

Bulgaria is lagging behind in the implementation of climate neutrality plans in which countries within the European Union are engaged, according to the draft detailed strategy within Priority 4 “Circular and Low Carbon Economy” of the National Development Program “Bulgaria 2030”.

The document, published on the website of the portal for public consultations at the Council of Ministers, states that the main goal of the plan is to reduce the resource intensity of the country’s economy and increase the efficiency of the materials used. It is expected that activities will be undertaken to increase the productivity of resources throughout the life cycle, as well as the norms of circular (secondary) use of materials in the economy. At the same time, extending the life of the product itself, reducing waste and controlling the need for new resources will be encouraged.

“Measures will be aimed at supporting companies for the introduction of waste-free technologies, reducing the amount of waste generated in the production process, and developing industrial symbiosis.” The application of business models that enable interaction between products and services throughout the supply chain, as well as design, reuse and recycling strategies to ensure longer product use, will be encouraged. “A special focus will be placed on research and development, as well as innovations related to the circular economy and support for the development and implementation of green business models,” . However, when reviewing the main indicators related to the plan, it was noticed that Bulgaria is lagging behind in its efforts to achieve a circular economy.

The indicator “Share of circular use of materials in the economy” is currently 4.3% in Bulgaria, which is far from the target value of 11.7%.

The situation is similar when it comes to the “eco-innovation index”, which is 50 points, or 33% less than the target level of 83 points.

Bulgaria also lags behind when it comes to the “resource productivity” indicator, given the current 0.322 euros per kg, which is less than the target level of 0.64 euros per kg.

In terms of “generated waste per unit of GDP”, the country significantly exceeds the required level by over 200 kg per 1,000 euros, given that the indicator reaches a value of 418 kg per 1,000 euros.

In the category “packaging waste recycling”, the current value of the index in Bulgaria reaches 66%, while the target value is 70%.

The lag is also recorded in the “number of patents related to the recycling of secondary raw materials” - the state currently does not have such patents, and the target level for 2030 is 15.

Regarding the “share of landfilled waste (including landfilled) submitted for treatment”

Bulgaria exceeds the target value (35%) and the EU average (46%), as the indicator reaches the current level of 65%.

Source: investor.bg