BUILDING INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS TO SUPPORT THE SDGS IN EAST AND CENTRAL EUROPE

Romania as a Case Study

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Political will and Critical Mass

Parliament, Government, and the Presidency
Political will and Critical Mass:

“The support of all the branches of Government is always important in implementing any project, especially Sustainable Development.”

- Romania will submit its Voluntary National Review during the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development in July 2018.
- The Parliament declared its support for the SDGs. It is the first parliamentarian declaration of this kind from all 170 IPU member states.
- The Government has a Department of Sustainable Development which is tasked with implementing the 2030 Agenda. This was based on the Government’s Strategy because it takes Sustainable Development seriously.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinates Romania’s development cooperation and humanitarian aid policy. This year, Romania has celebrated its 10th years since it became a donor to the Official Development Assistance (ODA).
“Romania has assumed the necessary development policies with real impact on advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. We have chosen to involve in this process all political actors, the civil society, the private sector, and the scientific community.”

“To share our experience in coordinating the national process of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to speak about our progress, Romania will submit its Voluntary National Review during the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development in July 2018.”
The Legislative Dimension: A subcommittee on Sustainable Development

The Romanian Parliament

The Chamber of Deputies

The Committee on Foreign Affairs

The Sub-committee on Sustainable Development
The Governmental Dimension:

Functions:

• Coordinating the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030.
• Monitoring the implementation of the UN Agenda 2030.
• Building a clear institutional framework.
• Representing Romania at the EU and UN institutions on Sustainable Development.
Critical Mass at the Romanian Government

Birding the gap between the different stakeholders
Multi-layer approach
multi-level, multi-thematic, multi-sectoral linkages

Department of SD
PM’s Office

GOVERNMENT
Inter-departmental Committee
- all ministries, including NIS

PARLIAMENT
Subcommittee on Sustainable Development – under the Committee for Foreign Affairs
Consultative council on SDGs

STAKEHOLDERS
- Academia (Universities)
Business (UN Global Compact Romania)
Professional organizations
Civil society (NGOs, citizens)
Updating Romania’s Sustainable Development Strategy
National Strategy, Communication, and Raising Awareness.

Working on updates
Date of completion: March 2018
Don’t turn off your computer
The Sustainable Development Strategy

• A national strategy is essential for implementing the 2030 agenda.
• It acts as a framework through which it can be contextualized on a national level.
• It’s a way to bridge different voices from different segments of society in order to create more efficient public policy.
The Importance of Quantifiable Targets

• A successful national strategy requires a mechanism through which its progress can be monitored.

• Romania will look at both the UN’s and the EU’s indicator sets in order to capture both the global and regional dimension of SD and adapt them to a national level.

• This is a key step in contextualizing the 2030 Agenda, and the Romanian Institute of Statistics is one of our key partners.
Communicating Sustainable Development

• The 2030 Agenda is an ambitious project, and it requires the support of everybody. This is where stakeholders fit into the picture, and this requires different forms of communication in order to make sure everybody is on board.

• The department has (and is) organizing a variety of events, ranging from regional conferences, educational events, and business and NGO gatherings, in order to fill this gap.

• By having a strategy, every governmental project in Romania will incorporate the principles of Sustainable Development and provide the paradigm needed to ensure that their project has the ‘2030 Agenda’ stamp of approval.
Mobilizing Financial Resources

• Once you have the institutional groundwork, the next step is to look at the financial aspect.

• By being a governmental department, we are directly financed by the PM’s General Secretariat.

• EEA and Norway Grants – another source of funding.
• The Addis Ababa Action Agenda helps ensure that financial resources are effectively mobilized to support our Sustainable Development Strategy.

• The ‘secret’ ingredient that brings everything together is having a vision and that, in turn, helps change society’s way of thinking for the better.

• It is by having such a unifying vision that one can bridge the qualitative aspect of implementing the 17 Goals and its financial aspect and SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENT THE 2030 AGENDA.
How is this relative for global policy?

- Taking into account the three layers of Sustainable Development (Global, Regional, and National), and just how interconnected everything is, is the first step to secure the required financing for the goals. **This requires coordination and cooperation.**

- The National Strategy acts both as a roadmap and as a mechanism through which a revenue stream can be institutionalized.

- Having multiple streams of revenue helps create the stability required to properly implement the 2030 Agenda.
The European Dimension

• The European Union is preparing to present its own report in 2019 on implementing the 2030 Agenda at the HLPF.

• It is also during this time that Romania will hold the rotating EU presidency. Romania will clearly be involved.
Mr. Bean is on board with the 2030 Agenda

Reaching **critical mass** is guaranteed!
Thank you!

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