

COUNTRY REPORTING ON THE NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND CONSULTATION PROCESS FOR WSSD

(max 2 pages)

For the National Assessments of the Implementation of Agenda 21 for WSSD, we would kindly ask you to provide us with a simple country reporting on the national assessment and consultation process for WSSD following the below outline:

Country: ROMANIA

Prepared by:

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A. Background

1. Does your country have a National Agenda 21 or a similar strategy/policy document?
(If yes, please list the key focus areas addressed in that document)

UNDP Romania's "National Sustainable Development Strategy" (www.sdnr.ro) was developed by the civil society in a very democratic and participatory process, under the coordination of the National Centre for Sustainable Development. Based on an analysis of the social, economic and environmental status of the country, the document presents a medium and long-term strategy for sustainable development. The National Sustainable Development Strategy was endorsed by the Romanian Government in July 1999.

2. Are there any Local Agenda 21 initiatives in your country?
(If yes, please list the key focus areas of the Local Agenda 21 initiatives)

“Building Local Capacities to Implement the Local Agenda 21 in Romania” is a project developing the LA21 concept in nine cities of Romania: Baia-Mare, Galati, Giurgiu, Iasi, Miercurea-Ciuc, Oradea, Ploiesti, Ramnicu Valcea si Targu Mures. Expected outcomes are to develop:

- a medium and long-term development strategy;
- a Local Action Plan;
- project proposals addressing main development issues.

3. How has your UNDP Country Office and/or National Capacity 21 Program been involved in the National Agenda 21/Local Agenda 21 process in your country?

The activities concerning implementation of the Agenda 21 in Romania were fully coordinated by the UNDP Country Office, resulting in:

- The National Sustainable Development Strategy developed for the 1997-1999 period;
- achievements of the “Building Local Capacities to Implement the Local Agenda 21 in Romania” project (2000-2003); and
- the Regional Rio+10 Assessment Conference for Central and East-European Countries, held in Bucharest on 27-28 June 2001, in coordination with the Capacity 21 Programme.

B. National WSSD Preparatory Process (ongoing/planned):

1. What are the key objectives of the preparatory process?

The preparatory process in Romania has as key objective to analyse the steps made by Romania towards sustainable development since Rio+5, in order to identify the gaps of the process. The ultimate goal is to find new ways and new opportunities to strengthen this process.

2. When did it start?

The WSSD Preparatory Process started in September 2000 in the framework of a National Assessment Workshop organised by the Ministry of Waters and Environment Protection, Earth Council and UNDP.

3. Who is financing the process? (Government, UNDP, Capacity 21, others...)

The Government is mainly funding the WSSD Preparatory Process.

4. Which national agency is leading the process?

The Ministry of Waters and Environment Protection is the national institution leading the process.

5. Who are the key stakeholders participating in the process? How are they participating?

The Ministries represent the key stakeholders of the process. Their participation consists of reporting their achievements towards sustainable development.

6. What are the cross-cutting themes of the national WSSD preparatory process (e.g., poverty and sustainable development, sustainable energy, sustainable communities, etc.)?

The national WSSD preparatory process is concerned in all the socio-economic aspects, with special focus on poverty alleviation.

7. What is the methodology/mechanism established for the preparatory process? (working groups, consultation processes, reports, etc.)

The WSSD preparatory process mainly develops on the basis of consultation processes and reports.

8. How has your UNDP CO and/or National Capacity 21 Program (if one exists) been involved in the preparatory process?

The preparation of the National Assessment Workshop represents the main involvement of our UNDP CO and National Capacity 21 Programme.

9. What are the needs to ensure the continuation of the process (technical and/or financial)?

In order to ensure the continuation of the process the Romanian Ministry of Waters and Environmental Protection would need technical assistance in order to ensure that the recommendations made are in line with the EU legislation.

C. Workplan:

Please attach the workplan for the national preparatory process (if available).

Not available.

Note: Kindly submit the report to Mr. Rastislav Vrbensky (rastislav.vrbensky@undp.org), copied to Ms. Esra Sarioglu (esra.sarioglu@undp.org) before **15 September 2001**, for distribution during the workshop.