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|  | | **National systems for reporting on policies and measures and greenhouse gas projections** | |
| **Concept Name** | **Description** |
| **A** | **Data description (metadata)** | | |
|  | Data description  *Background, main characteristics of dataset* | | National systems include all relevant institutional, legal and procedural arrangements established within a country for reporting on greenhouse gas (GHG) emission policies and measures, for evaluating policy, and for making projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks. Countries have to operate a national system, while also seeking to continuously improve it. Within the EU climate governance framework, national systems serve as the backbone of planning, monitoring, and reporting processes. A complete and transparent national system is essential to deliver good-quality information on GHG projections to integrate policy effects and understand GHG emission trends. It seeks to ensure the timeliness, transparency, accuracy, consistency, comparability and completeness of the information on policies and measures and projections.  The obligation to establish, operate and continuously improve national systems for reporting on policies and measures and for reporting on projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks is established under Article 39 of the [Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action Regulation (EU) 2018/1999](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1999/oj) (“Governance Regulation”) and its [Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1208](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2020.278.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2020:278:TOC). Countries were obligated to report under Article 39 of the Governance Regulation on their established national system in 2021, and subsequent reporting is mandated only in case of modifications to that system. Thus, updates to the dataset can be made annually if there are updates to the national system.  The dataset includes qualitative information on the institutional, legal and procedural arrangements that make up the national system. |
|  | Statistical population  *Population about which information is to be sought* | | This dataset refers to the official nationally reported data and therefore applies to the entire statistical population of the national entity in relation to the specific information within the dataset (i.e., what institutional, legal and procedural arrangements have been established for reporting on GHG emissions policies and measures and GHG projections). |
|  | Reference period | | **Reference period (dataset):** All institutional, legal, and procedural arrangements reported by countries are the most up to date by the time of the reporting deadline (March 15) of the year when data is reported.  *The dataset contains information from 2021, 2023 and 2025 because it was mandatory to report data in 2021, and later reporting has been mandated only if modifications to the information exist. Countries have provided updates at different internals, or not updated their initial submission at all.* |
|  | Frequency of dissemination | | **Once, or annually**  The dataset had to be mandatorily reported in 2021. However, each year the country should update data related to national systems, if modifications to the information exist. Therefore, some countries update data annually. |
|  | Geographical reference area | | **All EU Member States, and Iceland, Switzerland, and Norway.** |
|  | Unit of measure | | Dataset contains only qualitative data, no unit of measure is applicable. |
|  | Basic statistical concepts and definitions | | The dataset contains only qualitative data, so no basic statistical concepts or variables are applicable.  The following definitions are important for reporting:   * National inventory system is the institutional, legal, and procedural framework established by each Member State to ensure the accurate, transparent, and consistent estimation and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals to be reported in the National Inventory Reports (NIR). * Integrated national energy and climate report (NECPR) refers to the biennial reporting mandated under Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999, where Member States have to report on the status of implementation of its integrated national energy and climate plan by means of an integrated national energy and climate progress report covering all five dimensions of the Energy Union. * Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is a country’s detailed plan that outlines how it plans to cut greenhouse gas emissions and contribute towards achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goals (help limit global warming to "well below" 2 degrees C, with efforts to limit it to 1.5 degrees C). NDCs have to be submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change every five years, reflecting the country’s “highest possible ambition”. The European Union submits one NDC on behalf of all EU Member States.   For reporting, there are two distinct concepts:   * Policies and Measures (PaMs) cover all national climate and energy related actions which contribute to meeting the objectives of a country’s integrated national energy and climate plan (NECP). * Projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, by sources and removals by sink, are the quantitative forecasts of greenhouse gas emissions removals. Every two years, it is mandatory for EU Member States to report their GHG projections by gas (or group of gases) and by sector for at least six future years ending in 0 or 5.   Further details on the concepts and definitions can be found in the [reporting guidelines](https://reportnet.europa.eu/public/dataflow/111). |
|  | Classifications used | | The dataset contains only qualitative data, and no unique classifications or characterisations are used.  Further details on the concepts and definitions can be found in the [reporting guidelines](https://reportnet.europa.eu/public/dataflow/111). |
|  | Statistical Confidentiality | | Data is required to be made publicly accessible, in accordance with the [Governance Regulation 2018/1999](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1999/oj/eng), Article 28. |
| **B** | **Data quality** | |  |
|  | Relevance | | The dataset presents the established national systems for reporting on policies and measures and for reporting on projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sink. National systems serve as the backbone for planning, monitoring, and reporting processes, aligning national efforts with global and European targets. Users wanting to understand the monitoring and reporting mechanisms, which are essential components of climate and energy governance, by their Member State can dig further into their information in one comprehensive dataset.  The dataset can be considered relatively complete regarding institutional, legal, and procedural arrangements reported by countries.  There is currently no user satisfaction conducted on the dataset. However, discussions with Member States are held regularly in Working Group Meetings of the Climate Change Committee. Additionally, the EEA regularly responds to enquiries on this dataset and related products. |
|  | Timeliness  *Length of time between data availability and the event or phenomenon they describe* | | **T+1 year**  Data had to be reported by 15 March, 2021 and in subsequent reporting years data is reported if there have been modifications of the national system for policies and measures and projections (Article 39 Governance Regulation). Quality checking procedures are undertaken until summer and final datasets are prepared and made available in early autumn. |
|  | Accuracy and reliability | | **Source data – national administration:** Data is officially reported by national administrations on their national systems.  **Data collection and methods used:** Data is collected from national authorities via the EEA’s survey tool [Reportnet 3](https://reportnet.europa.eu/). Once reported, the EEA and its European Topic Centre[[1]](#footnote-2) Climate change Mitigation (ETC-CM) quality check the data against three criteria: transparency, completeness, and timeliness. All updates to the data require the Member State to resubmit data in agreement with the EEA. Therefore, updates are not always achieved when data quality issues are detected. |
|  | Accessibility and clarity | | **Publications:** Raw final data is available via [Reportnet 3](https://reportnet.europa.eu/public/dataflow/111). The EEA also prepares two major products to disseminate the data via a data visualisation dashboard and via country factsheets (both available on [climate and energy](https://climate-energy.eea.europa.eu/topics/climate-change-mitigation/national-systems/data)).  Every second year, the ETC provides a report on the contents of the reported integrated ‘policies and measures’ (PaMs) data, which also includes information on the reported national systems data, and the quality process undertaken on the data. This report is published on the [ETC-CM product](https://www.eionet.europa.eu/etcs/etc-cm/products) site. Ad hoc reports are published that explore the dataset in more depth, either by the ETC-CM and/or the EEA.  **Quality documentation**: Automatic quality assurance and quality control mechanisms are implemented in [Reportnet 3](https://reportnet.europa.eu/). Details on the automatic quality control mechanisms are listed in the Excel document (sheet ‘QC rules’) available for download on the Reportnet 3 website. In Reportnet, navigate to the relevant year of the dataflow ‘National systems for policies and measures and projections’ and click on the button ‘Download schema/s info’, as seen on the picture. |
|  | Coherence and comparability | | **Geographical:** Data quality (completeness) differs amongst Member States.  **Over time:** Datasets are self-standing and represent the complete overview of the institutional, legal and procedural arrangements established for reporting on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions policies and measures and GHG projections at the time of reporting. Therefore, historic datasets do not reflect a timeseries and are not directly comparable. The latest dataset should always be used, if the current state of a country’s national system is the scope of analysis. |
| **C** | **Contact and update** | |  |
|  | Contact organisation | | European Environment Agency (EEA) |
|  | Contact name | | n/a |
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|  | Metadata update | | Published: 30/10/2025  Modified: n/a |

1. An ETC is a consortium of organisations in EEA member countries with expertise in a specific environmental area. ETCs are contracted by the EEA to support the implementation of the EEA work programmes. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)