Denmark

Denmark submitted its final NECP on time.

1. NECP ambition towards 2030 targets

The data and analysis of this section refer to the final updated NECP (2024).

AMBITION						
		ESR (MtCO2-eq)	LULUCF (MtCO2-eq)	RES (%)	PEC (Mtoe)	FEC (Mtoe)
2023 *draft* NECP target (2030)	**Target/ Contribution**	**24.44**	**M**	**70.9%**	**M**	**M**
2024 *final* NECP (2030)	**Target/ Contribution**	**20.02**	**-0,4**	**60%**	**15.35**	**13.73**
	WAM	**22.44**	**0.69 (WEM)**	**73.79% (WEM)**	**15.35**	**13.17**
EU targets/ benchmarks (2030)*		**20.2**	**5.338**	**60%**	**14.67**	**12.69**

**The EU FEC and PEC benchmarks always refer to the most ambitious result of the EED formula*
N/A Not available = the document was not submitted
M Missing = the document was submitted, but the target was not included

The final Danish NECP presents ambitious climate and renewable energy targets to 2030 with 70% emission reduction for 1990-2030 that are in line with the EU benchmarks to 2030, but the overall climate target itself is still not aligned to a 1.5°C compatible development.
With respect to its draft version (2023), the final plan presents **enhanced ambition to 2030 for its ESR and LULUCF targets** but the ESR budget would be only met with WAM scenarios that are still being discussed at the national level, so its **achievement is still uncertain,** according to the projections included in the plan.
Denmark is in line with the minimum EED obligations for primary and final **energy consumption but this is not ambitious enough**, as it does not pledge contributions equal to the most ambitious results of the EED formula. Similarly to ESR, the energy efficiency 2030 contributions are not expected to be met with existing measures in place, but only with WAM scenarios that are still being negotiated at the national level.

Regarding its energy use, Denmark provides a linear reduction trajectory, which is relatively small due to its final energy objective.

There are still some critical implementation issues ahead, including:

- The ongoing LULUCF evaluation, due late 2024, can result in a downward revision of LULUCF sinks.
- Decisions on significant reduction measures still need to be put in place for agriculture, the sector with the largest emissions in Denmark.
- The climate target forecasts the use of CCS that might imply costs exceeding the available budget and the intensive use of pyrolysis of biomass for biochar, a practice not well developed yet.
- The solutions outlined above require the continued import of biomass (wood), which presents sustainability and cost uncertainties.

Quality of data in the final updated NECP (2024) – Data for different targets and indicators are available for most of the sectors and the 2022 information overlaps quite perfectly with the EEA and Eurostat historical data, this allows reliable comparisons while monitoring the ambition and implementation of the NECP. However, the WAM scenario is provided just for a few indicators such as Primary and Final Energy Consumption, non-ETS emissions (ESR). Solely the WEM scenario, and no WAM projections, are defined for relevant indicators such as the GHG gross and net emissions. The lack of this information makes it complex to evaluate if the measures and policies are going to be adequate to achieve the national and EU targets, arising an issue in terms of transparency of the information provided.

2. Implementation of the old (2019) NECP as of 2022

The data and analysis of this section refer to the 2019 NECP in comparison to 2022 historical data.

IMPLEMENTATION – overarching climate indicators				
Gross GHG emissions	**Net GHG emissions**	**LULUCF**	**ETS**	**non-ETS**

IMPLEMENTATION – sectoral climate indicators					
Agriculture	**Buildings**	**Energy**	**Industry**	**Transport**	**Waste**
	N/A		**N/M**		**N/M**

IMPLEMENTATION – energy indicators			
PRIMARY energy consumption	**FINAL energy consumption**	**Renewables % in electricity generation**	**Renewables % in final energy consumption**

Blue: on track / **Orange**: not on track / N/A = not available / N/M = not matching

As of 2022, Denmark was not fully on track to implement its old 2019 NECP, whose ambition is now obsolete.

Climate indicators (GHG emissions reductions): While much more will be required to meet the new NECP climate targets, as of 2022 Denmark was roughly on track in the implementation of its 2019 NECP. It nonetheless fails to align with its non-ETS trajectory, largely due to its delay in curbing emissions in the agriculture sector at a faster rate. Discrepancies in scope seem to exist when comparing certain NECP trajectories with the EEA dataset used for historical data. This hinders the possibility of more detailed assessments.

Energy indicators: While Denmark is on track with the primary and final energy consumption trajectories of the 2019 NECP, it is surprisingly lagging behind in renewables indicators: as of 2022, the share of renewables in final energy consumption was 41.6%, compared to the 44.7% projected in the old NECP trajectory.