

## **Partnerships for Energy Transition**

### **between the Government and the economic sector in Romania**

- New EU policies bring a new vision in the development of economic and industrial policies of member states. New paradigms for economic growth and competitiveness are established in the context of the green transition. Gradually, European funding opportunities are closing for economic sectors that rely on fossil fuel-based energy and are greenhouse gases emitters. The level of awareness among economic operators in Romania regarding these structural paradigm shifts is significant. Their access to funding is increasingly conditioned by sustainability criteria and reducing greenhouse gas emissions (DNSH – do no significant harm).
- In April 2023, the Romanian Government committed to the objective of climate neutrality, at country level. In order to achieve this ambitious goal, it launched the partnerships for energy transition with the economic sectors in Romania.
- At the beginning of 2023, the Romanian Government established a structured dialogue with the economic sector in Romania, i.e. its primary partner in fulfilling commitments both at the national and European levels. In the 414 milestone of the National Resilience and Recovery Plan, the Romanian Government has committed to initiate partnerships with the economic sectors in Romania which accelerate the energy transition and identify ways to achieve climate neutrality. At present, the Chancellery of the Prime Minister coordinates the organization of these partnerships, in dedicated formats for industry and transport. In the future, partnerships with new sectors are anticipated. The partnerships are carried out under the aegis of the Interministerial Committee for Climate Change (CISC).
- The partnerships focus on: 1. The climate neutrality goal adopted by the Romanian Government and its implications for the economic sectors; 2. Identifying specific projects for achieving sector-specific objectives; 3. Identifying available financing sources and the authorities that manage project calls.
- Rounds of consultations within the partnerships for energy transition:
  - February 2023. The Chancellery of the Prime Minister initiated the first series of monthly consultations with the oil and gas sector in Romania within the Working Group for Reducing Methane Emissions, under the auspices of CISC.
  - September 2023. Consultations started with ministries which manage European funds, that are allocated to the industry and the transport sectors, as well as with international financial institutions. A mapping exercise to identify available sources of financing was undertaken.
  - October 2023. Dialogue was initiated with the industry in Romania, in several separate formats (the construction material producers, steel industry, automotive industry). In addition, a new Working Group under the CISC umbrella was established on the topic of carbon capture, storage, and utilization (CCUS).
- These partnerships will result in concrete plans for energy transition. For the industrial sector, the ultimate goal is the development of a Green Industrial Plan – *the Green Deal Industrial Plan for Romania*.