



DENMARK'S 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



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 Denmark's draft updated NECP, submitted on 29 June 2023.

Denmark's 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)	-39.5%	-50%*	Denmark does not reach its target based on projections
 GHG removals in LULUCF (Mt CO ₂ eq. net GHG removals)	missing	0.441 (additional net removal target) 5.338 (total net removals)**	Denmark is not reaching its target based on projections (accumulated reduction gap of 9.7Mt)
 Energy Efficiency (final energy consumption)	14.2 Mtoe	13.7 Mtoe***	Denmark's final energy consumption is above the indicated target resulting from EU legislation
 Renewable Energy (share of renewable energy in gross final consumption)	70.9%	60%****	Denmark's submitted contribution to the EU target is significantly above the one resulting from EU legislation

* under the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR).

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

*** 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.

Denmark's main positive elements and areas for improvement

- ✓ On **renewable energy**, the draft updated NECP provides a good level of detail regarding Denmark's upcoming renewable energy projects and joint cooperation with other Member States.
- ✓ On **energy security**, the plan convincingly sets out measures to enhance security of energy supply, for instance through a high ambition to completely replace fossil gas consumption with biogas by 2030.
- ✓ On the **internal energy market**, Denmark is exemplary with regards to electricity interconnection, and the draft updated NECP provides key policies and measures to incentivise the uptake of flexibility services.
- ✓ On **research, innovation, competitiveness and skills**, the plan is well developed with targets, a timeline, overall funding and information on regional cooperation, competitiveness and digitalisation. Vocational education and adult learning related measures supporting transition are presented.
- ✓ On **solid fossil fuels phase-out**, the plan mentions that almost all coal-fired power plants have been converted and now use biomass fuels, and the agreement to phase-out coal in the electricity sector by 2030.

- ✗ On **energy efficiency**, the draft updated NECP is a very preliminary update of the 2020 plan, with several key elements missing.
- ✗ 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 at risk. Adaptation policies and measures (to address these risks and vulnerabilities) are not adequately described.
- ✗ On **buildings**, the plan does not update the ambition of the 2020 long-term renovation strategy for targets and indicators, including building renovation targets, energy savings and CO₂ emission reduction.
- ✗ **Just transition** is only partially addressed in the plan, with little analysis of the social, employment and skills impacts, including distributional impacts, of the climate and energy transition.
- ✗ On **decarbonisation**, the draft plan lacks clear recognition of circular economy practices and measures as tools for decarbonisation.

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 Denmark's draft updated NECP: [here](#)

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