021.

- National Building Stock Observatory
- Cost-effective approaches to renovation
- Energy savings measures' packages
- Multiple benefits of renovation
- Road map 2021 2050: renovated floor area of residential and non-residential buildings, financial resources needed
- Strategic objectives, priorities and policy measures
- Financial instruments

#### III. New projects 2021

In January 2021 the latest H2020 project proposal with the SEDA as a consortium member has been successfully evaluated.

Call: H2020-LC-SC3-EE-2020-2

*Proposal title:* Bulgarian Energy Efficiency Forum on Smart Finance for Smart Buildings - BeSmart

Indicative starting date of the activities: May 2021

**BeSmart** aims to support smart financing implementation by setting up a permanent discussion forum, gathering central and local authorities, energy efficiency experts, the financial sector, ESCOs, homeowners, industry, construction and SME sector representatives. The discussion forum and the 9 roundtables planned under the project are specifically designed to support new business models and utilize investment opportunities derived from the increased financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy at EU level. They will gather and upscale existing best practices, support the development of national and local level strategies, propose improvements in the national policy framework and implementation programmes, develop the institutional and legal framework, and increase the transparency in the policy-making process, leading to increased trust of the investors and better functioning of the market.