



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

NATIONAL REFORM PROGRAMME 2022

ANNEX TABLE 5

Reporting on SDGs

April 2022

TABLE 5: REPORTING ON SDGs: DESCRIPTION OF MAIN FORWARD-LOOKING MEASURES AND THEIR ESTIMATED IMPACT

SDG	List of main contributing measures	Estimated impact of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative)
 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Law on debt restructuring and second chance (2020) ● Establishment of i) a Public Credit Bureau, which will provide a valid and objective credit rating of natural persons and legal entities, based on their data and payment profile towards the public sector (tax authorities and social security institutions), in order to fill the information gap and information asymmetry between creditors and debtors, (ii) the development of an electronic platform to support the early warning mechanism and the out-of-court settlement of debts for individuals and legal entities, (iii) the implementation of the National Private Debt Resolution Strategy, and (iv) the development of a monitoring registry for private debt. ● Law for “State support to businesses and non-profit entities for damages from natural disasters”. ● Adoption of the “Help at Home” as a national programme implemented by the municipalities of the country for the elderly, the persons with disabilities, living alone or having a low income. ● Provision of housing, healthcare, food and clothing provided in kind or in vouchers and monthly financial allowances to asylum seekers ensuring 	<p>Greece has set the priority of reducing at least by half, the proportion of people living in poverty and to achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable. The main challenge is to address the high poverty rates created between 2008 and 2013, as a result of an economic crisis which brought an increase in unemployment rates together with a pre-existing inadequate social safety net. Special measures are in place for the significant numbers of asylum seekers in order to reduce poverty risk and to ensure adequate living conditions. The State also aims to support businesses and nonprofit entities for damages from natural disasters, primarily caused by climate change.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● After 9 years of rates exceeding 30%, 2020 is the first year to see people at risk of poverty before social transfers reach 28.9%. Following a similar trajectory, the risk of poverty after social transfers showed the lowest rate in 11 years, at 17,7% (2020).

	<p>that their needs are met without exposure to financial hardship, in full compliance with international and European obligations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interim scheme for the State support of the main residence loans of vulnerable households, which will provide a state subsidy for the mortgage installment of vulnerable debtors in the amount of 70 to 210 euros per month, depending on the composition of the household. ● National Strategy for Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction and the Action Plan for its implementation: includes the goals, political priorities, implemented and planned programs/ actions of the Greek Government for the new programming period 2021-2027. The actions aim at the social integration and reintegration of the special and vulnerable groups of the population and at the reduction of poverty. ● National Plan for the Child Guarantee has been developed with the objective to address child poverty and social exclusion, in order to successfully implement the Child Guarantee and to monitor and evaluate its progress and outcomes ● National Roma Integration Strategy and Action Plan, 2021-2030: promotes actions in the areas of fighting poverty and social exclusion, as well as equal and non-discriminatory access of Roma to housing, healthcare, education and skills development, social care and employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● During the decade of the financial crisis, severely deprived people reached a peak in 2016 (22,4%) and the rate has been declining to reach 16,6% in 2020. ● A significant decrease of people living in poor housing conditions has been observed as the rate has dropped, despite the financial crisis, from 17,1% (2010) to 12,5% (2020). ● Keeping houses warm is a challenge for Greek people as, in spite of the significant decrease of the high rates of the financial crisis, 17.1% (2020) of the population still cannot meet this need adequately, to this rate contributing 39,2% of people living on below 60% of median income
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2 ZERO HUNGER



- Food and meals distribution system through the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)
- Asylum seekers in Greece receive groceries and cooked meals through framework contracts by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, as well as cash assistance, ensuring a long term food planning and nutrition security.
- National Food Policy Plan aims to integrate healthy dietary habits.
- National Programme for the Promotion of Physical Activity and Healthy Diet was established to control and manage the risk factors associated with poor diet and lack of physical activity.
- The national School Meals Programme, for primary schools in underprivileged areas
- A key milestone for tackling obesity is the roll-out of the National Action Plan for Public Health 2021-25, that encompasses a comprehensive program to address the risk of obesity in Greece, with a focus on specific initiatives for children and adolescents.
- The "Economic Transformation of the Agri-Food Sector" reform for food safety and adequacy, prioritizing actions such as the strengthening innovation and the transition to "green" processing of agricultural products, the "green" agritourism, the restructuring of crops and the genetic improvement of animals.

The Government is ensuring that not only food but quality nutrition is accessible by all, particularly underprivileged children. The efforts include humanitarian assistance and safety nets for individuals facing the threat of starvation during the increased migration flows that arrived in Greece, while securing long-term food and nutrition security to asylum seekers. The high rates of obesity are another crucial target, with efforts focusing on improving the overall lifestyle of citizens, introducing more physical activity and health education.

Progress on SDG-related indicators:

- Overweight (pre-obese and obese) adults in Greece remain a relatively stable proportion of the population at 57,6% with a tendency to increase. This ranks the country above the EU-members average, although not in the highest cluster. There is currently an effort to bring out obesity as a serious risk factor for health problems and diseases.
- The index of real income of agricultural factors per annual unit of work, showed fluctuations during the period 2010-2018. Since 2019 it demonstrates an increase, mainly due to the implementation of policies in the agricultural sector placing emphasis

		<p>on technological and organizational modernization, human resources development, close cooperation with research agencies and the repositioning of Greek agri-food products to the domestic and international markets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The government financial support to agricultural R&D which had been relatively low at up to 3.1 euros per inhabitant, shows an increasing trend especially after 2019 and onwards, reaching 5.3 euros per inhabitant (2019). Areas under organicfarming increase slowly, marking 1% more in a decade.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Vaccination Programme (since 2020), targeting specific andvulnerable groups of the population, children, minors and adults, mobile populations and populations at risk ▪ "Spyros Doxiadis" (NPP), is focused on the early detection of common Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in the general population. The program addresses the unmet needs for early identification and effective secondary prevention of diseases such as cardiovascular disease and cancer that are responsible for the vast burden of premature deaths in Greece. It also includes prenatal and perinatal screening for 270,000 pregnant women and perinatal screening for 270,000 newborns over the next 3 years, a National Program for the Promotion of Physical Exercise and Healthy Nutrition and an Alcohol prevention programme (estimated to benefit 291,000 young people in the 14-24 age group); it includes educational programmes, intensifying 	<p>Reforms promoted in the healthcare sector emphasize on improving accessibility for all to healthcare services, regardless their socioeconomic status, health status or residence. Moreover, a core pursuit is to achieve a shift of model from care to prevention, in order to eliminate preventable and treatable causes of mortality whilst tackling behavioral and environmental factors that are linked to mortality rates, such as tobacco and alcohol use or dietary habits. Reforms in the PHC as well as rationalization of health expenditure is also expected to result in reduction of the out-of-pocket health spending which is one of the highest in the EU. The Ministry of Defense aims to support and</p>

	<p>controls against illegal supply to minors, strengthening of rehabilitation centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Helpline 10306: Since 2021, on the occasion of the pandemic, it provides tele-counseling and support by qualified professionals for the general population, free of charge and on a 24-hour basis. The range of services include psychiatric care to patients with mental illness, psychological support to children and families, psychological support to health personnel and social support to the general public of age for any mental health issue. The line was expanded to support children, adolescents and their families and fire- or earthquake-stricken citizens. ▪ Launch (2021) of a Tele-psychiatry platform for children and adolescents and a Tele-psychiatry Network, in the form of an integrated digital outpatient clinic (prescribing, diagnosis, issuing certificates. The operation of services in Kastelorizo and Syros has already begun, while similar units will be developed in border islands and mountainous areas. ▪ By the end of Q4/2022, a range of specialized mental health services and programmes will be available for: 1) patients with dementia and Alzheimer's disease 2) patients with autism 3) children, adolescents and young adults 4) employed and unemployed people, migrants and refugees 5) training of health personnel 6) Psycho-education and support of the general population and patients with chronic diseases 7) timely intervention in psychosis in health care units New short-stay facilities for patients with autism throughout Greece and creation of distance learning psychoeducation and support programs for their family or caregivers ▪ Establishment and organization of the "National Central Health Procurement Authority". The centralization of procurement will reach the target of 40% 	<p>improve health services provided by the State to both civilians and military personnel.</p> <p>In the field of mental health, all planned interventions are aiming to promote, prevent & reduce stigmatization and increase support to vulnerable groups of the population providing integrated and responsive services in community-based settings.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Healthy life years have been steadily increasing for both sexes from 2015 to 2019, with the total number increasing from 64 to 66 years. However, the number of remaining years that a person of specific age is expected to live without any severe or moderate health problems, has not yet returned to the levels of the period before the financial crisis (67 years). ● Despite the multi-year economic crisis and the outbreak of the pandemic, the percentage of people with self-perceived health as “good” or “very good” has risen slightly over a decade, from 75.7% to 78.6%. ● Smoking prevalence remains significant as a problem, with the percentage of the population aged 15 years and over who report tobacco
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	<p>within 2022, which means the procurement of more high quality materials contributing to better health services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The implementation of the Greek DRG System is being accelerated by strengthening the digital infrastructure of the Greek DRG institute-KETEKNY (Q2/2025), training adequate number of clinical coders and ensuring that all Greek hospitals will have the appropriate Clinical Information Systems in order to capture the patient journey within the Digital Patient Record ▪ Regarding healthcare quality and patient safety, ODIPY will develop a Common Assessment Framework and the digital infrastructure to collect and analyze the appropriate quality metrics and propose the appropriate changes to the National Health Map in close collaboration with the WHO and their Regional Office for Patient Safety and Quality based in Athens ▪ In order to support the inhabitants of mountainous and remote/inaccessible regions, a new preventive medicine programme, “Prevention at Home” was introduced in 2020 by law. The Programme makes possible, on the one hand, medical examinations at home for the inhabitants of the above regions who belong to vulnerable groups of population and, on the other hand, the automated dispatch of the results to contracted practitioners through the use of information and communication technologies. ▪ New law on PHC is currently in consultation with a view to being adopted in May 2022. The law introduces changes to ensure equal access to healthcare for all citizens through a personal/family doctor, effective gatekeeping via a referral system that will relieve hospitals from unnecessary patient visits and provides incentives for doctors to enroll citizens in the new PHC system as well as disincentive is the charging of 50% (or more) as for self-referrals. At the same time, a comprehensive plan covering infrastructure, equipment 	<p>smoking every day, showing a marginal rise between 2012 and 2020 (40% and 42% respectively).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apart from a minor setback regarding HIV, the standardized death rate due to tuberculosis, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and hepatitis by type of disease remained very low, and even decreased slightly from 2012 (1.6) to 2018 (1.45).
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	<p>and organisational restructuring is being implemented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The establishment of 8 reference sites and of a national registry for patients treated through home care is being promoted. ▪ Program accessibility and support infrastructure for people with mobility and sensory impairments aims to finance small and large scale adaptations in public and private buildings in order to make them accessible for persons with disabilities. The interventions will be made in residences, private and public workplaces and in the branches of the Social Welfare Centers of the Regions. ▪ Air medical evacuation flights across the country and abroad are carried out by the Ministry of Defense supplementary to the Ministry of Health. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New (2020) National System of Vocational Education, Training and Lifelong Learning with a view to further improving and reforming VET, placing particular emphasis, among others, on apprenticeship for persons with disabilities. The implementation of the law that introduced the above-mentioned new VET&LLL system will be further accelerated by an RRP reform (Upgrading Vocational Education and Training), including provisions for the development and certification of new professional profiles for the sectors of energy, environment and digital economy. ● The Government has put forward a number of specific measures aimed at promoting inclusive and equitable education, with a focus on the most vulnerable students, including the employment of 4,500 special education teachers as permanent staff, the completion of inclusive Education Guide for schools and the development of curricula for special 	<p>For the past three years, Greece has been making considerable efforts, despite the hit of the pandemic, to modernize and upgrade education and training across all levels. Substantial reforms have been put forward, aiming to ensure a high-quality education that is inclusive and fair, as well as encourage lifelong learning opportunities for all.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reforms in School Education aim at improving the effectiveness of the system, enhancing student performance in terms of basic and digital skills, as well as ensuring the inclusion of people with disabilities and children in vulnerable situations. ● VET and lifelong learning reforms seek to contribute to the development prospects of the

	<p>education schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In order to improve the quality and inclusiveness of education and to substantially upgrade the skills of the students, the Government decided to introduce in the educational system new School Curricula, which attribute particular importance to the cultivation of soft and digital skills across all ages and disciplines through the use of innovative digital tools and materials, and educational methods that foster the creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication and curiosity. ● A new University Reform Bill is expected to enter public consultation by Q2/2022. The overall aim of the forthcoming reform bill is to enhance the autonomy of HEIs, upgrade quality, streamline institutional governance, as well as promote extroversion, innovation and research within Greek HEIs. Transformation in the landscape of Higher Education will also be supported by the RRP reform “Strategy for Excellence in Universities & Innovation” (ID: 16289), with a view to enhancing performance of Greek HEIs and strengthening their relevance to the job market. ● Education and awareness-raising on sustainable development, climate change and the SDGs is being pursued not only in the primary, secondary and tertiary school curricula but also in the Military Academies, where officers are taught relevant courses. ● The “Child Protection” reform is included in the Greek Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP). The measure consists of a reform of the curriculum and educational program of infants aged from 3 months to 4 years, aimed to promote their cognitive development, including early diagnosis of cognitive impairment. The reform is accompanied by 	<p>Greek economy, remove negative social stereotypes, increase adults’ engagement in learning and provide skills relevant to labour market demands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The expected impact of the reform in Higher Education includes improvement in the quality of education offered, elimination of skills mismatch, reduction of (recent) graduates’ unemployment and underemployment rates and brain drain reversal into brain circulation. ● Emphasis is put on access to quality education, without discrimination and exclusions for Applicants and Beneficiaries of International Protection, particularly by fostering their participation to formal education and non-formal education that will be provided during the “pre-integration” stage. ● The purpose of reform regarding Digital skills, training programs and certification for conscripts during their military service, is to re-evaluate the military service as a whole, so that conscripts can acquire certified skills during their military training in order to improve their access to the labor market, following the completion of military service.
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	<p>investments in educational material and cognitive development assessment tools for 3,000 childcare centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interventions aimed to upskill the low-skilled/low-qualified adults including adolescents and youth at risk, with a migrant, refugee or minority background, children and young people with disabilities, unaccompanied children, and children with complex needs, with the aim of providing opportunities for basic, soft, and vocational skills development. ● Roll-out of the globally acclaimed «Skills Labs» innovative initiative for the promotion of education for sustainable development through the development and improvement of a wide variety of pupils’ skills (i.e. soft skills, life skills and technology & science skills). The «Skills Labs» - which are focused on four thematic areas (well-being, the environment, social empathy, and innovation) – aim to equip students with the appropriate skills, values, and attitudes to make them successful life-long learners, as well as global citizens of the world. ● Education for integration: 10 distinct sub-projects among which Linguistic and Intercultural training, Active Vocational Guidance, Vocational Training on basic, digital and technical skills, as well as Skills Certification for refugees ● Digital skills, training programs and certification for conscripts during their military service will be provided by the Ministry of National Defense, in coordination with the Ministry of Digital Governance. Moreover, vocational training programs regarding army’s most required Professional specialization valuable for conscripts’ access to the labor market, will be carried out from the newly established Lifelong Learning 	<p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Over the last decade, the proportion of the population aged 18 - 24 who are early leavers from education and training has fallen from 13.5% in 2010 to 3.8% in 2020, a year when Greece ranked second best among European Union (EU) Member states. ● In 2020, the percentage of people aged 25 - 34 who have successfully completed tertiary studies (e.g. University, Higher Technical Institution, etc.) was 43.7%, being well above the EU average. It has been an encouraging increase, compared to 2010 (30.6%), yet recent graduates seem to still face particular employability challenges. ● The percentage of adults aged 25-64 who participate in learning (formal or non-formal, both general and vocational, after leaving initial education and training) has increased from to 3.3% in 2010 to 4.1% in 2020, though still remaining far below the EU average. ● There is still a high proportion of NEETs, despite showing a tendency to decrease, linked to many
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	Centers of the Armed Forces.	concurrent structural and employability issues and a persisting low youth employment.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the National Programme on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women, including: (i) the national SOS 15900 24-hour helpline, (ii) 43 Counseling Centres throughout the country providing social, psychological, legal and employment support using a gender perspective and legal aid, in cooperation with bar associations, and (iii) 19 Women’s Shelters that provide accommodation and food to women victims of gender-based violence and their children. • New law (2020) promoting women’s participation in decision making in sports clubs & associations. • A 2021 labour reform law transposes into national Law the EU Work-life Balance Directive that aims at better supporting a work-life balance for parents and carers. It encourages a more equal sharing of parental leave between men and women, while introducing paternity leave for the first time and addressing women’s underrepresentation in the labour market • Shared responsibility in the family is pursued by 2 projects to be implemented beginning in 2022: (i) The Project Creation of Childcare units within large companies (funded by the RRP and included in the “GREECE 2.0” recovery plan), which offers financial support to companies in order to create childcare units, and (ii) the flagship program called Nannies of the Neighborhood, designed to support working mothers to take care of their babies, aged from 2 months to 2.5 years by giving them access to accredited caregivers. • In 2021, the Government ratified by law the ILO Convention concerning 	<p>During the Covid-19 pandemic the risk of domestic violence rose while the negative socio-economic consequences on the economy tend to affect women more than men. Key priority Interventions planned that are related to SDG5 focus on combating domestic violence which has risen due to the pandemic. The government also aims to address trafficking of vulnerable groups by adopting both preventive and operational measures. A set of measures have been adopted to eliminate violence and harassment in the workplace. Low women's participation in the labour market is also being addressed, not only through active labour market policies (upskilling, reskilling, integration measures) but also through measures that seek to support working parents to balance family and work life (i.e. measures for childcare). Women's participation in decision making processes is also reinforced, as a gender quota on listed company boards.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As regards to the gender pay gap, the difference between the average gross hourly earnings of male and female employees has

	<p>the elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work (No. 190). The adoption of this landmark instrument recognizes the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment, including gender-based violence and harassment, thus making Greece one of the first countries to have ratified it (articles 1-23).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 2020 law on Corporate Governance envisages provisions regarding a more comprehensive gender representation in the Board of Directors, by introducing mandatory quotas and stipulates the company's obligation to set diverse criteria for the selection of its directors. It provides for the first time in Greece a gender quota of at least 25% on listed company boards. This provision, which was deemed necessary in order to address the under-representation of women in the BoDs, complements the voluntary adoption of the principle of diversity (regarding knowledge, skills including gender of advisors) by the Greek Code of Corporate Governance. • Strategy on Fighting Trafficking in Human Beings (2021-2025), setting out a number of targeted objectives and priorities aimed at effectively addressing organized human trafficking networks, developing preventive measures, with particular focus on the most vulnerable groups, and strengthening inter-agency and cross-border cooperation 	<p>declined significantly between 2010-2018 dropping from 15% to 10.4%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a context of an overall low employment affected by the financial crisis, low female employment rates (48,7%, see SDG 8), high female long- and short-term unemployment rates, and their stable significant difference to mens' (20% difference in employment), have been persisting issues for the economy since even before the crisis. • Participation of women in senior management positions was traditionally extremely low, marking around 6% until 2011. An impressive change has been observed since, with a recent decisive support of legislation (2020), which elevated the rate to around 20% for both board members and executives.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second update of the River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs), of the country's 14 River Basin Districts, covering surface freshwaters such as lakes and rivers, groundwater, transitional and coastal waters up to one nautical mile, is currently underway to be completed within 2022. It will provide the necessary information, the objectives and 	<p>Greece, as a country vulnerable to the effects of climate change and draughts aims at improving the quality of drinking water, increasing efficiency in water usage by reducing leakages, supporting islands desalination projects, as well as improving legislative and institutional</p>

	<p>operational instructions for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) within a River Basin, in accordance with the provisions of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) (2000/60/EC), including at the transboundary level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Water Monitoring Network was recently revised to monitor the qualitative and quantitative status of surface water and groundwater bodies. • With regard to water savings, Greece, as a vulnerable country to the effects of climate change and droughts, places particular emphasis on efforts to complete the related legislative framework to allow for the reuse of reclaimed water from adequately treated urban wastewater in the context of a circular economy, aiming at saving water resources. • Operationalization and further implementation of the 2010 Agreement on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Prespa Park Area between Greece, Albania, North Macedonia and the EU, which entered into force in May 2019 and promotes the cross-border cooperation on integrated water resources management. • The investment “Drinking Water Supply and Saving Infrastructure”, under the RRP frame, aims at improving the quality of drinking water, increasing efficiency in water usage and upgrading the existing water supply network. The main challenge is the lack of adequacy and good quality of drinking water, as well as issues concerning Public Health due to the water supply networks age, which were made of asbestos-cement pipes. Moreover, the 	<p>framework related to the rationalization of water tariff policy in line with the ‘polluter pays’ principle and ensuring the sustainability of water services in the country.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proportion of the population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment presents a mild but steady increase, approaching a percentage of around 95% in 2018. • The pressure on renewable freshwater resources due to water demand, measured as the annual average difference between water abstraction and return after use to the environment, is quite high, revealing a situation close to water scarcity in 2017.
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obsolescence of the water supply networks and the non-existence of leak detection systems and infrastructures, result in non-rationalized costs which are affecting the pricing and to inefficient use of water resources. The investment consists of four sub-projects: (a) construction of new water supply infrastructures in seven areas and three desalination plants, (b) establishment of telemetry - remote control systems for the detection of leaks in water supply networks, (c) procurement of digital hydrometers and (d) other water saving actions. The investment shall comply with the following requirements, (i) for newly constructed system to have an average Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) that will be less or equal to 1,5 and (ii) for the renovation activity to decrease the leakage by more than 20% and (iii) for desalination units to be connected to renewable energy sources. As regards the timelines for completion of the Investment, the first milestone, which corresponds to the Issuance of a call of interest for water saving actions, will be issued by June 2023

- Moreover, the investment “Water Supply Projects” is related to water supply works in areas of Western Greece and the islands of Lesbos and Corfu. The aim of the investment is to meet the high-water supply needs during the summer months and address leakage problems. The constructed systems shall comply, on average, with an Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) that will be less or equal to 1,5. The measure requires that all works comply with the following principles: (i) all technically feasible and ecologically relevant mitigation measures shall be implemented to reduce adverse

	<p>impacts on water and relevant habitats and species; (ii) for a newly built dam, ensure that it shall not result in the deterioration nor compromise the achievement of good status of the relevant and connected water bodies. The tenders for works and equipment will be launched by Q4 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the most important reform comes under the title “Establishment of new water and wastewater regulatory authority” and aims at improving the decisions taken for an improved operation of the water infrastructure and promotion of new initiatives for water saving. This reform will enter into force a single entity, the National Water Regulatory Authority (NWRA), responsible for implementing the policy for a rational management of water resources, designed by the Ministry of Environment and Energy. The new Authority is expected to strengthen the institutional framework and supervise the sector, including the rationalization of water tariff policy in line with the ‘polluter pays’ principle and ensuring the sustainability of water services in Greece. The implementation of the investment shall be completed by 31 December 2023. The first milestone to be fulfilled by Q4 2022 is the enactment of a law for the establishment and operation of the new water regulator. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New enhanced programmes for energy renovation of residential buildings. • Law for the promotion of e-mobility, targeting the charging services market and enabling the provision of tax-based incentives for purchasing electric vehicles and the installation of charging infrastructure. New 	<p>Transition to a new, low carbon energy model is a high priority for Greece. The country has embarked on an ambitious plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, increase the share of renewable energy sources (RES) in gross final energy consumption, improve energy efficiency</p>

	<p>programmes on e-mobility, including three subsidy sub-programmes planned to be initiated within 2022, funded by the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility, planning to (i) procure and install around 8,000 publicly accessible charging points for electric cars in urban and suburban locations within cities and in other points of interest such as highways, ports, railway stations etc and is expected to be completed by end of 2025. (ii) subsidize the replacement of 2,000 old, conventional taxis with zero-emission electric “Green Taxis”, which is expected to be completed by the end of 2024. (iii) accelerate efforts in introducing e-buses to the public fleet, starting from Athens and Thessaloniki. Finally, e-mobility will be promoted also by the new National Climate Law (see also SDG 13), which foresees, <i>inter alia</i>, the sales only of zero-emission passenger cars from the beginning of 2030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The National Action Plan for Alleviating Energy Poverty, entered into force in September 2021, as a detailed and binding policy and monitoring framework for abating energy poverty. The Plan integrates the relevant EU Guidelines and provides a mapping and clustering of the relevant measures under three core dimensions: consumers’ protection, promotion of renewable energy sources (RES) and energy efficiency interventions. By the end of 2022, a programme will be launched, including vulnerable households, to tackle energy poverty through the support of energy communities of small-scale RES producers and the development of photovoltaics (PVs). ● Continuation of the Just Development Transition Master Plan, ensuring a fair development transition of the affected lignite producing areas, with necessary alterations in the timeline of lignite power plants 	<p>by renovating private and public buildings, promote e-mobility, accelerate electricity interconnections between the islands and the mainland, streamline the efficient operation of the new electricity market model, simultaneously with alleviating energy poverty.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final energy consumption demonstrates a reduction during the last decade which could be attributed mainly to the severe economic recession but also (as in the case of the 2019-2020 period of economic expansion) to a higher energy efficiency (as with the adoption of concrete policies in the building sector). ● The more than doubling of the share of renewable energy sources in gross final energy consumption after 2010 is considered to be a result of combined measures of regulatory and technical nature. Similar distributions and even more steep trends are presented by the share of RES in specific sectors like transport or electricity.
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decommissioning, mandated by energy security issues deriving from the war in Ukraine.

- The interconnection of the islands to the mainland's power grid is under way, which is part of the 2019 National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), as well as of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan and concerns relatively bigger islands aiming to deploy their vast renewable energy potential, promote their energy security and downsize CO₂ emissions and energy costs.
- GR-Gr-Eco islands is a strategic initiative of the Greek Government that aims to transform Greek islands into models of green economy, energy autonomy, digital innovation and eco mobility. Key pillars of the initiative that builds on the high renewables potential of Greek islands and takes into account their sensitive natural ecosystem, include: the promotion of renewables and energy efficiency practices, sustainable waste and water management, zero pollution schemes, electrification of transport, the green transformation of agriculture and tourism, and the development of port and other infrastructure through targeted subsidies and custom-made programmes by the Ministry of Environment and Energy and other competent Ministries, under the “umbrella” of the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP).
- Significant investment is the “Support of the installation of storage systems to enhance RES penetration”. The project intends to support the installation of up to 1.380 MW capacity of Energy Storage in the electricity system, ca. 50% of which will come as long duration storage from the Amfilochia PHS. These investments will allow the system integration of new RES capacity which is required for the achievement of

NECP targets. In addition, this action will also alleviate network congestion, increase the flexibility of the electricity system and liquidity of the balancing market, enhance system adequacy, enable energy efficiency and promote electricity price transparent formation. At the end of March 2022, the required legislation for the incorporation of the approved support scheme has been prepared and will be voted by mid-2022. Also by the end of Q2 2022 the tender procedures for all selected projects, will be published for a total of up to 700MW of capacity.

- Another relevant investment is the “Installed capacity increase in Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator (HEDNO) HV/MV substations for new RES connection”. The investment aims at the expansion of the distribution network in order to allow for the optimal and timely realization of new “medium and large scale” RES projects, avoiding long delays due to congested networks.
- The investment “Produc-E Green” contributes to the same goals achievement. It aims at establishing sustainable urban mobility and promoting storage of CO2 emissions; and is composed of two sub projects. (1) The funding of 20 industrial production units and R&D activities for greening passenger shipping in Greece and (2) The development of the first CO2 Storage facility in Greece. The first initiative of the investment aims at strengthening the industrial production of e-mobility and promote the installation and development of units across Greece, with the focus being in the wider region of Western Macedonia and in the Regional Unit of Arcadia, regions that are mainly affected by the lignite phase-out decision; a decision towards Greece’s energy transition into a carbon free and sustainable economy.

The second focuses on the application of carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) technologies, which have long been considered as valid alternatives in the portfolio of mitigation actions for stabilization of atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations. It is assumed that out of total the budget of 550 million 510 million shall regard large scale units while 40 million will be targeted to small scale industrial units. By the end of 2022, the programme will be launched for selection of industrial units.

- In the field of electricity market operation the reform under the title “Streamline the efficient operation of the new electricity market model and the development of new RES plants to reach NECP targets through the implementation of monitoring mechanism, the participation of demand response and an extensive reform of the licensing procedure for new RES”, is related to the efficient operation of the new electricity market model and the development of new RES plants to reach National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) targets, through the implementation of monitoring mechanism, the participation of demand response in the balancing market and an extensive reform of the licensing procedure for new RES. By the end of Q2 2022, the Market Monitoring and Surveillance Mechanism, as well as the framework for the full participation of Demand Side Response in the balancing market, will be in place. Moreover, the new framework for the simplification of RES licensing, including simplification and digitalisation of procedures, as well as a new dedicated framework for offshore RES plants will be regulated by end June 2022.

- The “Reconciliation of family and professional life”, which aims to provide male and female beneficiaries with hosting and accommodation services to the infants, toddlers and children and persons with disabilities. The programme intends to assist the beneficiaries who come from low-income families to keep their jobs on equal terms or enter the workforce, providing at the same time quality care and accommodation to their children, and ensuring equal access of the vulnerable groups (children and persons with disability) to quality social services.
- Creation of childcare units within 120 large companies is to expand the vital access to child care as part of a workplace, while increasing access to reliable child care could give mothers the flexibility to pursue opportunities that can safeguard their employability
- “Neighbourhood Nannies” programme aims on the one hand, to support and facilitate parents and especially mothers, so that after having a child, they can achieve their full reintegration into the labour market and the continuation of their professional career, and on the other hand, reduce undeclared work by encouraging unemployed women, to work as childcarers.
- The Hellenic Auxiliary Pensions Defined Contribution Fund (TEKA), established in 2021, introduces the funded pension scheme to the public supplementary insurance.
- New law (2021) on the protection of work and the establishment of an independent Labour Inspection Authority, which ratified two ILO Conventions, transposed the EU Directive on work-life balance for

To tackle the persisting high unemployment and low employment the Government implements a coherent strategy for the job market. Key policies are considered the reforms of both passive and active labour market policies. To address the gap between market needs and workforce skills a new strategy for skilling is in place. Measures in the field of labour policies are also taken to combat undeclared and under-declared work as well as measures to assist parents and especially women to integrate and retain their position in the labour market through access to quality social services and reliable solutions regarding childcare. The new scheme in auxiliary pensions is expected to bring future retirees a supplementary pension significantly higher than the benefit they would have received under the current NDC scheme. The reserves of the new fund are estimated to have an escalating positive effect on new domestic investment and consequently on employment by creating, through growth, new jobs. Moreover, by Framework Law (2021) on strategic investments, the Government intends to create a more attractive investment environment, necessary - among others - for the green transition of the country.

	<p>parents and carers, and included: (i) the regulation for the first time of teleworking and (ii) the establishment of the electronic labour card as the main working time calculator and working hour's compliance monitoring means for workers and enterprises respectively.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The minimum salary and wage for full-time employment, for white and blue-collar workers throughout the country without any age discrimination, was increased in 2021 by 13% since 2019 and a further 9.7% increase in the minimum wage is being applied in 2022. ● A new long-term Tourism Strategy aiming to create a new model of sustainable, quality tourism, through the diversification of the tourism product and source markets. The four pillars to stimulate tourism development and upgrade: a/the coherent treatment of infrastructure and hyper-tourism issues that arise in some popular destinations, b/the creation of a crisis management mechanism in relation to the tourism sector, c/the digitization of services and d/ skills development through education. ● The National Strategy for Research and Innovation (2021-2027), paying particular attention to ecological, social, economic and sustainability criteria and factors to be considered in the relevant funding formats and selection procedures. ● The Reform of Active Labour Market Policies aims to maximise the effectiveness of the ALMP toolbox through the redesign, strengthening and overall reform of its ALMP portfolio, coupled with significant investments in programmes that subsidise employment in the private 	<p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● GDP per capita, after a 6-year plunge during the economic crisis, started to slowly rise in 2017. It still has not reached its pre-crisis levels, the pandemic taking its toll too, remaining lower than the EU average. ● Long-term unemployment at 10.5% is the highest among EU countries and a persisting issue connected to unregistered precarious work, the informal economy and significant strains on social security and public revenue. ● Fatal accidents at work are on the same levels have overall slightly increased in the last decade, from 0,73% to 0,9%, presenting a decrease since 2018.
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sector for unemployed persons, the upskilling and reskilling of the labour force, as well as the opportunity for gaining work experience through paid full-time internships.

- The reform of Passive Labour Market Policies (RRP 16746) aims to support the transition to employment and the integration of the unemployed into the labour market by rationalising the unemployment benefit support and introducing incentives for re-entering the labour market
- Strategy for lifelong skilling/ labour force skilling, reskilling and upskilling through a reformed training model for the working population is to implement training programs aiming at investing in upskilling and reskilling for people at productive age, in order to tackle skills mismatch with the ever-changing needs of the economy and society. Skills upgrading and retraining programs in high demand industries with emphasis on digital and green skills
- New Framework for the Public Employment Service (L. 4921/2022), to modernize the public employment service and introduce new digital tools, such as the digital register and the digital individual action plan. Restructuring and rebranding of Greek Employment Service and local PES (RRP 16941) aims to reform Greece's public employment service (DYPA) with a view to improving the quality of its services, and its overall capacity and effectiveness.
- Digital Transformation of Labour Market Support Systems is a broad IT project that aims in the digitization of the existing infrastructure, in terms of the service offered to the employee and the employer, implemented through the simplification of processes and the

rationalisation of obligations, with the main goal of reducing excessive red tape, and administrative burden, achieving more intensive labour market controls, reducing undeclared work, better data extraction, immediate information and faster serving citizens.

- Reform projects (RRF), which aim, among other things (i) to simplify and update the legislation for the major tax codes, the customs code and all relevant secondary legal provisions in line with EU best practices, (ii) to support the fight against smuggling, in particular for those products subject to excise duties (tobacco, alcohol, energy) through the modernisation of the Customs' tracking systems, audit processes, and equipment in order to increase the effectiveness of cargo audits, (iii) to ease the administrative burden for businesses and improve tax compliance by promoting and increasing electronic transactions, and (iv) to revise the Greek state aid legal framework and strengthen the capacity of the network of state aid units across Ministries.
- A number of initiatives aiming to strengthen social integration and provide training and employment opportunities to migrants and refugees have been approved and will be implemented in the coming period, as provided for by (i) the 2021 National Strategy for the Social Integration of Applicants for and Beneficiaries of International Protection ("Development of intensive programmes for the facilitation of direct access to the labour market"), (ii) the HELIOS programme ("Pillar Employability"), (iii) the RRF funded action "Promote integration of the refugee population into the labor market", and (iv) the project "Promotion of employment and entrepreneurship through training and internship of refugee women in productive sectors of the economy", as

integrated in the framework of the operational program "Human Resources and Social Cohesion 2021-2027".

- Framework Law (2021) on strategic investments for the simplification and acceleration of the licensing and implementation procedures related to private and strategic investments and the creation of a framework for spin-offs. It introduces *inter alia*, "Emblematic Investments of Extraordinary Importance", which promote green economy, innovation, research and technology, sustainable infrastructure (hydrogen production systems, wind energy parks, floating photovoltaic parks), competitiveness, low-energy and environmental impact economy.
- In the frame of government's priority on pursuing structural reforms for economic growth, the improvement of the business environment is a key strategy. Several projects are included under this priority and with the aid of RRF funding. These projects refer to actions for the simplification of the business environment and its upgrading in quality and safety which aims to simplify the procedures faced by enterprises and to promote a sustainable and digitalized business environment, together with the Ease of Doing Business reform whose impact is to ensure: a) reduced procedures, time and cost in 5 sub-areas: enforcing contracts, getting credit, getting electricity, registering property, paying taxes, and getting a construction permit and b) a stable and predictable legislative framework for businesses. Moreover, the reform on the amendment of the legal framework for the attraction of strategic investments intends to promote Greece as an attractive destination to potential investors by making the legal framework clearer and including new fields of economic

	<p>activity and potential Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI). Trade facilitation is an action that is expected to finance measures on boosting exports by streamlining procedures and facilitating cross – border trade for companies operating in Greece.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● An initiative that serves the particular development goal is a project that makes an effort to combat illicit trade and protect intellectual property rights through the reinforcement of the Interagency Unit for Market Control and through targeted information and dissemination programmes.● Numerous projects are expected to contribute to economic growth by exploiting digital tools. Smart manufacturing project aims to financially support enterprises, for adapting to the needs of the digital, and green, transition, through the enhancement of technological/digital infrastructure with zero environmental impact. In addition, an investment on New Industrial Parks will develop new generation industrial parks with intervention among others to actions that will fully support the creation of smart industrial areas to adapt to the needs of Industry 4.0. In the area of research, through the Extroversion of the Research and Innovation Ecosystem of Greece investment, the ELEVATE GREECE platform, a digital portal for accredited start-ups with features of innovation and scalability will be developed.● The Government is in the process of implementing primary and secondary legislation for the introduction of super-deduction for tax purposes of qualifying small and medium-sized enterprise (SMEs)	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National strategy for financial literacy and financial skills for its citizens, in order to improve their financial well-being and at the same time promote the health of the financial system. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support for the acceleration of investments in smart manufacturing, by providing financial support to very small, small and medium enterprises of the Greek industrial ecosystem, for improving their technological infrastructure and upgrading their productivity equipment through the use of modern smart technologies. ● Encourage the creation and development of new, green and innovative business parks by providing financial support for: (i) the establishment of new facilities; (ii) the expansion of existing industrial parks to meet the needs of adapting to the strategy of Industry 4.0; and (iii) the conversion of informal industrial complexes into technologically smart, environmentally sustainable and innovative industrial parks ● Improvement of the business environment is another core priority of the Greek Government, which is substantially supported by the RRP. This policy consists of both legislative and implementation measures, such as: (i) simplification of licensing procedures for economic activities; (ii) new institutional framework for the inspection of economic activities and products; and (iii) legislative initiative for the simplification of licensing procedures for starting new businesses. ● The Digital Transformation Book (2020-2025), which introduces the new National Digital Strategy, outlines the main guidelines, procedures, principal governance model, basic implementing means and key strategic pillars on which the whole digital transformation of the 	<p>Completion of a wide range of innovative and sustainable aviation infrastructure, motorway and railway projects across Greece, increases the connectivity and security of the whole transport system, contributing to the citizens' quality of life, environmental protection and the national economy. Investments in public infrastructure will contribute to mobility and improve the competitiveness of the tourism sector, in terms of sustainability and digitalization, creating a sustainable and competitive framework for development.</p> <p>The measures concerning Research and Innovation will help strengthen the links between academia and the productive sector by increasing the competitiveness of Greek industry, increase the exploitation of intellectual property rights, reverse the "brain drain", strengthen the Greek start-up innovation ecosystem, and mobilize business R&D expenditure.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuing its upward trend of recent years,

	<p>economy, society and public administration is based.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Action Plan for Logistics, which is currently under revision, includes the following actions: (i) assessment of the environmental impact and publication of the output, promoting in this way the monitoring and reporting of the environmental performance of logistics operations, logistics providers and commercial companies; (ii) development of city logistics services, which aims at promoting environmentally friendly practices and sustainable City Logistics in the field of Urban Transportation and Distribution; and (iii) renewal of the road haulers' truck fleet, aiming at the exploration of alternative funding options by the Greek State for the purchase of new technology trucks ● Completion of a wide range of innovative and sustainable aviation infrastructure, motorway and railway projects across Greece, which increases the connectivity and security of the whole transport system, contributing to the citizens' quality of life, environmental protection and the national economy. Investments in public infrastructure will contribute to mobility and improve the competitiveness of the tourism sector, in terms of sustainability and digitalization, creating a sustainable and competitive framework for development. ● The reform of "unsolicited proposals" for infrastructure projects has been introduced into the Greek legal order via a recently voted law (4903/2022). Unsolicited proposals come as an alternative to the traditional conception and maturation method for infrastructure projects, where the private sector undertakes the initiative to propose and mature an infrastructure project, in addition to State planning, with a view to accelerating tendering and implementation. The law lays down 	<p>despite a decade of economic crisis, gross domestic expenditure on Research & Development (R&D) by sector in Greece reached 1.5 % of GDP in 2020, a proportion that is 15,3% higher than 2019, with the most performing sectors being the business enterprise sector and the higher education sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● R&D personnel in all sectors rose 62,5% over the last decade. The main actor carrying out research in Greece is the higher education sector, while the share of the business sector is growing. The State is the main actor in the area of research, as universities and technological educational institutes – constituting the major part of the higher education sector – are exclusively public, according to the Constitution.
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	<p>the submission, evaluation and adoption procedure of unsolicited proposals. Under the scope of unsolicited proposals lie proposals submitted by economic entities on their own initiative aiming at studying and constructing new infrastructure projects, expanding or modifying existing ones, or providing management and operation services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The investment under the title “Upgrade Interventions for Regional Ports” focuses on the remediation of the climate change impact on regional ports and the upgrading of aging and degraded port infrastructures especially in small and medium sized ports. Connectivity of the Greek population depends heavily on sea transportation, as it sustains inhabitability of islands by transporting passengers and goods on an uninterrupted basis throughout the year. In this context, the proposed investments are anticipated to have a significant impact primarily on the insular areas, but also on the overall Greek economy and population.● The small-satellites investment is a major step towards the implementation of Greece’s strategy for utilising space technologies and applications for the provision of advanced telecommunications services and their incorporation to the Greek economy. The development of the small satellites (space and terrestrial part) is expected to increase the capabilities of the Greek high-tech industry in order to develop advanced digital services.● Utilizing the huge public sector data source can make a decisive contribution to the strengthening of the national economy in the context of its transformation into a knowledge economy. Especially for domestic entrepreneurship, the availability of public data will enhance the	
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creation of a climate conducive to the development of small and medium-sized enterprises. In order to address these challenges, an RRP Reform supports the implementation of a Data Governance Strategy & policies for the Public Sector.

- The Digital transformation of SMEs investment aims to fill up the gap and strengthen the position of SMEs in the global market. In addition to digital transformation solutions, the program includes a range of simple digital solutions which are very important in enhancing the resilience and flexibility of businesses and enabling them to perform better than their competitors in turbulent or unstable environments. The services covered by the project are related to the Business Software and Applications, as well as Cloud Platforms and Tools, encompassing all aspects of commercial business activity.
- In the area of research and innovation, through the Extroversion of the Research and Innovation Ecosystem of Greece investment, the ELEVATE GREECE platform, a digital portal for accredited start-ups with features of innovation and scalability will be developed. Besides, within the framework of Basic & Applied Research RRP measure 8 sub projects aim to: a) funding basic research with horizontal support for all sciences b) flagship actions in interdisciplinary scientific areas with special interest in connecting to the productive industry, c) Development of research Centres in state of the art research sectors in medicine and ICT, d) Delivery of market-translatable sustainable materials technologies in collaboration with MIT and e) participation in European Partnerships Euro-HPC (High Performance Computing) and Key Digital Technologies. Moreover, an important investment on Creation - Expansion – Upgrade

	<p>of Infrastructures of Research Centers aims to upgrade/expand the infrastructure of 14 Research and Technological Centers, to enhance their research capacity and capabilities in important areas of science and technology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The investment Research - Create – Innovate supports applied research as it is planned to fund 36 excellent proposals whose main objective is to link academia and the productive sector with a view to transitioning to quality, innovative entrepreneurship and increasing domestic added value. Another applied research project funded by RRF is TH 2 ORAX: Trellis Holistic & Hybrid Operational Ruggedized Autonomous eXemplary system. It is about the creation of a «next generation" integrated information system for the country, based on AI & Machine-to-Machine Learning technologies which "composes" different types and forms of collaborative infrastructure with direct impact on the way institutions make real-time decisions on security, defense and civil protection. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A first-time National Action Plan (NAP) for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2020) is implemented horizontally, comprising programmes in six Pillars and thirty Objectives over a wide range of policy areas. ● The Disability Card will integrate all benefits for the disabled from all institutions. Beneficiaries will be able to enjoy these rights and benefits upon presentation of the Card, without having to gather certifying documents repeatedly or demonstrate their disability certification each time. ● The National Deinstitutionalization Strategy and the Action Plan describes the social welfare reforms that aim in particular at promoting 	<p>With a view to reducing inequality, Greece adopts policies and measures to enhance the capacity of its social state to promote social inclusion. As regards disability, policies on independent living, employability and early childhood intervention are prioritized to avoid institutionalization, delays in service delivery, bureaucracy and complex procedures, to shape attitudes, to overcome stereotypes and barriers towards inclusiveness and to advance independent living. Child protection policies are fundamentally revised and modernized in order to protect</p>

	<p>and developing a solid legal and economic framework, which also addresses the needs of children with disabilities, adults with disabilities and the elderly. Deinstitutionalization and the prevention of institutionalization include the Personal Assistant, the development of accommodation structures for people with disabilities, the development of a pilot program of professional foster care for children with disabilities, the development of a short reception unit for people with disabilities, the establishment of a mobile support unit for families with disabilities either biological or developers, the development of creative employment centers and the creation of day care centers for the disabled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Housing for the most Vulnerable Groups Action focuses on providing housing support to the most vulnerable groups threatened by or facing homelessness. Housing and Work for the Homeless Programme was established by Article 15 of Law 4756/2020 and aims to enhance the social reintegration of 600 households/800 beneficiaries living in homelessness. ● Social Housing Policy as implemented by the public employment service is currently going through a major transition period, involving its restructuring and development of new policies and measures. DYPA's newly established aims will include the implementation of the government policy regarding housing protection and other forms of supporting workers and their families by providing relevant benefits and implementing relevant programmes. ● Project "Enhancing intercultural mediation services in municipal Community Centers and Migrant Integration Centers" 	<p>children's rights and prospects. There are also significant policies for tackling the Roma's multi-level social exclusion and discrimination and promote diversity and eliminate gender, ethnicity and sexual orientation inequalities, especially in the job market. Social housing policies aim to reduce homelessness in large urban areas, by building up networks between private homeowners and local social services.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The ratio of total income received by the 20 % of the population with the highest income to that received by the 20 % of the population with the lowest income, has shown a downward trend since 2018 reaching 5,23 in 2020, lower than at the beginning of the economic crisis (2010). ● In 2018 the income share of the bottom 40% of the population exceeded the rate of 2010 (19,8%) and remains above 20%. ● First-instance decisions to asylum applications have, lately, been significantly accelerated in order to handle the backlog and rose from 876 in the first 5 years (2011-16) to 9.771 between 2017-2020. There are still pending cases, which tend to
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● A Technical Support programme funded by the European Commission's DG REFORM will run in 2022 for the establishment of a permanent procedure for the integration of third country nationals in the labor market. The aim is to find ways to connect immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees with the labor market, by matching their educational and professional skills with available jobs, and it is expected to address the following tasks: (i) planning a database in order to register the skills and qualifications of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees, (ii) mapping of immigrants and refugees' skills and education background, (iii) organizing campaigns so as to inform about the new initiative, (iv) better understanding of the potential migrant and refugee capacity, e) outreaching in hiring companies and employers to scan the labour market and workforce needs, f) matching skills and qualifications with available job opportunities.● The "Diversity awareness" (RRP) aims at developing a concrete mechanism that can monitor the progress and assess on an annual basis the data related to equality and discriminations, enhancing the role of the Equality Observatory, creating a working group that will review best practices and standardised methodologies, raising employees' awareness of discriminated groups and avoiding discrimination in the way they approach and communicate with these groups, integrating a culture of openness and adaptability to diversity, and encouraging organizations to recruit and utilize executives belonging to discriminated groups. The project starts in 2022 and the goal is to train 1,600,000 employees by the end of 2024, with priority given to those employed in front office positions and managerial roles.	<p>be gradually covered unless there is significant increase in incoming applications.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new National Roma Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2030 comprises 4 pillars (i)-Prevention and fight against Roma poverty and social exclusion; ii-Enhancing equal access of Roma to basic services and goods [education, employment, health, social care and housing]; iii- Preventing and combating stereotypes and discrimination against Roma; iv-Promoting the active participation of Roma in social, economic and political life) and a total of 27 Thematic Measures. • An initiative that leads to reduced inequalities is an investment on Just Transition Territories. It consists of grants for financing land rehabilitation in the areas of former lignite mines in Western Macedonia and Megalopolis to address the just transition areas, with environmental and economic interventions. The aim is not only to facilitate the transformation of the productive model in lignite areas in Greece but to support the economic regeneration of these areas through decarbonisation and the attraction of investments of high added value as well. The development Plan of lignite areas is built around five development pillars, including: clean energy, industry and trade, smart agricultural production, sustainable tourism, technology and education. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the continuing programme for energy renovation of residential buildings, a special sub-programme is being implemented aiming to help people from the lower economic strata adapt their compromised dwellings to climate conditions and change through a range of improvements including -inter alias- replacement of household windows/doors, installation/upgrading of thermal insulation and heating/cooling system upgrade. The programme is designed to protect 	<p>Cities` and communities` sustainability is promoted via the elaboration of the special spatial plans and local urban plans, interventions in the urban environment for improving the quality of urban space and attract new functions of economic activities, while making a positive impact on the natural environment of urban centers, renewal of the urban public transport and upgrade of the</p>

	<p>them from comparison to higher-income applicants by demarcating a specific budget of 100 million euros for energy poor households, setting a higher subsidy rate of 75% and providing state guarantee up to 80% of a bank loan they may ask to get in order to be able to cover their private contribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Measures and actions to further promote the implementation of the National Spatial Strategy, balancing economic and social activities to ensure protection of the natural environment, safeguarding economic and social cohesion, amending geographical imbalances and spatial inequalities, thus linking all SDGs in actual terms. In particular, the completion of the Local Urban Plans and the Special Urban Plans as incorporated in the context of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, will promote an integrated planning system in the country and the digitalization of the Greek territory. ● Obligatory implementation of the Urban Accessibility Plans for all large and medium-sized municipalities by the end of 2023 will provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for older persons and persons with disabilities. ● The investment of “Interventions in residential areas and in the building stock” aims at enhancing the urban environment by improving the quality of urban space and attract new functions of economic activities while making a positive impact on the natural environment of urban centers, creating new jobs and achieving significant energy savings that will lead to a low carbon economy. The investment comprises of 4 subprojects: (a) interventions aiming to improve urban environment and public space targeting 16 urban areas to complete climate change 	<p>road safety.</p> <p>Greece aims to participate actively in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism under the rescEU programme, as the risk of wildland fires is growing. By updating “Xenokrates”, the National Comprehensive Emergency Plan, the State expanded the country’s response and short-term recovery capabilities. The country’s disaster risk management capabilities are expected to be enhanced significantly through the Adoption of the “AEGIS” National Program and the upgrade of the Armed Forces disaster response system.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The total percentage of people living in households suffering from noise presents a reduction from 23.2% in 2010 to 20.1% in 2020. ● The decrease in the number of people killed in road accidents continues for the last decade in Greece, reaching its lowest level in 2019. The higher quality of the road network, as well as recession and financial crisis constitute the main reasons for the almost double decline in the number of road casualties during the period 2010-2019. ● In the last decade, the reduction in use of private
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	<p>adaptation works that will also improve the wellbeing of the citizens; (b) urban regeneration of the ex-industrial area of Votanikos / Elaionas that will create a network and road infrastructure, parks / green areas and sustainable athletic facilities for public use together with private mixed-use energy efficient real estate developments; (c) development of an uninterrupted waterfront promenade at the Athenian Riviera, aiming to create the longest unified and accessible seafront in Europe of approximately 70 km shoreline at the south-eastern part of the Attica prefecture; (d) other strategic interventions, including the adaptive re-use of the former Ladopoulos paper-factory in Patras. Subprojects (b), (c), (d) have been assigned for front load maturation to Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund`s special unit of Project Preparation Facility. The award of related contracts is expected to be concluded by Q2 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote and implement Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP) at local and regional levels, for better quality of life and safe mobility, obligatory for communities of more than 30.000 inhabitants ● Renewal of the public transport fleet in the two major cities, Athens and Thessaloniki, promoting the gradual transition to electromobility. Complete a number of sustainable railway projects across the country. SDGs 11.2, 9.1 ● A relevant reform is the “Establishment of new special spatial planning for RES, industry, tourism and aquaculture”, which involves the establishment of new special spatial framework for RES, industry, tourism and aquaculture to promote climate mitigation and adaptation, protection of biodiversity and development of the national economy, by contributing both to the increase of GDP and the establishment of new 	<p>vehicles and fuel consumption heating due to the economic crisis in parallel with the use of alternative fuels for vehicles and the waste management, had a significant impact in the reduction of the air pollution by particulates. In this way the annual trend of PM 10 and PM 2,5 concentrations continue at steady state without significant variations, after the sharp increase in 2013.</p>
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job positions. There is no cost related to the reform. More specifically, concerning the special spatial plan for Industry, the study for the current status assessment (1st phase) is expected to be delivered by May 2022. Regarding the special spatial plan for aquaculture, the tenders for the studies have been prepared and will be launched by Q2 2022. As for the RES and Tourism plans, the studies describing the final proposals will be delivered by May 2022.

- The project “Road Safety Upgrade” aims at restoring the road network and repairing the defects of the pavement at Regions across the country in order to enhance their operation and safety level. The project consists of two parts. The first corresponds to an already partially funded program by the European Investment Bank (EIB), the «Road Safety Improvement Program (PEVOA)”. PEVOA includes interventions on approximately 7,000 dangerous locations, extending over 2,500 km of the road network to 80 roads. The studies have already been completed by Egnatia Odos S.A. The first part amounts to 450 million EUR. The second part which constitutes the second Phase of the Programme will include studies and interventions throughout the national road network that amount to 275 million EUR. By the end of Q2 2023, the contracts for restoration of more than 2,300 dangerous spots will be signed.
- Establishment and operation of new airports on water bodies.
- Establishment of the Archeological Cadastre, an Integrated Information System (IIS) for the systematic recording, documentation, digitization and management of archeological, administrative and geospatial data related to the country’s immovable monuments and sites, including underwater antiquities. The Cadastre provides the foundation on which

a monitoring system for the impact of climate change on cultural heritage is to be built, so as to mitigate the various risks that threaten cultural heritage.

- Update of "Xenokrates", Greece's National Comprehensive Emergency Plan. Since July 2019, the Greek Civil Protection agency, developed annexes for more natural or man-made disasters such as Earthquakes, Volcanic Eruptions, Floods, Winter Storms and Hazardous Materials Transportation Accidents, using risk management principles to assign priorities and resources.
- The AEGIS National Program for Civil Protection is a € 1.71 billion program, co-funded by the European Investment Bank, the European Union Recovery and Resilience Facility, and the 2021-2027 National Strategic Reference Framework. Its purpose is radically upgrading the country's disaster risk management capabilities. AEGIS funding is geared: a) to improve the existing infrastructures, facilities, and equipment, b) to provide by procurement new equipment for early warning systems (eg. weather stations and radars, river gages, seismometers), c) to supply the Civil Protection and the Fire Service with new aerial means (aircraft and helicopters, for a multitude of purposes), and d) to provide with new Bailey-type bridges, PPE, and field hospitals and upgrade existing vehicles.
- Greece has been one of the first European countries to participate in the rescue programme. RescEU is a European reserve that includes a fleet of firefighting airplanes and helicopters, medical evacuation airplanes, and a stockpile of medical equipment and field hospitals, that can respond to health emergencies, and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear

	<p>incidents. Because of the growing risk of wildland fires and other disasters across Europe, the European Commission created a strategic rescEU medical reserve and distribution mechanism under the umbrella of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, so that it can act/respond immediately. In addition, Greece has offered to host additional rescEU wildland firefighting capabilities in the future and hold a hub in south-eastern Europe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Armed Forces contribute with personnel, assets, and infrastructure to disaster and emergency relief, both domestically, as well as within the framework of the RESCUE programme . 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2021, the Government adopted a law (transposing EU Directives), establishing an integrated framework for waste management, and promoting the implementation of the principles of circular economy in Greece. In the context of this legislative initiative, and in line with the approved National Waste Management Plan 2020-2030 and the new National Waste Prevention Programme 2021-2030, waste hierarchy is 	<p>Country implements reforms and investments in order to reduce food waste and waste generation, promote sustainable public procurement practices, support sustainable agriculture by reducing intensive use of water, Moreover, it focuses in accelerating the development of organic farming and increase its share in agricultural</p>

	<p>promoted in practice, while measures for the reduction of landfilling have been adopted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With regard to plastic pollution, Greece has incorporated in its national legislation, in October 2020, the EU Single Use Plastics (SUP) Directive, much earlier than the date of entry into force of the Directive (July 2021) ● New National Circular Economy Action Plan with a corresponding Roadmap, anchored at the 2018 National Circular Economy Strategy. A platform with guidelines for cities to adopt and follow circular economy principles in all their functions and work-cycle will be developed, with the view to assist the implementation of the National Circular Economy Action Plan at the local level. This Guide to Circular Cities will aim to close down material loops in the urban context, minimize waste production and reduce resource extraction, lower emissions, protect and enhance biodiversity and reduce social inequities in line with the SDGs. ● In 2021, the Government issued the National Plan for the promotion of Green Public Procurement (GPP), for a three years period, 2021-2023. ● New measures will be adopted for the reduction of food waste by 30% until 2030, in addition to innovative approaches for the promotion of recycling and re-use at source ● The reform under the title “Waste management law for the implementation of sustainable landfilling and recycling and establishment of waste management regulator” comprises a revision of the existing waste management legislation with a view to enabling the transition towards increasing recycling and promoting a circular economy. In particular, the reform introduces incentives for municipalities to achieve higher recycling rates, enforce separate 	<p>production, encourage RES penetration for reducing energy consumption and dependence on fossil fuels, while in parallel promotes life cycle thinking in production and consumption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The resource productivity and domestic material consumption, in euros per kilogram, has generally shown an increasing trend since 2010 to date, mainly due to the introduction and the implementation of a framework of tools and incentives for the adoption of sustainable practices, based on advanced technological capacity, resource efficiency and reduced waste. ● The use of circular material has been increasing in recent years mainly due to the implementation of the National Strategy for the Circular Economy, which is in line with the European Strategy and introduces a framework of tools and incentives for the sustainable management of resources, the development of cyclical entrepreneurship and the promotion of cyclical consumption.
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	<p>collection of bio-waste by the end of 2022 and of metal, paper, glass and plastic, extend the “Producer’s responsibility” scheme, upgrade the operation of recycling sorting facilities and simplify the legislation around green points. It shall support the achievement of targets of increasing reuse and recycling rates of municipal solid waste to 60% and reducing the landfill rate to 10% by 2030.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) of Greece was adopted in 2019. It is a strategic plan comprising a detailed roadmap for achieving concrete Energy and Climate Goals by 2030. The main pillars of the NECP are: (i) the significant reduction of greenhouse gas emission and phasing out the lignite power plants by 2028; (ii) the increase of the share of RES in the gross final energy consumption; and (iii) the improvement of energy efficiency in all sectors of economy. • The National Long-term Strategy for 2050 (2020) to meet the Paris Agreement commitments and the Energy Union objectives for the evaluation of alternatives and sustainable transition paths to a climate-neutral economy by 2050. • The National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) endorsed in 2016 is delivered through 13 Regional Adaptation Action Plans (RAAPs). Each RAAP examines the potential measures/actions included in the NAS based on the particular regional circumstances, priorities and needs and includes specific adaptation actions per sector. • The Government is in the process of implementing super-deduction for tax purposes of qualifying SME expenses for green economy and digitisation investments in order to strengthen investment by small and 	<p>In order to tackle climate change and in line to EU’s Energy Unions goals, the Greek Government works towards reducing GHG emissions, increasing RES penetration in gross final energy consumption, improving energy efficiency for higher energy savings, and phasing-out of lignite power generation. Also, efforts are concentrated in the consolidation of an effective circular economy, protection of nature, biodiversity, air quality and water resources.</p> <p>Through the 2019 NECP, Greece has set ambitious targets such as: (i) reduce total GHG emissions, excluding those from LULUCF by 56% from 2005 levels (42% from 1990 levels); (ii) reduce non-EU ETS emissions by 36% from 2005 levels, more than twice the reduction required by EU legislation; (iii) raise the share of renewables in gross final energy consumption to at least 35% (61-64% of electricity final consumption to be from renewables); and (iv) achieve 38% improvement of energy efficiency.</p>

	<p>medium-sized enterprises, in equipment related to climate change adaptation, the promotion of circular economy and digitalisation. The full implementation of the tax incentives of the reform, which is fully aligned with EU State aid rules, shall be completed by 31 December 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The National Action Plan for Reducing CO2 Emissions produced by aviation activity ● Greece's first National Risk Assessment and National Disaster Risk Management Plan (2021). ● The first Climate law of Greece will soon be voted on and it will provide a coherent framework for improving the adaptation and climate resilience of Greece and ensuring the climate neutrality of the country by 2050. ● Develop the National Action Plan for Cultural Heritage and Climate Change (NAPCHCC), to be fully implemented by 2050, with the setting of interim targets to be achieved every 5 years. Part of this is the RRP project "Tackling the threats of climate change to the long-term viability of cultural sites of tourist and economic significance". Greece is leading a global corresponding initiative and so far, more than 100 UN member states and many NGOs and organizations have expressed their support. ● Initiation of 112 Emergency Communication Service which brings together a unified, multi-agency public safety answering capability within a nation-wide, integrated public alert and warning system. It has expanded from just phone calls to also include text messages (SMS), emails, fax and eCall communications. Furthermore advanced Mobile Location & Emergency Location Service (AML/ELS) was activated in 2021. ● In order to promote environmental protection and mainstream 	<p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greenhouse gas emissions' trend shows a decrease over the period 2010-2019. This development is mainly due to the economic downturn, but also to the impact of mitigation actions like increasing Renewable Energy Sources (RES) share, energy efficiency and improving public transport. ● Greenhouse gas emission intensity of energy consumption index presents a significant reduction throughout the period 2010-2019, highlighting among others, the achievement of an energy mix of lower emissions and the more efficient use of energy.
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	<p>sustainability values, in line with the respective national and EU legislation, as well as the NATO Standardization Agreements (STANAGs), the Ministry of Defense adopted in 2020 an official Environmental, Energy and Adjustment to Climate Change Policy, where a wide range of fundamental environmental principles and priorities of the SDGs are fully integrated and highlighted.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By a 2020 law on the Modernization of Spatial and Urban Planning Legislation, the Maritime Spatial Plans have been included functionally in the regional level of the Spatial Planning System in Greece and were renamed to “Maritime Spatial Frameworks”. The 2020 Law also includes significant amendments on the previous framework, such as the decoupling of land coastal zone planning from maritime spatial planning. Moreover, it sets goals focusing on the promotion of the Blue Economy and integrates the political framework and the current legislation introduced by the EU Green Deal, taking into account the New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change. • National Strategy for Integrated Maritime Policy with regard to insular territories with regard to the highly diversified island economic and social space, setting innovative and far-reaching sustainable development policies and objectives related to ports and maritime transport, critical infrastructure and water resources management, island production patterns, employment and investment in the blue economy, as well as maritime surveillance and maritime safety. • Implementation of the "Multiannual National Strategic Plan for the development of aquaculture in Greece, 2021-2030". 	<p>The decoupling of land coastal zone planning from maritime spatial planning is implemented through the “new maritime spatial planning” which promotes the Blue Economy while it is serving the acceleration of investments, the sustainable growth and wellbeing, the protection of environment and adaptation to climate change. Moreover, marine biodiversity protection is being advanced through the mapping of marine habitats, as well as addressing the problem of the importation and spread of invasive alien species and at the same time modernizing and diversifying aquaculture production.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Surface in km² of marine sites designated under Natura 2000, presents a sharp increase in 2016 and continues at almost the same level from then to 2020. The total marine area included in the Natura 2000

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Under the competencies of the Ministry of Agricultural Development, the investment “Proposals for actions in the aquaculture sector” includes innovative equipment solutions, research, transfer of know-how and training of human resources with a view to modernizing and diversifying aquaculture production. It also creates a genetic material bank for endangered species and commercial species of freshwater fish. The objective of the investment is to support environmentally friendly production processes and resource efficiency leading to increased trade and job creation in the sector. In addition, aquaculture is one of the main pillars of the Blue Growth Strategy (Blue Growth, Green Deal, Farm to Fork). ● The “Establishment of new maritime spatial planning”, which deals with the development of the maritime spatial planning for the implementation of maritime and coastal policy and the relevant planning systems. The success of the reform is a crucial parameter for the acceleration of investments and the sustainable growth and wellbeing in local and national levels as its implementation will clarify and regulate the institutional framework (regulations and restrictions, protection areas, areas for the development of productive activities especially on the sectors of energy, shipping, fisheries and aquaculture, tourism, mining etc) for the allocation and construction of all types of projects and infrastructures, the protection of environment and the definition of the measures to mitigate or/and adapt to climate change. ● A relevant reform is also the “Establishment of new special spatial planning for aquaculture”, with the tenders for the studies already being prepared and planned to be launched by Q2 2022. 	<p>network covers approximately 22 % of national territorial waters, much more than 6.12 % of the territorial waters already integrated into it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The proportion of coastal bath sites with excellent water quality corresponds to 97,1 % since 2014, ranking Greece among the 2-3 best in Europe. The establishment of the Bathing Water Identity Register, a network collecting data from approximately 1400 coasts across the country, has helped to improve quality.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Joint Ministerial Decision was published in 2021 under the title “Measures for the implementation of EU Regulation on the prevention and management of the importation and spread of invasive alien species”, and a co-financed project titled “Compilation of a list of invasive species and organization of a methodology for the assessment of their risk” is being implemented and includes proposals for the management and continuous monitoring of the most dangerous invasive species for marine biodiversity. ● Project PARALIES, launched in summer 2021, is an initiative aiming at cleaning marine litter and protecting the ecosystem of beaches against waste pollution. It focuses on mobilizing private companies with an increased environmental and social sensitivity to take part in the project by adopting a beach for the entire summer period ● Mapping of marine habitats is under way within the framework of the Operational Programme “Transport Infrastructure, Environment and Sustainable Development”. 	
 <p>15 LIFE ON LAND</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establishment of the Natural Environment and Climate Change Agency (NECCA), responsible for coordinating and supervising the management bodies of the several protected areas of the country, through a multi-stakeholder consultation approach, ensuring a more effective conservation status. This new governance scheme, among others, is expected to strengthen biodiversity protection and conservation. ● The administrative “transfer” of forest services from the Decentralized Administration to the Ministry of Environment & Energy, aims at improving organization and coordination between the competent forest 	<p>Protection of natural environment is being pursued through administrative and institutional changes in the governance of forest policy making and implementation, as well as for the coordination and supervision of the management bodies of protected areas. Moreover, biodiversity sustainability will be served through the establishment and operation of systems for monitoring of species and habitat types, as well as for the surveillance of protected areas. Interventions of special importance are considered those</p>

	<p>services in order to enhance the preparedness of the forest fighting mechanism. The reform was initiated immediately after the devastating forest fires of last summer. Moreover, a new Secretariat for Forests has been established in January 2022. The completion of the administrative change will take place by May 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Forthcoming Project “Supervision and evaluation of the conservation status of protected species and habitats in Greece”, to assess the conservation status of the protected terrestrial (and marine) species and habitat types of a national and EU interest, through field work monitoring. ● Development of a National Reforestation Plan (RRP) to constitute a coordinated framework with localized spatial actions and projects to strengthen the national forest balance with multiple, measurable environmental and social benefits, which will contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and biodiversity protection. In particular, the restoration of 16500 hectares of degraded forest ecosystems all over Greece will be concluded by Q2 2023. ● The investment “Biodiversity Protection as a driver for sustainable growth” will be a driver for sustainable growth, which aims at the effective conservation of biodiversity in protected areas. The investment consist of projects aiming to protect biodiversity, including: (a) the establishment of a national network of paths and hiking trails, (b) the enhancement of environmental protection, through the implementation of a National System for Permanent Monitoring of species and habitat types, (c) a National System for the Surveillance of Protected Areas, (d) the introduction of multimedia applications, bioclimatic and energy 	<p>related to the upgrading of forest firefighting capabilities and reducing wildfires risk by modernizing electricity distribution networks crossing forest areas.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The surface of terrestrial sites designated under Natura 2000, has increased in the last decade, as a result of the consistent transposition and application of the relevant European Union (EU) law and its constant monitoring and updating at national level.
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upgrade of the building facilities of the Protected Areas Management Units, (e) the modernization of the information centers of the Protected Areas Management Units and (f) the creation of an integrated digital platform which offers information on protected areas such as ecotouristic activities etc. and (e) promotion of local products under the umbrella of a 'Nature Greece' brand.

- Within the framework of the National Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020, Greece has initiated a number of actions and measures, which contribute substantially to: (i) the afforestation and creation of forest areas, (ii) the prevention and rehabilitation of forest damage due to forest fires, natural disasters and catastrophic events (construction - restoration of fire protection roads, construction of water supply points, forest management actions, mountain anti-corrosion and anti-flood works), and (iii) the conservation and protection of the wild bird fauna, whose habitat is closely connected with the agricultural land.
- The authorities also promote an investment under the title "HEDNO overhead network upgrading in forest areas", which will contribute to the green transition, as it will contribute to the replacement of bare conductors in the overhead electricity distribution network (with covered ones or a twisted cable), installation of insulating covers, and undergrounding or relocation of the electricity distribution network passing through forest areas.
- Substantial increase of wildland firefighting capabilities by establishing a new unit of 500 forest firefighting commandos, as well the enhancement of firefighting vehicles, airplanes and helicopters
- Forthcoming revision of the Forest Maps nationally, to ensure the

	<p>protection and management of forest areas in a more sustainable and effective way against pressures such as urban sprawl and forest fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Materialization of the “Untrodden Mountains” initiative to provide for a special protection status for mountain areas of particular natural and cultural importance, by their designation as strictly protected areas ● Complete the implementation of measures and actions included in the National Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020, covering the transitional period 2021-2022. SDG 15.1, 15.2, 15.a, 15.b 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security(2020-2024), in line with the UN Security Council Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). The NAPWPS puts forward a wide spectrum of actions for: (i) prevention of armed conflict and of any form of gender-based, sexual and domestic violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, (ii) gender-equal representation, participation and leadership in decision-making, (iii) protection of women and girls from gender-based, sexual and domestic violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, and from other violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, (iv) relief and recovery of the survivors of gender-based, sexual and domestic violence, and (v) promotion of the UN Agenda on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) at bilateral, regional, multilateral level. ● Restructuring of the domestic anti-corruption framework. Five audit entities and a coordination anti-corruption body merged into a single Independent Authority (National Transparency Authority - NTA) with the mandate to detect and prevent corruption, promote transparency and 	<p>The objectives of the actions implemented to address SDG16 challenges focus on timely detection and prevention of corruption and mismanagement, promotion of transparency and accountability throughout society, justice optimization by increasing its effectiveness and efficiency, for citizens and the economy, through systematic collection of statistics, enhancement of functioning and improvement of the quality of services offered to citizens, professionals and public entities. Sustainable economic recovery cannot be achieved without the enhancement and safeguarding of the financial system and help it overcome legacy challenges and finance the real economy through the establishment and operation. Moreover, the establishment of multilevel governance aims at ensuring representative decision making at all levels (namely National, Regional and Local) via a detailed and systematic recording and reallocation of</p>

	<p>public accountability along with raising awareness against corruption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The new National Anti-Corruption Action Plan (NACAP) 2022-2025, in consultation with major stakeholders, sets clear strategic objectives, incorporates international best practices and builds synergies across public administration, prioritizing targeted interventions in high-risk areas prone to fraud and corruption. The plan will be revised yearly. ● New provisions (2020) for Anti-Money Laundering target the further expansion of the scope of obliged entities, indicatively, financial institutions, accountants, tax advisers, providers engaged in exchange services between virtual currencies and fiat currencies, custodian wallet providers, persons trading or acting as intermediaries in the trade of works of art. ● The Anti-crime Policy Program (2020-2024), with targeted and measurable objectives, seeks to enhance crime prevention and effectively address serious and organized crime at national, regional and local levels. It is complemented and supported by the Strategic and Operational Program of the Anti-Crime Policy of the Hellenic Police (2021-2025). ● Re-establishment of the National Council against Racism and Intolerance in an effort to tackle racism and discrimination ● Establishment of the independent Office of Collection and Edit of Judicial Data (JustStat) with a view to increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of justice through systematic collection of statistics concerning both traditional and alternative dispute resolution procedures. ● Measures aimed at accelerating the judgment of pending cases regarding debt settlement, ensuring the reasonable duration of civil 	<p>competencies.</p> <p>Progress on SDG-related indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General government total expenditure on law courts reveals that spending on law courts has remained relatively stable over the last ten years (from 675 million euro in 2010 - corresponding to 60.7 euro per inhabitant - to 662 million euro in 2020 - corresponding to 61.8 euro per inhabitant). ● The government aims to effectively address serious and organized crime at national, regional and local level, while at the same time focusing on crime prevention. While the standardized death rate due to homicide per 100,000 persons in 2010 rose to 1.40 (total), in 2018p it decreased to 0.91 (total).
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litigation and promoting the digitization of civil justice.

- In 2020, the National Crisis and Hazards Management Mechanism was established by law, with the aim to restructure the General Secretariat for Civil Protection (a.k.a. Civil Protection Greece), upgrade the civil protection volunteering system and reorganize the Fire Service.
- In 2021, the Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection was established by law, with the aim to upgrade disaster risk management and connect climate change adaptation and prevention with disaster risk reduction, giving renewed impetus to hazard and disaster management.
- Establishment of the first Independent Office for Minor Victims (Houses of the Child), located in Athens, in order to facilitate the judicial examination of children who were victims of abuse and sexual violence.
- Launch of interdisciplinary seminars for Judges on child-friendly justice and the rights of children that are victims of criminal acts, based on the respective guidelines issued by the Council of Europe and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights.
- Roll-out of three important NAPs: (i) the National Action Plan for Children's Rights (2021-2023), including especially the main priorities on child-friendly justice, (ii) the National Action Plan against Racism and Intolerance (2020-2023), and (iii) the National Action Plan for the Prevention and Treatment of Sexual Abuse of Children (2020-2025).
- Strengthening multilevel governance includes vertical redistribution of responsibilities among the three tiers of government through the creation of a mechanism for the organization and monitoring of multi-level governance policies along with the adoption of relevant legislation.
- Key structural reforms, tackling various issues, will be introduced shortly.

	<p>In particular, reviewing the judicial map consists of the projected revision of the judicial map across the country, resulting in a rational reorganization of judicial districts and the establishment, abolition or redistribution of judicial structures, based on objective criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Judicial Clerks Performance Tool will provide for bonuses based on objective performance indicators and strategic goals (especially reducing backlog). The said Tool will introduce KPI's by department and/or category of clerks.● The creation of the Judicial Police is a reform that will provide support to complex crime investigations (including financial crime, corruption and money laundering) and will contribute to preliminary examinations and investigations, the enforcement of judgments and the service of documents and procedural acts.● Implementation and expansion of a central information system to support the operational functions of administrative, civil and criminal courts of the country. Key features of the project include actions to strengthen the information system of the National Criminal Registry and further extend its services. In parallel a new project for the digitalization of court documents and the upgrading of the Court Records Management System of the civil and criminal courts are being designed.● Acquisition of buildings for the housing of courts and prosecutors' offices, relocation of courts, renovations and energy upgrading and construction of new courthouses will be partially funded by the RRF.● Regular and mandatory training programs are provided for all judges, including training courses and relevant workshops. In addition, ad hoc training programs are provided for judges of all branches and ranks who	
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are called upon to implement new laws and regulations. Furthermore, a National School of Judicial Clerks will be established. Newly recruited judicial clerks will be trained for a reasonable period of time prior to the start of their term of office and there will be a program for continuing education for those already serving.

- Streamlined forward-looking measures resulting in a more efficient and competitive functioning of the capital market are adopted for the codification and modernization of its regulatory and legislative framework and effective data management.
- The national anti-money laundering/countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) reform aims at increasing integrity and fighting financial crime through the digitization of transparency rules and strengthening the existing measures.
- Implementation of the National Strategy for private Debt Management, the development of a Private debt monitoring register and the establishment of the Central Credit Bureau.
- Implementation of the new unified insolvency framework, which aims to upgrade the necessary digital infrastructure needed to support the early warning and preventive debt restructuring procedures.
- Promotion of new loans through the establishment of the Credit Expansion Observatory.
- 'Hercules' scheme is designed to assist banks in securitizing and moving NPLs off their balance sheets, in order to free up space and provide new credit. Also, a new legal framework introduces a holistic approach to insolvency legislation, which enables households and businesses to settle debts.

17 PARTNERS FOR THE G



- The Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMPs) at local and regional level, based on the basic principles of sustainable urban mobility. A key element of a SUMP is, apart from the citizen’s participation, the cooperation and engagement of local authorities and stakeholders, such as decentralized administrations, transport providers, representatives of traffic policing services, chambers, commercial and professional associations, representatives of the educational community and, importantly, bodies with the statutory purpose of promoting issues of persons with disabilities, The engagement takes the form of a participation agreement signed by the interested parties.
- The General Secretariat for the Aegean & Island Policy, the University of the Aegean and the Centre for Research and Technology-Hellas (CERTH) are developing a circular economy model for Milos Island to be used as an innovative pilot, for combining the economic and environmental interests of the local population. The same model is planned to extend in other islands as well.
- To combat crimes of common interest and all forms of trafficking of drugs, food and pesticides, the Financial Police Division has developed strategic partnerships, with a number of authorities, institutions and services, at international and national levels, including: prosecution and investigation authorities (i.e. Anti-Corruption Prosecutor, Economic Crime Prosecutor), the National Transparency Authority, the General Secretariat of Tax Policy & Public Property, the Independent Authority for Public Revenue and Tax Offices, social security institutions, the Labour Inspection Body, the National Organization for Medicines, the

In order to incorporate the “whole-of-society” dimension in SDG-related initiatives the Government cooperates with all levels of governance, the Parliament, institutions, social partners and civil society actors. At the international level, promoting SDG-respecting coalitions through multilateral agreements is a priority. At the same time, both globally and especially for Europe which is facing a growing humanitarian and refugee crisis on its own territory as a result of the war in Ukraine, Greece has to respond to the new refugee crisis so as not to divert much-needed resources oriented to other humanitarian crises.

Combining all levels, in order to combat crime in all of its forms, the Government and the Hellenic Police in particular, have developed strategic partnerships with a number of authorities, institutions and services, at international and local level.

Progress on SDG-related indicators:

- Following a decade of fiscal crisis coupled with the recent Covid-19 pandemic, the general Government gross debt is around 200% of the country’s GDP.

	<p>Ministry of Development and Investments, the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Anti-Money Laundering Authority, the Greek Ombudsman, foreign embassies in Greece, and European and International Organizations, such as EUROPOL, INTERPOL, EUIPO, OLAF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Within the framework of the FAROS Program, which is funded by the “Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union” (REC 2014-2020), Greece puts forward actions aimed at protecting the LGBTQI+ community, combating intolerance and hate crimes, and ensuring inclusion and acceptance. Under the FAROS Program, a wide range of stakeholders, including the Center for the Family and Child, ORLANDO LGBT+, COLOUR YOUTH, Rainbow Families, and the Ministry of Justice, concluded a Memorandum of Understanding, which seeks to enhance cooperation and coordination among the relevant entities and institutions involved in the assistance to victims of criminal acts. ● The Government has established a specific Working Group on the protection of victims of human trafficking. It brings together a wide range of stakeholders including representatives of the police services, the Court of First Instance, judges, the Office of National Referee for the fight against Human Trafficking, and the National Center of Social Solidarity that supports the function of the National Mechanism for the Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking. ● National Multi-stakeholder Initiative for the implementation of the new UNESCO 'Education for Sustainable Development: Towards achieving the SDGs' It is based on the cooperation of the educational community and the local authorities on the right to a healthy environment, and on the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The EU, its 27 member countries and major financial institutions (Team Europe) are global leader donors yet the official development assistance from Greece is at the lower side of the spectrum as a result of the country’s 12-year economic downturn
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	<p>linkages between recycling and circular economy in order to steer behavioral and cultural changes with regard to municipal waste production based on the waste hierarchy (e.g. reuse before recycling). The Initiative will run up to 2026 and its partners will include several Local Authorities, Universities, NGOs, Youth Organisations, the Centers of Environmental Education supervised by the Ministry of Education and the Hellenic Recycling Agency (EOAN) supervised by the Ministry of Environment and Energy.</p>	
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