

Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan

Following the unprecedented crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan has responded to the urgent need to foster a **strong recovery**, while making Bulgaria's economy and society more **resilient and future ready**. In response to the energy market disruption caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the Commission launched the [REPowerEU Plan](#). The Recovery and Resilience Facility is at the heart of its implementation and its funding. Under REPowerEU, EU countries are updating their recovery and resilience plans with new measures to save energy and diversify the EU's energy supplies.



The President transmits the Commission's assessment of the original plan to former Prime Minister Kiril Petkov in Sofia on 7 April 2022.

RRF FUNDED PROJECTS IN BULGARIA



Legend Description

Green transition

Focusing on green technologies and capacities - sustainable mobility, energy efficiency and renewables, climate change adaptation; circular economy; and biodiversity.

Policies for the next generation

Improving access to and the quality of general, vocational, and higher education; focusing on digital education, early childhood education and care; supporting youth employment.

Smart, sustainable, inclusive growth

promoting entrepreneurship, competitiveness, industrialisation; improving the business environment; fostering research, development and innovation, supporting small- and medium-sized businesses.

Digital transformation

Promoting the roll-out of very high-capacity networks, the digitalisation of public services, government processes, and businesses, in particular SMEs; developing basic and advanced digital skills; supporting digital-related R&D and the deployment of advanced technologies.

Social and territorial cohesion

Improving social and territorial infrastructure and services, including social protection and welfare systems, the inclusion of disadvantaged groups; supporting employment and skills development; creating high-quality, stable jobs.

Health and economic, social and institutional resilience

Improving the resilience, accessibility and quality of health and long-term care, including measures to advance their digitalisation; increasing the effectiveness of public administration systems.

The map exclusively serves information purposes and is not an exhaustive database of projects supported by the Recovery and Resilience Facility. It does not reflect the distribution of the projects funded by the Recovery and Resilience Facility across the European Union, nor across different geographical areas or sectors within EU Member States. The RRF funding amounts shown for measures are based on the initial cost estimates included in the recovery and resilience plans.

Furthermore, the projects showcased are without prejudice to any future assessment by the Commission in the context of verifying the satisfactory fulfilment of milestones and targets under Regulation (EU) 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

WHAT'S IN THE PLAN?

Country snapshot



Bulgaria's country snapshot

The country snapshot illustrates some of the most iconic and impactful projects included in the Bulgarian Recovery and Resilience Plan that will bring positive change for EU citizens, businesses and the EU at large.

The reforms and investments in Bulgaria's plan, approved by Council on 4 May 2022, are helping it to become more sustainable, resilient and **better prepared for the challenges and opportunities of the green transition and digital transition.**



€6,185 m*

Value of the plan



€5,690 m

RRF Grants



–

RRF loans

*This value includes also the part of the plan which is financed with national resources.

- **50 investment streams** and **47 reforms**
- **57.5%** of the plan will support **climate objectives**
- **23.1%** of the plan will foster the **digital transition**

The transformative impact of Bulgaria's plan is the result of a strong combination of reforms and investments which address the country's specific challenges. The reforms address bottlenecks to lasting and sustainable growth, while investments are targeted at the green and digital transitions, to strengthen economic and social resilience and the cohesion of the single market. In particular, Bulgaria's plan will accelerate the decarbonisation of the energy sector, promote the large-scale deployment of digital infrastructure, including in rural areas, as well as support investments in improving the business environment, education and skills, research and innovation, social protection and healthcare.

All measures have to be implemented **within a tight time frame**, as the Regulation establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility requires all milestones and targets within the national plans to be completed by **August 2026**.

Green transition

In the area of climate and environmental policies, Bulgaria's challenges include the **decarbonisation of the power sector, fostering clean and efficient production and use of energy and resources, improving the energy efficiency of the building stock, making the transport sector more sustainable and ensuring the protection and restoration of ecosystems.**

Key measures for the green transition

- The plan supports the green transition through **ambitious reforms**.
 - Adoption of a clear framework for the coal phaseout and binding commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions of the power sector by 40% by 2025;
 - Accelerating the deployment of renewable energy sources;
 - Market liberalisation of the wholesale and retail electricity markets, governance reforms, as well as the removal of financial and regulatory bottlenecks for energy efficiency investments.
- Investments in **renewable energy sources, electricity storage and interconnection capacities** (€1.5 billion) and in **energy-efficiency renovation** of the building stock (over €1 billion).
- In the area of transport, the plan includes a sizeable allocation (**€533 million**) to **decarbonisation measures** such as the introduction new electric rolling stock for sub-urban and inter-regional rail transport; the construction of a new section of the Sofia

metro; sustainable urban mobility pilot scheme with purchase of zero-emission public transport vehicles and charging station infrastructure.

- Dedicated measures in the area of biodiversity aim to protect ecosystems and natural habitats and species (**€15.6 million**).

The modified plan, including the REPowerEU chapter, continues to focus on the green transition, devoting 57.5% of the available funds to measures that support climate objectives.

Support for the renovation of building stock

With an investment of EUR 636.6 million from the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Bulgarian plan supports a comprehensive national scheme for energy efficiency renovation of residential, public and commercial buildings.



Project locations

Bulgaria

[See all →](#)

Digital transition

Digital challenges for Bulgaria include **insufficient connectivity** through **very high-capacity networks**, **low offer and uptake of digital public services**, **low level of digital skills** and **limited uptake of digital technologies by enterprises**.

Key measures for the digital transition

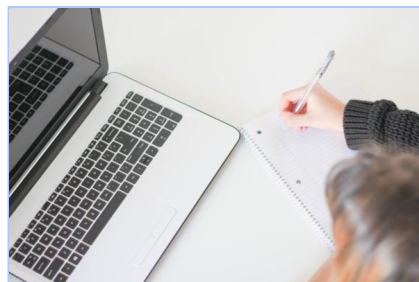
Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan supports the digital transition with investments and reforms aimed at increasing the coverage of very high-capacity networks across the country.

- Investment in **rural** and **sparsely populated areas** (**€270 million**).
- Investments to enhance **digital skills** (**€319 million**).
- Investments in the **digitalisation of public administration** and the **provision of digital public services** in key areas such as justice, health, employment and social protection (**€231 million**).
- Investments supporting the **digitalisation of businesses** (**€15.7 million**), as well as of the transport (**€92 million**) and energy sectors (**€75.7 million**).

The modified plan continues to focus on the digital transition, devoting 23.1% of the available funds to measures that **support digital objectives**.

Digital skills

The Recovery and Resilience Facility provides EUR 116 million to improve the up- and re-skilling of the workforce, with a focus on digital skills.



Project locations

Bulgaria

[See all →](#)

Economic and social resilience

Key challenges with an impact on Bulgaria's medium-term economic performance include **improving the quality of institutions** and **fighting corruption**, addressing **labour and skills shortages** as well as **skills mismatches** relative to the labour market needs, **improving the quality, inclusiveness and labour market relevance of education and training**, improving **access to integrated employment** and **social services** and **more effective minimum income support**, strengthening the **resilience, accessibility and capacity of the health system**.

Key measures in reinforcing economic and social resilience

The plan contains a set of reforms and investments that reinforce economic and social resilience.

- It includes comprehensive **anti-corruption measures**, including reforms to ensure the **accountability and criminal liability** of the Prosecutor General, **strengthened anti-corruption institutions** and **increased transparency** and **competition in public procurement**, support for **e-justice**, **better governance** of state-owned enterprises (**€69 million**).
- The plan also foresees the **creation of industry parks** (**€111 million**) and a **large-scale economic transformation programme to support the technological modernisation of SMEs and mid-caps**, notably their green and digital transitions (**€639 million**).
- Investments in **modernising education** and **enhancing research and innovation** (**€900 million**).

- The plan aims at **strengthening the adequacy and coverage of the minimum income scheme**, improving the **provision of employment** and **social services** and their integration, as well as modernising **long-term care** with a focus on people with disabilities and older people (**€440 million**).
- Modernisation of hospitals and medical facilities, establishing an air ambulance system, the construction of outpatient care units in remote and under-served regions, to improve **access to healthcare (€287 million)**.

Reform of the minimum income scheme

The minimum income scheme reform aims to improve the adequacy and coverage of the minimum income scheme in Bulgaria.

Project locations

Bulgaria

[See all →](#)

November 2022

- The 2022 Annual Event on Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan took place on 15 November 2022.
- Participants included the European Commission, the Government of Bulgaria, and a broad range of stakeholders, including social partners and NGOs.
- The discussions focused on the progress in the implementation of Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan and the way ahead, the green transition and the plan's response to existing and emerging challenges, as well as the opportunities for citizens and businesses.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Annual events facilitate the exchange of views on the state of implementation of the Recovery and resilience plans, while ensuring close cooperation between all stakeholders and providing a platform to discuss interlinks between the Plans and other Union programmes.

[More information on Annual events held in Bulgaria can be found here](#)

EUROPEAN SEMESTER

Bulgaria's plan is consistent with the **challenges** and priorities identified in the **European Semester**, the annual cycle of coordination and monitoring of each EU country's economic policies. For a detailed explanation of the European Semester see the following link: [The European Semester explained | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

DOCUMENTS

Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan

[National recovery and resilience website](#) 

Original Recovery and Resilience Plan (May 2022)

[National recovery and resilience plan website](#) 

Updated Recovery and Resilience Plan (December 2023)

[National recovery and resilience plan website](#) 

Original Recovery and Resilience Plan (May 2022)

Documents

[Council Implementing Decision on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria and Annex](#)

[Commission Staff Working Document: Analysis of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria](#)

Press Material

[Press release: The Commission endorses Bulgaria's Plan](#)

[Factsheet: Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan](#)

[Questions and answers: European Commission endorses Bulgaria's plan](#)

Further Information

[Summary of the Commission's assessment of the Bulgarian recovery and resilience plan](#)

Updated Recovery and Resilience Plan (2023)

Documents

[Council Implementing Decision amending the Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria and Annex](#)

Press material

[Daily News: Bulgaria submits request to modify recovery and resilience plan](#)

[Daily News: Commission endorses the revision of Bulgaria's recovery and resilience plan](#)

Updated Recovery and Resilience Plan (July 2025)

Documents

[COMMISSION Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria](#)

[Annex COMMISSION Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending Implementing Decision of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria](#)

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT - Analysis of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria

Updated Recovery and Resilience Plan (November 2025)

Documents

COMMISSION Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending Implementing Decision (EU) (ST 8091/22 INIT; ST 8091/22 ADD 1) of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria

Annex to the COMMISSION Proposal for a COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION amending Implementing Decision (EU) (ST 8091/22 INIT; ST 8091/22 ADD 1) of 4 May 2022 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Bulgaria

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT - Updated climate tracking and digital tagging of the recovery and resilience plan of Bulgaria

Operational Arrangements

Operational Arrangements between the Commission and Bulgaria

Operational arrangements between the Commission and Bulgaria (first revision)

Payments

First Payment Request

Documents

[Preliminary assessment of the first payment request of Bulgaria](#)

[Commission implementing Decision on the authorisation of the first disbursement to Bulgaria](#)

Press Material

[Press release: European Commission endorses a positive preliminary assessment of Bulgaria's request for a €1.37 billion disbursement under the Recovery and Resilience Facility](#)

[Questions and Answers on Bulgaria's first disbursement request](#)

[Daily news: Commission disburses first payment to Bulgaria](#)

Second Payment Request

Documents

[Preliminary assessment of the second payment request of Bulgaria](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION on the authorisation of the disbursement of the second instalment of the non-repayable support for Bulgaria](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION on the partial suspension of the disbursement of the second instalment of the non-repayable support for Bulgaria](#)

Press Material

[Commission receives second payment request from Bulgaria for €724 million under the Recovery and Resilience Facility](#)

[Press release: Commission adopts preliminary assessment of Bulgaria's second payment request under the Recovery and Resilience Facility](#)

Third Payment Request

Documents

[Preliminary assessment of the third payment request of Bulgaria](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 22.12.2025 on the authorisation of the disbursement of the third instalment of the non-repayable support for Bulgaria](#)

[COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION of 22.12.2025 on the partial suspension of the disbursement of the third instalment of the non\[1\]repayable support for Bulgaria](#)

Press Material

[Commission partially greenlights Bulgaria's payment request of €1.6 billion under NextGenerationEU, supporting economic growth and competitiveness](#)

European Semester

[European Semester documents for Bulgaria](#)

Implementation

[Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard](#)

Original publicly accessible source:

https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/recovery-coronavirus/recovery-and-resilience-facility/recovery-and-resilience-plan-bulgaria_en.

This PDF was created by Climate Policy Radar (climatepolicyradar.org) on 05 March 2026.

For non-commercial use only. Reach out to us at support@climatepolicyradar.org if you have any enquiries.