



## Country profile – Romania

The section 'Key climate- and energy-related data' was prepared by the EEA. It includes the latest data available as of 31 July 2014

The section 'Climate and energy policy framework' was prepared by eclareon and Ecologic Institute, Germany. It includes the latest information on national policies and measures available as of 31 May 2014.

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## Key climate- and energy-related data — Romania

Key data on GHG emissions	2005	2011	2012	2013	EU 2012
Total GHG emissions (UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol) (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -eq.)	141.3	121.5	118.8	107.7	4 544.2
GHG per capita (t CO <sub>2</sub> -eq./cap.)	6.6	6.0	5.9	5.4	9.0
GHG per GDP (g CO <sub>2</sub> -eq./PPS in EUR)	833	468	437	380	350
Share of GHG emissions in total EU-28 emissions (%)	2.7 %	2.6 %	2.6 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
EU ETS verified emissions (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -eq.)	0.0	51.2	47.9	42.4	1 848.6
Share of EU ETS emissions in total emissions (%)	0.0 %	42.2 %	40.3 %	39.4 %	40.7 %
ETS emissions vs allowances (free, auctioned, sold) (%)	n.a.	- 31.5 %	- 36.9 %	n.a.	- 14.1 %
Share of CERs & ERUs in surrendered allowances (%)	n.a.	8.7 %	28.3 %	n.a.	26.4 %
Non-ETS (ESD) emissions, adjusted to 2013–2020 scope (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> -eq.)	63.8	62.5	63.3	65.2	2 566.6
Key data on renewable energy	2005	2010	2011	2012	EU 2012
Share of renewable energy in gross FEC (%)			21.2 %	22.9 %	14.1 %
( ) = including all biofuels consumed in transport	(17.6 %)	(23.2 %)			
Share of renewable energy for electricity (%)	28.8 %	30.4 %	31.1 %	33.6 %	23.5 %
Share of renewable energy for heating and cooling (%)	17.9 %	27.2 %	24.3 %	25.7 %	15.6 %
Share of renewable energy for transport (%)			2.0 %	4.1 %	5.1 %
( ) = including all biofuels consumed (%)	(1.0 %)	(3.1 %)			
Key data on energy consumption	2005	2010	2011	2012	EU 2012
Primary energy consumption (Mtoe)	36.7	34.3	34.8	33.6	1 584.8
Primary energy consumption per capita (Mtoe/cap.)	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	3.1
Final energy consumption (Mtoe)	24.7	22.6	22.8	22.7	1 104.5
Final energy consumption per capita (Mtoe/cap.)	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.2
Efficiency of conventional thermal electricity and heat production (%)	54.4 %	53.1 %	49.7 %	50.2 %	50.0 %
Energy consumption per dwelling by end use	2005	2009	2010	2011	EU 2011
Total energy consumption per dwelling (toe/dwelling)	1.11	1.13	1.11	n.a.	1.42
Space heating and cooling (toe/dwelling)	0.53	0.57	0.55	n.a.	0.96
Water heating (toe/dwelling)	0.15	0.13	0.13	n.a.	0.18
Cooking (toe/dwelling)	0.33	0.31	0.31	n.a.	0.08
Electricity (lighting, appliances) (toe/dwelling)	0.10	0.12	0.12	n.a.	0.20

**Progress towards GHG targets (under the Effort Sharing Decision, i.e. non-ETS emissions)**

2013 ESD target (% vs base year)	+ 1.8 %	2020 ESD target (% vs base year)	+ 19.0 %
2013 ESD emissions (% vs base year)	- 7.0 %	2020 ESD projections WEM (% vs base year)	+ 7.4 %
		2020 ESD projections WAM (% vs base year)	+ 3.9 %

Based on approximated emission estimates for 2013, emissions covered by the Effort Sharing Decision (ESD) (i.e. in the sectors which are not covered by the EU ETS) are expected to be below the annual ESD target in 2013. Projections also indicate that 2020 ESD emissions are expected to be below the 2020 ESD target, with the current existing measures.

**Progress towards renewable energy targets**

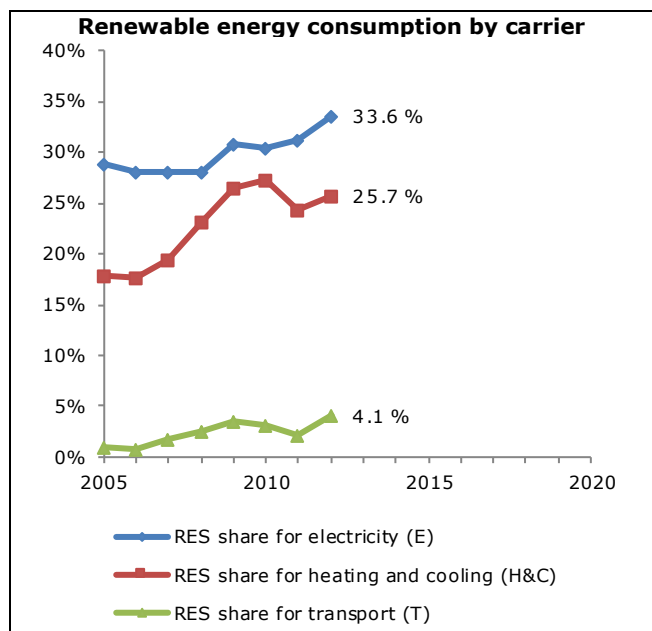
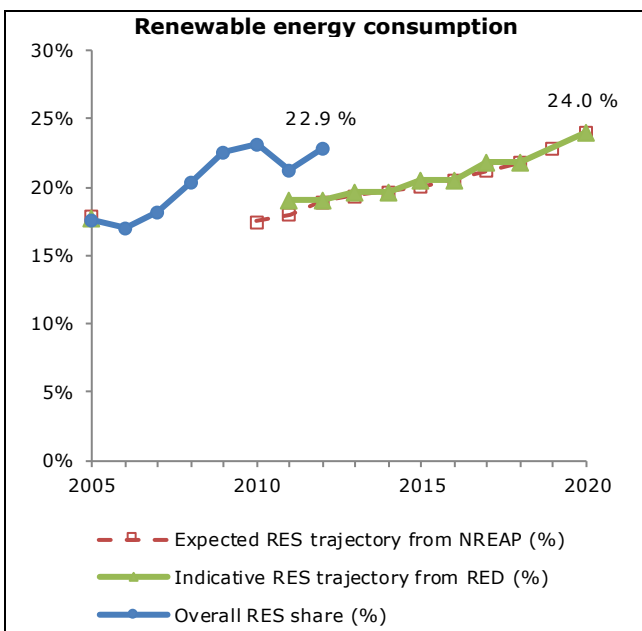
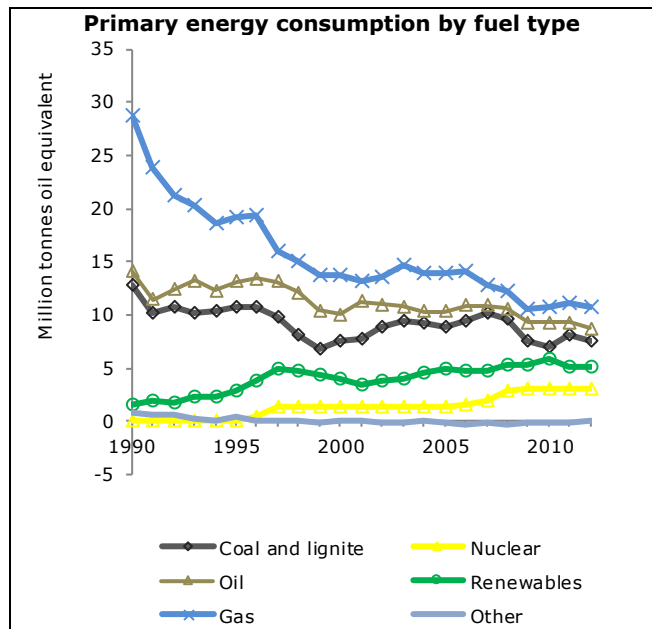
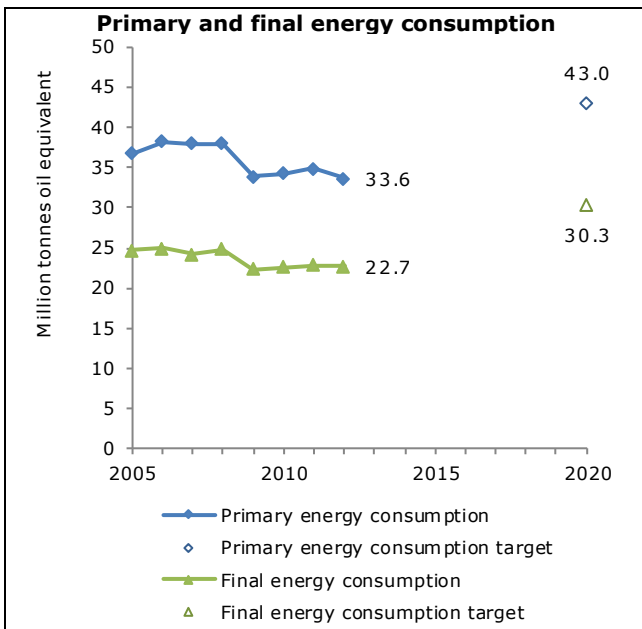
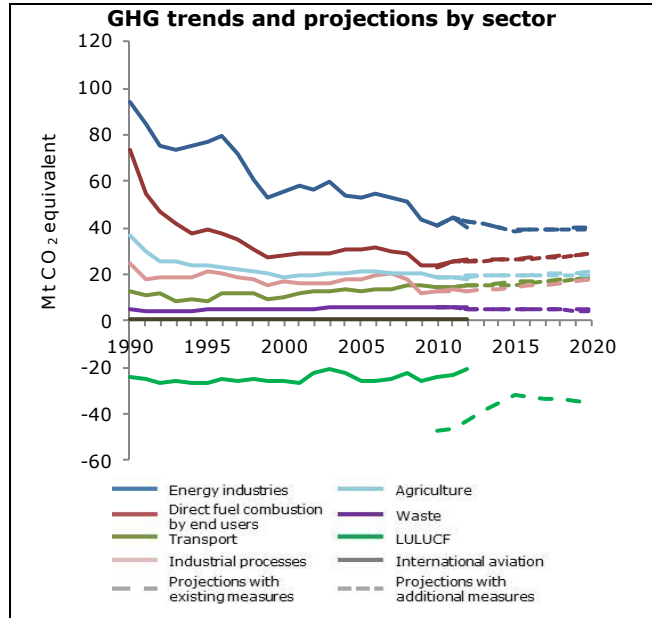
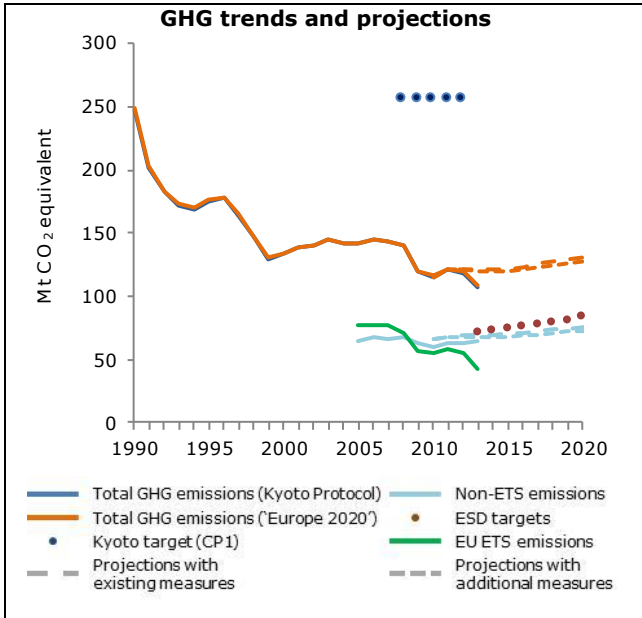
2012 RES share in gross final energy consumption (%)	22.9 %	2011–2012 indicative share from RES Directive (%)	19.0 %
2020 RES target	24.0 %	2012 expected share from NREAP (%)	19.0 %

The average share of renewable sources in gross final energy consumption for 2011–2012 was 22.1% (5.4 Mtoe), which is higher than the indicative RED target for 2011–2012 (19.0%). At the same time, the share of renewables in 2012 (22.9 %) is higher than the expected 2012 NREAP target (19.0 %). Over the period 2005–2012 the observed average annual growth rate in renewable energy consumption amounted to 2.8%. In order to reach its 2020 NREAP target, Romania needs an average annual growth rate of 3.4% in the run-up to 2020. In absolute terms, this is equivalent to 1.8 time its cumulative effort so far.

**Progress towards energy efficiency targets**

Primary energy consumption:		Final energy consumption:	
2005–2012 average annual change	- 1.3 %	2005–2012 average annual change	- 1.2 %
2012–2020 average annual change to target	+ 3.1 %	2012–2020 average annual change to target	+ 3.7 %

Between 2005 and 2012, primary and energy consumption decreased by more than 8 % respectively. These reductions were a combined result of improvements in energy efficiency, as well as the effects of the economic recession. Distribution losses decreased by 29 % between 2005 and 2012, while the consumption in the energy sector decreased by 36 % over the same period. Energy efficiency improvements also took place in the industry and the residential sectors. With positive 2020 energy consumption targets, compared to 2005, Romania can focus on stabilising or limiting the increase in energy consumption. This could be achieved, in particular, by improving the conversion efficiency of power plants (in particular those using solid fuels) and the energy efficiency in the transport and residential sectors.



## Climate and energy policy framework

### Challenges and opportunities

Romania has the third most energy-intensive economy in the EU. Improvements in the whole energy chain would reduce avoidable energy use and associated spending of final consumers. Investments in energy efficiency improvements in particular in the building sector — incentivised, for example, through reliable support programmes with stable and transparent financing conditions and application procedures — could stimulate the local construction and renovation sector and thus also local employment. For homeowners as well as for tenants, efficiency improvements would increase living quality and increased energy prices could be offset by reduced consumption. In the transport sector, emissions have steadily increased since 1990. The main challenge is the high number of old and inefficient cars. The existing taxation framework with low taxation rates for the transport sector is not sufficiently incentivising the purchasing of efficient cars. A car substitution scheme with 20 000 vouchers has had little effect in the light of the 3.2 million registered vehicles that are older than 10 years — even if it were to be taking place every year. Additional fiscal incentives for using more efficient and environmentally friendly cars and targeted measures to encourage a switch to alternative means of transport could contribute to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and local pollution. Currently, public transport and train services are rather unattractive and unreliable for the citizens, and alternative means of transport such as cycling (in particular) and car sharing are only utilised at very low levels compared to actual potentials. Making these transport means more attractive in cities and countryside would contribute to diversifying the means of transport, thus reducing congestion and improving the cityscape while leading to GHG emissions and air pollutants reduction.

### Climate and energy strategies

Romania adopted a Climate Change Strategy in July 2013 that addresses mitigation, adaptation and afforestation (MMediu, 2012). An Action Plan for Implementing the Romanian Climate Change Strategy is under development. In addition, the Romanian and British Ministers of the Environment signed a Joint Statement on Green Growth in December 2013 to identify best practices for creating green jobs, improving general conditions for low-carbon growth, and green business opportunities for British and Romanian companies (MMediu, 2014). The Romanian energy strategy for 2007 to 2020 highlights energy security, affordability and energy efficiency as being key criteria. A new strategy for 2014 to 2035 is underway, focusing on projection of energy supply and demand and the need for new power and grid capacities. In general, the focus of energy policy has shifted from the development of renewables to domestic shale gas resources. In mid-April 2013, the government ended the March 2012 moratorium on shale gas exploration and issued licences for exploration in the Dobrogea region (MMediu, 2013). However, this decision has been followed by public protests across the country. Nuclear power remains another important focus of attention in the country's energy policy.

### Renewable energy

Romania generates renewable energy mainly from biomass for heating using traditional stoves and hydropower for electricity generation. The main support mechanism for renewable electricity is the Green Certificate Scheme: renewable electricity producers receive between 1 and 6 certificates per MWh for power plants accredited until 31 December 2013 and depending on the technology. For installations accredited after 1 January 2014, between 1 and 3 certificates are allocated. Producers can sell the certificates to electricity suppliers and producers that have to present a certain number of green certificates by the end of each trimester. The Scheme faced several cuts in 2013, including the postponing of the issuance of a share of certificates by several years and the reduction of the number of certificates for small hydro, wind power and photovoltaic installations. However, the planned annual cap on renewable capacity that can be accredited for benefiting from the Scheme in line with the Renewable Energy Action Plan was not introduced. The subsidy programme Renewable Energy RO06 – RONDINE, with a budget of RON 37.5 million (EUR 8.4 million), offers grants for the refitting of existing hydropower stations and initial investments and reengineering of geothermal power plants for thermal energy production.

Renewables in heating and cooling are supported through the Casa Verde Programme for installing heating systems using renewables for public institutions or private homes. Grants are allocated to new, replacing or complementing heating systems based on all kinds of renewable technologies. However, due to budgetary constraints, no call for applications was issued in 2013, and there is no final decision on a new call for applications in 2014 since project applications from the last call in 2011 are still under evaluation.

### Energy networks

The energy infrastructure both for district heating and electricity is poorly maintained and transmission losses are quite high. In addition, the electricity network lacks connection capacities for renewables especially at the distribution network level. There is investment support of 40–50 % of eligible costs for improving networks' efficiency and increasing the electricity and gas network interconnections to neighbouring countries (SOP-IEC, Priority Axis 4) (Intermediary Agency for Energy, 2012). However, the last call ended in June 2013 and no new budget has been allocated since then. In addition, a gas pipeline between Romania and the Republic of Moldova was agreed in August 2013. The project's budget amounts to EUR 26.5 million, of which EUR 7 million is financed by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (MDRT, 2013).

### Energy efficiency

Romania aims to reduce its final energy intensity by 41 % between 2007 and 2020. The potential for primary energy savings is estimated at 27–35 % in 2020, with 20–25 % in industry, 40–50 % in buildings and 35–40 % in transport. The level of energy **taxation** is the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the EU and exemptions apply to electricity if it represents more than 50 % of the product cost and to energy products used by households and charity organisations. However, Romania is one of the few countries where excise duties are indexed to inflation, which has been agreed as part of the economic adjustment programme.

**Combined heat and power** is eligible for support through a bonus payment for electricity or by regulated prices for selling electricity and thermal energy. The cogeneration plants have to achieve fuel savings of at least 10 % compared to a separate production. On 1 January 2014 lower tariffs entered into force, regulated under Ordinance No. 77/2013. For the **industrial sector**, the government proposed to reduce the purchasing obligation of green certificates for

energy-intensive industrial consumers for 10 years if they commit to preserve jobs during this time and reduce their energy consumption by 20 % until 2020. The purchasing obligation is reduced by 85 %, 60 % or 40 % for companies with energy costs compared to overall costs of more than 20 %, and between 10 and 20 % and 5 and 10 %, respectively. **Small and medium-sized enterprises** (SMEs) can get support through a support programme funded by the Financing Mechanism of the European Economic Area with a budget of EUR 8 million, and from a credit line of EUR 10 million allocated by the UniCredit Tiriac Bank as part of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (EBRD) Sustainable Energy Finance Facility (RoSEFF) supporting SMEs and housing associations to improve efficiency and introduce renewables.

In the **building** sector, minimum energy performance standards have been introduced and since July 2013 energy certification is also mandatory for a real estate that is sold or rented. The Programme for Refurbishment of Multi-Storey Family Buildings supports building refurbishment measures like thermal insulation of exterior walls, roof or ground floor, and replacement of windows and doors. Former budgets for 2010 and 2011 amounted to around RON 150 million (EUR 34 million).

### Transport

Incentives for purchasing low-carbon and efficient cars include a vehicle registration tax based on carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, engine capacity, EURO emission standard and the vehicle's age, and an ownership tax based on engine capacity for passenger cars or weight for lorries (ACEA, 2012). For the replacement of cars older than 8 years, the Programme on Stimulating the Modernisation of the National Car Fleet offers vouchers of RON 6 500 (EUR 1 500). In total, 20 000 vouchers will be allocated in 2014 with a budget for 2014 amounting to RON 140 million (EUR 31.8 million). In addition, eligible parties may benefit from an eco-bonus of RON 500 (EUR 110) in case the purchased vehicle is a hybrid car, a EURO 6 emissions standard vehicle or emits less than 100 g/km CO<sub>2</sub> (MMediu, 2014e). Petrol and diesel are taxed at the lowest level in the EU (COM, 2013). A time-based vignette system for roads outside the cities is in place with tariffs being low compared to other Member States using national vignettes (CE Delft, 2012); however, the government proposed to increase road tariffs by 12.5–40 % depending on the validity period, which is still being debated by parliament (Gov, 2013a, 2013b). A blending quota applies to biofuels fulfilling specific sustainability criteria.

Over the next 5 years Romania wants to reduce the use of cars by 5 % (MMediu, 2014c). Measures improving public transport and shifting from road to rail include the rehabilitation of the railway line between Craiova and Calafat with a budget of around EUR 400 million provided by the European Cohesion Fund. Additional funds of around EUR 1 billion will be invested into modernising all harbours along the Danube River and at the Black Sea and into improving the interconnection between railways and harbours (Ministry of Transport, 2013). A governmental memorandum on 'measure to improve the efficiency of Romanian railway transportation for the General Romanian Transport Master Plan', approved by the government in June 2014, elaborates on the possibility to reconstruct shut-down railway lines for public transportation or bicycle lanes (adevarul.ro, 2014). In addition, a EUR 10 million cycling infrastructure project in Bucharest has been initiated in May 2014 financed from EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) revenues (MMediu, 2014b). However, by September 2014 concerns rose that the project might not be realised as no concrete steps have been taken to start the construction work (RL, 2014).

### Agriculture

Romania wants to reduce its GHG emissions from agriculture through the improvement of quality of nutrition for cattle, sheep and goats as well as through the improvement of manure management. In addition, the European Economic Recovery Plan provides funds for priorities defined in the Health Balance of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) — i.e. for a more efficient use and better storage of nitrate fertilisers (NC6, 2014). The National Plan for Rural Development 2014–2020 focuses on modernising the agricultural sector, for example by utilising renewable energy sources, increasing the sector's productivity while decreasing the sector's environmental impacts, for example by promoting organic farming or other environmentally friendly agricultural practices (MADR, 2013a). Romania also provides grants for maintaining traditional means of stock breeding in disadvantaged regions according to Decision No. 898/2013 (MADR, 2013b).

### Waste

The National Waste Management Strategy and the National Waste Management Action Plan were updated in 2013 and focus on enhanced waste prevention and recycling while strengthening the polluter-pays-principle (MMediu, 2014d). Existing measures include the take-back systems for waste from electrical and electronic waste, polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles and aluminium packaging. A voluntary agreement between the government, retailers and waste management enterprises on waste take-back systems aims to increase the collection of waste from sales packaging and transport packaging by 20 %, for example through automatic recycling machines set up in various supermarkets (MMediu, 2013).

The government furthermore aims to reduce organic waste going to landfills by increasing recycling and processing, and methane emissions from landfills should be captured and used as a source of energy. Landfills not fulfilling certain criteria will have to cease their activity by the end of 2017 (NC6, 2014; NRP, 2014). The first incineration plant will be built in Timisoara to produce electricity and heat from waste.

### Land use, land-use change and forestry

The 2010 National Programme for Reforestation foresees the continuous re- and afforestation of 160 000 ha of degraded and agricultural land from 2012 to 2020 (MMediu, 2010). The National Forestry Agency (ROMSILVA) initiated various tree planting projects and campaigns on national and regional levels (ROMSILVA, 2013). Investments into forestry infrastructure are envisaged as part of the National Plan for Rural Development 2014–2020. In addition, the Romanian government fostered the maintenance of pastures by issuing Emergency Ordinance No. 34/2013 addressing the organisation, administration and exploitation of pastures. This Ordinance forbids construction and building on pasture land. Governmental Decision No. 470/2014 on the rules for the origin, the transportation and the marketing of wood mainly aims at addressing the increasing share of informal wood consumption and illegal wood extraction. The act introduces an electronic monitoring system for wood tracing all the way from its source of exploitation to the processing phase (Gov, 2014). Furthermore, the Ministry of Water, Forest and Fisheries presented various drafts for revising the Romanian Forest Code during 2013 and 2014. However, the legislative proposals have all been rejected by the Romanian parliament, most recently in June 2014. The Ministry intends to put the draft of the Forest Code to vote once again in autumn 2014 (AFR, 2014).

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