

THE NETHERLANDS' DRAFT UPDATED NATIONAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE PLAN





An important step towards the more ambitious 2030 energy and climate objectives under the European Green Deal and REPowerEU Plan



Highlights of the Commission's assessment

The European Green Deal, the fast-evolving geopolitical context and the energy crisis have led the EU and its Member States to **accelerate the energy transition and set more ambitious energy and climate objectives**. These developments are reflected in the legislative and policy framework adopted under both the 'Fit for 55' package and the REPowerEU Plan. Taking this new context into account, **Member States are updating their National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) for the first time since 2019**. The European Commission has assessed the Netherlands' draft updated NECP, submitted on 29 June 2023.

The Netherlands' key objectives, targets and contributions

	2030 value submitted in the draft updated NECP	2030 target under EU legislation	Assessment of 2030 ambition level
 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in ESR sectors (compared with 2005)	-38.7%	-48%*	The Netherlands does not reach its target based on projections
 GHG removals in LULUCF (Mt CO ₂ eq. net GHG removals)	3.7	- 0.435 (additional removal target) 4.523 (total net removals)**	The Netherlands reaches the target based on projections
 Energy Efficiency (final energy consumption)	43.9 Mtoe	38.4 Mtoe***	The Netherlands' final energy consumption is above the indicated target resulting from EU legislation
 Renewable Energy (share of renewable energy in gross final consumption)	27%	39%****	The Netherlands' submitted contribution to the EU target is significantly below the one resulting from EU legislation

* under the Effort Sharing Regulation.

** under the Regulation on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.

*** according to the formula set out in Annex I of the Directive (EU) 2023/1791 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 ('EED recast').

**** according to the formula set out in Annex II of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance Regulation of the Energy Union and Climate Action.

The Netherlands' main positive elements and areas for improvement

- ✓ On **buildings**, the Netherlands' draft updated NECP includes detailed information on measures for buildings and provides the expected impact of measures in terms of energy savings.
- ✓ On **energy poverty**, the plan outlines an approach to address energy poverty including an assessment of the situation of current households affected.
- ✓ The plan presents a broad range of strategic programmes and measures to strengthen **research, innovation, and competitiveness** in clean energy technologies, including certain investments for the manufacturing of net zero technologies, measures to promote circularity and projects related to digitalisation.
- ✓ On **land use, land use change and forestry**, the plan indicates that the Netherlands will meet, even slightly exceed, its 2030 target with existing measures, even if the capacity of forests to absorb CO₂ is projected to decrease.
- ✓ The plan is based on solid **quantitative analysis** with most of the required elements of the analytical basis present in the plan. The macroeconomic, employment and skills, and environmental effects of the planned policies and measures until 2030 are discussed.

- ✗ On **renewable energy sources**, the Netherlands has to raise the overall ambition significantly and for specific targets and lacks additional measures to achieve those ambitions.
- ✗ On **energy efficiency**, the plan does not set out complete policies and measures to achieve the national contributions on energy efficiency.
- ✗ On **energy security**, the plan does not sufficiently address gas demand reduction objectives or measures despite the very substantial use of natural gas in the energy mix, particularly in a context of declining domestic gas production.
- ✗ On the **just transition** dimension, the plan lacks a comprehensive analysis of social, employment and skills impact, including distributional ones, of the climate and energy transition and does not elaborate on concrete policies and measures to address these.
- ✗ On **adaptation to climate change**, the plan does not consider relevant climate vulnerabilities and risks, and this may put the achievement of energy and climate mitigation objectives and targets at risk. The plan does not adequately describe adaptation policies and measures to address these risks and vulnerabilities.

Moving forward...

Based on this assessment, the Commission has published country-specific recommendations for each Member State. These recommendations should be taken into account by the Member States when preparing their final updated NECPs, which are due by 30 June 2024.

Full Commission's assessment and recommendations on the Netherlands' draft updated NECP: [here](#)

More information about the National Energy & Climate Plans: [NECP website](#)