



DEPARTMENT OF
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



PARTNERSHIPS

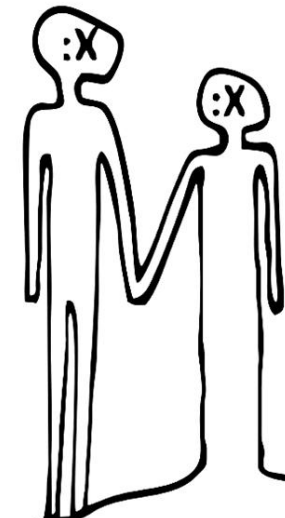
Role in addressing the implementation
of SDGs from educational and scientific
point of view

Implementation of the UN 2030 SDGs
in the Black Sea Region
Bucharest, 4 October 2019



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The Road towards Sustainable Development

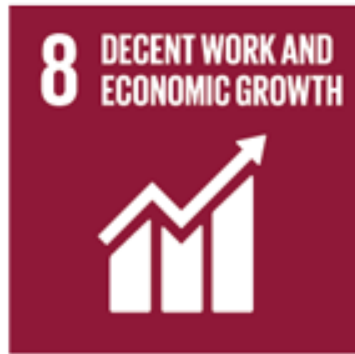
2015 marked the adoption of:

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Addis Ababa Action Agenda
- Paris Agreement on Climate Change

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

- It was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015 by consensus (all EU and NATO members)
- It represents humanity's answer to our current social, economic, and environmental problems
- Defines the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which represent the framework through which we can achieve our transition towards a sustainable future.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Sustainable Development in Romania

Political support for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Romania

- In April 2016, both houses of the Romanian Parliament declared their full support for the implementation of the 17 SDGs domestically.
- The Romanian Parliament was the first among the 176 members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union which expressed its support for the 2030 Agenda.
- To maintain support for the SDGs in parliament, two handbooks were translated into Romanian on how to integrate Sustainable Development into the legislative process.

Consolidating the Institutional Framework

- In May 2017, the Department of Sustainable Development was established within the Government`s Working Apparatus through *Government Decision 313/2017* to coordinate the implementation of the SDGs on a National Level

The Department of Sustainable Development

The 'Core' of Sustainability in Romania

The Department of Sustainable Development

- The Department's establishment was the result of recognising the importance of coordinating public policy that goes 'beyond' the traditional institutional framework by enhancing intersectoral cooperation.
- The Department is responsible with:
 - Coordinating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through Romania's Sustainable Development Strategy which was adopted by Government Decision in November 2018.
 - Centralising, integrating, and monitoring data concerning the SDGs
 - Collaborating with public institutions, both national and international, as well as NGOs on European projects.

The Department's Objectives are:

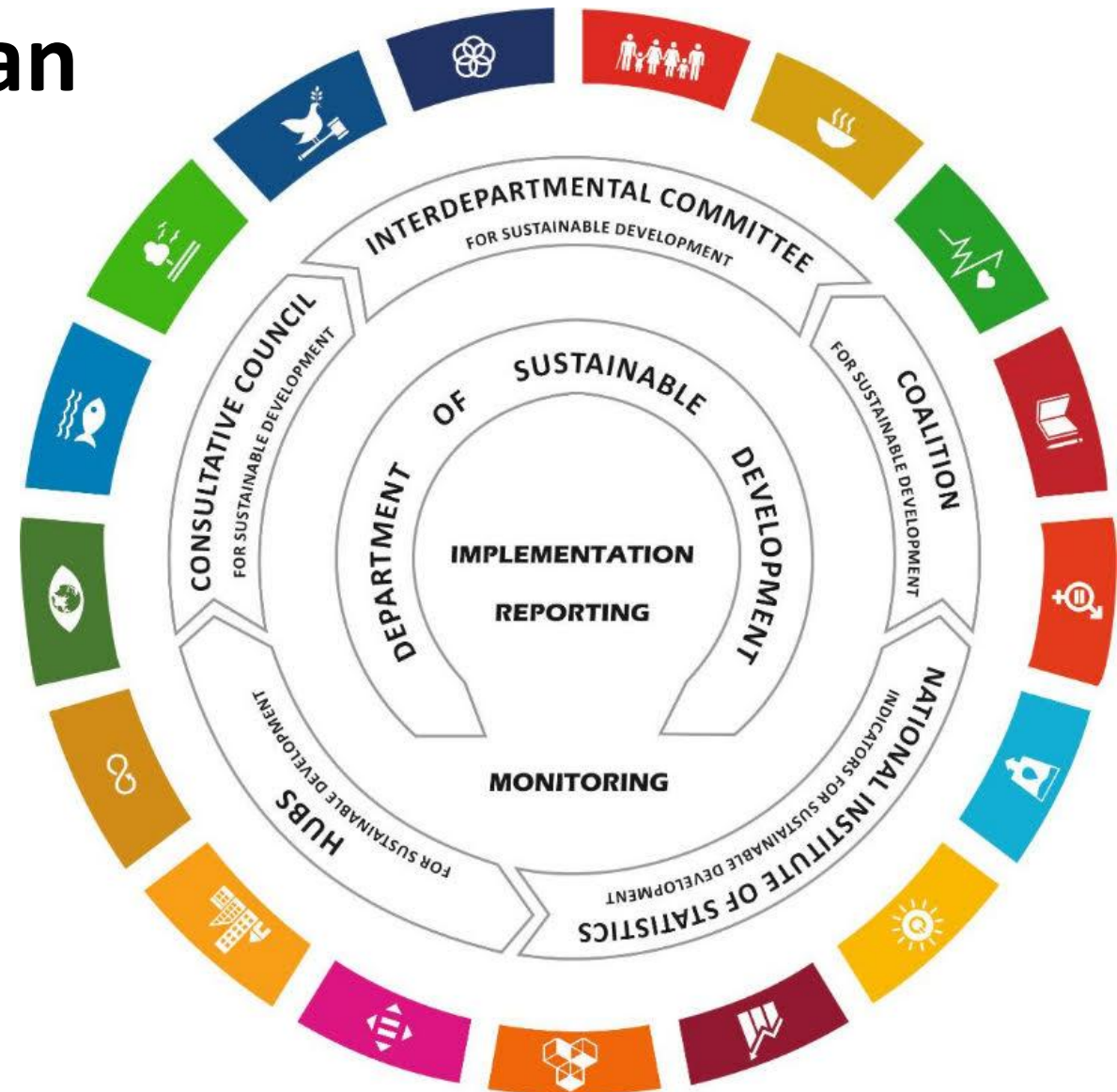
- 1. To monitor the process of implementing Romania's Sustainable Development Strategy. *Choosing Romania's indicator set, identifying sustainability projects, finding and promoting financing opportunities, and having part of Romania's state budget for SD.***
- 2. To create the institutional structure needed to make public policy 'sustainable.' *This will be done by establishing 'teams' of Sustainable Development experts at all state levels, connected through a network with the Department at its 'core.' They will be tasked with making sure that their institution is true to the principles of Sustainable Development.***
- 3. To promote partnerships by organizing national and regional meetings with all stakeholders relevant in achieving the vision of the 2030 Agenda. This is how we will create the critical mass to create a better future.**

Institutional framework for implementing Romania's Sustainable Development Strategy

- The Strategy calls for the establishment of:
 - **An Interdepartmental Committee for Sustainable Development** headed by the Prime Minister (Established by GD no. 272/2019).
 - **A Consultative Council on Sustainable Development**, composed of a group of specialists from academia, research institutes, and civil society. This Council will track the effects of sustainable development public policy.
 - **Sustainable Development hubs** in every relevant public institution which will be formed out of “Experts in Sustainable Development”.
- The Strategy also calls for the establishment of a **Coalition for Sustainable Development** formed out of representatives from Civil Society.

Monitoring and Action Plan

- **The Strategy's** holistic approach requires a change in the institutional framework to ensure a successful implementation.
- **The Department of Sustainable Development** is collaborating with Romania's Institute for Statistics on creating a set of national indicators.
- The Department is currently working on an **Action Plan** for implementing the Strategy. This Action Plan will take into consideration all proposals received during the **Strategy's Drafting process**, especially from Civil Society.





Sustainable Education in Romania

For the sustainable development of the whole society, universities must place sustainable development at the center of the curriculum.

In addition, staff development is a vital part of a holistic approach of the institution. Staff on all levels and from all areas of activity must understand sustainable development as one adaptive process, and not as a single and simple objective.

In the context of sustainable development, the role of universities includes:

- Educating students, helping them gain knowledge about the world, on the complex interaction between economic, social and environmental factors**
- Identifying technical and social solutions to the challenges presented by sustainable development**
- Assuming the position of a catalyst for learning about sustainable development, beyond barriers to universities, through the exchange of knowledge and ideas with local communities, business environment, government and other authorities, respectively the wide world.**



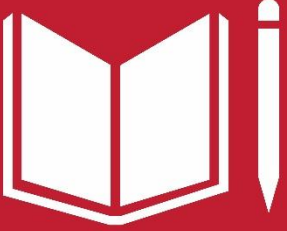
Sustainable development in education

From 93 existing universities in Romania, 44 have followed the request to complete the questionnaire regarding the inclusion of the specialisation of sustainable development in the educational programs.

Following the integration of the data, it turned out that 29 universities had included sustainable development specialisation within their educational programs, which represents a percentage of 31% of the total number of universities.

The specialisation of sustainable development exists at the license level within 9 universities, and the specialisation of sustainable development exists at the master level within 10 universities. Specialisation in sustainable development exists at the doctoral level only in 2 universities.

24 universities included in their educational plan courses of sustainable development. We were informed by 22 universities that they had developed projects in the field of sustainable development and 18 universities that have publications in the field of sustainable development.



Sustainable Development Expert in Classification of Occupations in Romania

The Department for Sustainable Development submitted, at the end of 2017, to the Ministry of Labor and Social Justice, respectively to the Directorate of Employment Policies, Competences and Professional Mobility, a request to update the classification of occupations in Romania (COR) for introducing the occupation "sustainable development expert".



Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Partnerships for Sustainable Development have the potential to further consolidate the Black Sea Region.

“By 2030, [..] the signatory states have to [..] ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.”



In the center of the strategy is the citizen:

The new paradigm brought by the 2030 Agenda is also the democratisation of the implementation process: the involvement of all stakeholders.

Critical Mass represents the moment when an idea becomes accepted by the majority of the population. We need the support, involvement and collaboration of everyone!

We continue the meetings started during the public consultation on the Strategy.



Thank you!

#WillYou2030?

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