



DEPARTMENT OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



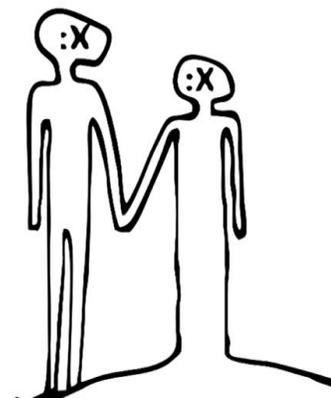
Achieving the SDGs through a Sustainable and Just Transition: Challenges and responses to Covid-19

18th ESDN Workshop



ILEANA LUMINIȚA BĂLĂLĂU

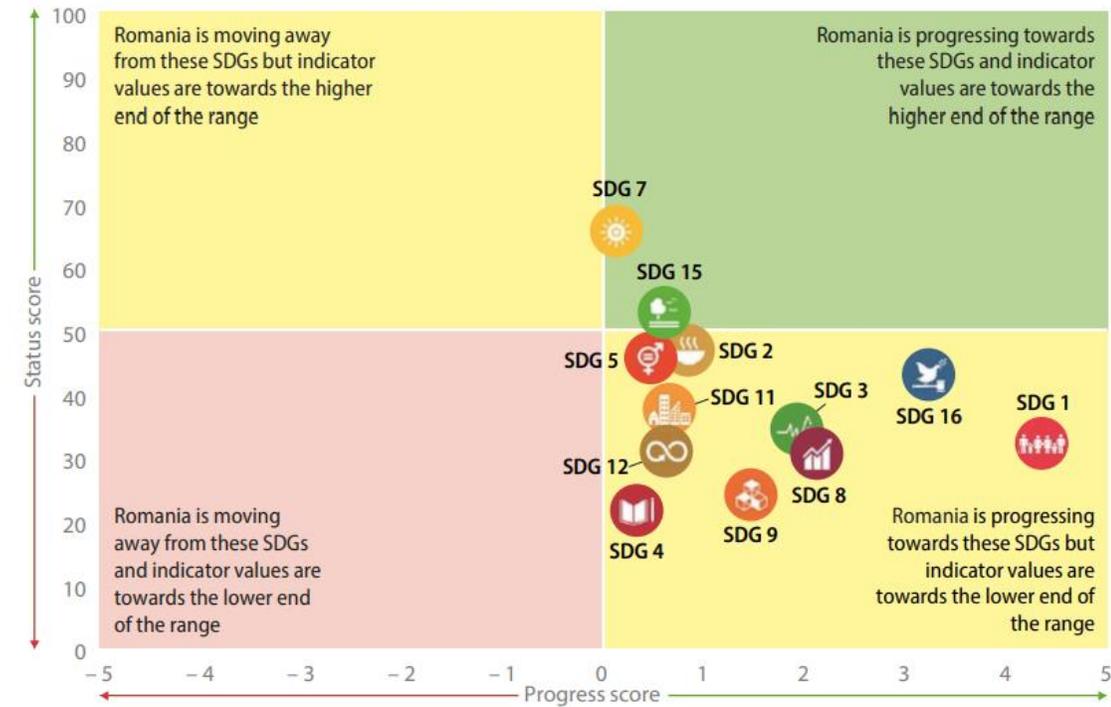
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Covid-19 recovery and its effects on national implementation of the SDGs

- Romania has made progresses in implementing the 2030 Agenda on all goals
- The COVID-19 crisis will influence country performance in achieving the SDGs by 2030.
- SDG 1 No poverty, SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth, for which Romania has made significant progress, are in danger of stagnation or significant setbacks.
- The UN 2030 Agenda translated into Romanian Sustainable Development Strategy used as roadmap for a sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.
- The Romanian government is preparing a consolidated economic recovery package. The post Covid-19 recovery plan will be designed based on the 2020 National Reform Programme, investment and reform priorities identified as part of the European Semester.
- Potential sources for the package of measures: the national budget, loans on the international and domestic markets, bonds for citizens or corona bonds - between 1,000 and 2,000 billion euros, grants or loans to Member States offered by the EC, other European programs or IFI (SURE program -employment measures; EIB, IBRD, IMF resources).

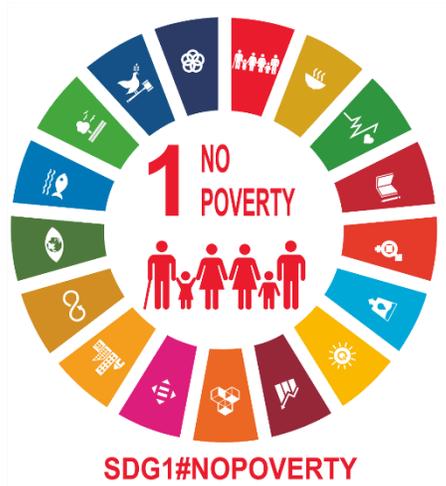
Figure 18.24: Romania



Source: Eurostat

Eurostat report, 2020, „Sustainable development in the European Union

Covid-19: Effects /Short and long term measures



Impact on vulnerable segments of society

National SDG 1 target 2030

Adequate income replacement and extension of social protection measures and access to essential services for all

Measures during the emergency situation

- Recipients of the minimum guaranteed income exempted from carrying out local community work
- The education incentives for participation in education of children from disadvantaged families will not be conditional on the regular attendance of kindergarten by the beneficiary children
- During June 2020, Romania started delivery food and basic hygiene products and other supplies co-financed by the EAD Funds
- Social protection benefits conditional on children and youth attending school continued to be payed, irrespective their participation in online learning activities
- The daily food allowance granted to children with special educational needs was granted throughout the validity of the education guidance certificate, unconditional on the number of school days and attendance



SDG3#GOODHEALTHANDWELL-BEING

Covid-19: Effects /Short and long term measures

Significant effect on health outcomes

School closure, limited access to education for vulnerable children

Measures during the emergency situation

- No obligation to use the national health insurance card for medical services, home care, drugs, sanitary materials, medical devices, assistive technologies and devices
- Medical equipment and other expenditures
- General practitioners and specialist physicians permitted to issue online electronic prescriptions for fully and partially subsidised drugs.
- Bonuses for employees in the health sector working with patients infected with COVID-19

National SDG targets 2030

Strengthening the resilience of the health system, including in the areas of health workers and medical products, and improve access to health services for all



SDG4#QUALITYEDUCATION

- Partnership with the Romanian Television to deliver the TV-learning programme for the future graduates
- An education open resources website have been operationalized (red.educd.ro)

Strengthening of the infrastructure, skills and digital learning and ensuring equal access to education



SDG8#DECENTWORKANDECONOMICGROWTH

Covid-19: Effects /Short and long term measures

The unemployment rate doubled

Hospitality industry: important drop in turnover

Measures during the emergency situation



SDG9#INDUSTRYINNOVATIONANDINFRASTRUCTURE

- state aid of 75% of the basic salary for parents who have to stay home with kids younger than 12 years
- payment of the technical unemployment for companies whose activities are impacted by the restrictions

- Aid scheme of approximately EUR 3.3 billion to SMEs in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

National SDG targets 2030

- Mitigate the employment impact of the crisis by developing flexible working arrangements and activation measures.
- Supporting of 35-45% of the salary, for 2-3 months and the employment of young graduates/NEETS and the older people

- Innovation and technological progress - key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges, such as increased resource and energy-efficiency
- Mature public investment projects and promotion of private investment to foster the economic recovery. Focus investment on the green and digital transition, in particular on sustainable transport, digital service infrastructure, clean and efficient production and use of energy and environmental infrastructure, including in the coal regions.
- A more resource efficient, circular manufacturing model



SDG16#PEACEJUSTICEANDSTRONGINSTITUTIONS

Covid-19: Effects /Short and long term measures

Public service digitalization; increased cooperation

Measures during the emergency situation

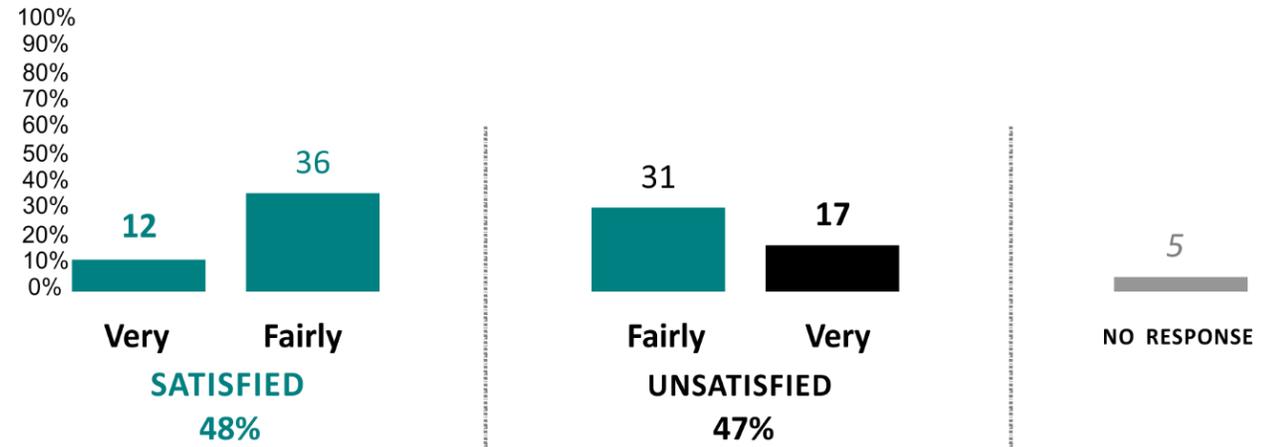
- Public institutions have established strategic partnerships with specialists from the private sector in order to create the tools that facilitate the online interaction with citizens

National SDG targets 2030

- Digitalization of public administration
- Improve the quality and effectiveness of public administration and the predictability of decision-making, including through an adequate involvement of social partners.

ROMÂNIA DURABILĂ

To what extent are you satisfied with the actions of the Romanian state to combat the spread of coronavirus in Romania?



Relevant priorities for a sustainable post-COVID recovery

- The government has to **reshape** its **priorities** given the new landscape brought by the COVID-19 pandemic but needs to **stick to long-term sustainable objectives** as the ones set out in the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS)
- The realities and findings of the Covid 19 crisis will be taken into account in the National Action Plan for implementing the NSDS
- Romania initiated the adherence process at the OECD Recommendations on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development to **better align policies across sectors with SDGs**
- Proactive government's actions to **align the EU Semester exercise with SDGs**
- **Development of institutional capacity and leadership skills for policy coherence and SDG integration and coordination** to trigger a more strategic and results-oriented management approach across the public administration in post-COVID recovery, with OECD support



#WillYou2030?

Thank you for your attention!

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