

## **Sustainable Development in Romania**

### **National Institute of Statistics**

In November 2008, by Government Decision and based on 2 years reviewing process of the first National Strategy for Sustainable Development (1999), was adopted the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania - Horizon 2013-2020-2030 (NSDS). The NIS started work to elaborating national set of sustainable development indicators (NSDIs) and in 2010 was established the first national set of sustainable development indicators (NSDIs) that monitor the implementation of the strategy.

This set, from 2010, is disseminated on NIS website follow the goals and actions established by the NSDS. It was built based on information available mainly from the NIS, but also from the Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Waters and Forests and institutions under its coordination or subordination.

The main function of the NSDIs was to meet the monitoring requirements expressed by the NSDS, associated with the terms of the proposed targets, which in their turn are political commitments related to the strategic goals of the sustainable development.

**The NSDIs database** includes 103 indicators, most of them with data series available in the national statistical system, since 2000. The database had to be updated and supplemented with other indicators as they became available.

Romania has adopted the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and in 2016 started preparations to implement it. For this work, in 2017 was established the Sustainable Development Department, under the coordination of the Romanian Government. One of the tasks of the Sustainable Development Department was to revise the national sustainable development strategy. The review process began in 2017 and completed in November 2018, when the new strategy it has been approved by Government Decision.

Through this strategy (Romania's Strategy for Sustainable Development 2030 – *NSDS 2030*), Romania sets up its national framework to adopt the 2030 Agenda and to implement the 17 SDGs. In its components has, also, 104 targets established at political level, according to the country situation and focusing on Sustainable Development's three dimensions: economic, social and environment.

The NSDS 2030 is based on reports drawn up by government ministries and other national institutions, studies conducted under the Romanian Academy, and other scientific and academic bodies. In the review process of NSDS 2030 was used the information made available by European institutions and the UN as well as suggestions and recommendations resulting from public consultations with the business community, universities, national research and development institutions and civil society, also took into consideration the contributions of individual experts, ensuring that the new strategy is aligned with the 2030 Agenda. NIS also participated at reviewing process.

In monitoring the NSDS 2030, NIS has a leading role. By the end of 2020 NIS should review the set of national indicators (as is mentioned in the Strategy – chapter III „Implementation and monitoring”), in order to measure the implementation of the sustainable development goals, based on the new priority goals established by the NSDS 2030 and taking into account the established set of indicators at UN and EU level to implement the 2030 Agenda.

This process of updating the national set of sustainable development indicators for monitoring the implementation of NSDS 2030 will be developed through a Operational Program Administrative Capacity (POCA) project, in partnership with the Sustainable Development Department. Through this activity will be analyzed the goals and targets of the new strategy, will be established the indicators selection criteria, will be proposed a set of indicators, then will be analyzed the national statistical system to provide indicators, will be identified the availability of the data at NIS and institutional level, will be determined the degree of availability of the indicators. Depending on this will be identified the proxy indicators for the missing indicators.

After the set of national indicators will be established, will be defined the standard format of data and metadata for the indicators and then it should pass through a validation step it will begin the process of collecting data from institutions. It follows the activity of collecting data from the central and local public administration authorities, for the indicators of sustainable development included in the updated set. This activity will be the biggest challenge for us, because not all institutions have databases or data registers, and sometimes there are brakes in data series or methodological issues. In this activity, the NIS will be supported by the Sustainable Development Department through collaboration protocols with each institution.

After data and metadata will be collected and validated, will be disseminated on dedicated section on NIS webpage. Other institutions already showed interest to make the set available on their own sites.