



## SUMMARY COUNTRY REPORT - BULGARIA

### Climate change topics in the educational system

The European Green Pact launched in December 2019 marked the European Union ambitious goal of taking a leading role in the global fight against climate change.

The Bulgaria's national climate policy is determined on the one hand by the country's international commitments arising from the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol (KP), and on the other - by the obligations arising from the country's EU membership and adherence to the European legislation in this field.

The climate change issues are included in the education curriculum in Bulgaria as defined in the Law on School Education from 01. 08. 2016.

### To what extent and how are climate change topics included in the school curriculum in Bulgaria?

At the primary level, climate change is included directly or indirectly mainly in the curriculum of the subjects *The World around us* and *The Man and the Nature*.

At the lower secondary level, climate change topics are presented in the subjects *The Man and the Nature*, *Biology and Health Education* and in the other Science subjects.

At the high school level, climate change is integrated into the subjects of *biology, chemistry, physics, geography, ecology, and environmental protection*.

More information on the situation in other countries in Europe and good practices are presented in the full report IO1 - „The state of affairs regarding the embedment of climate change and digital teaching skills into TPD schemes and secondary education“.

Key policies, priorities and concepts related to climate change in Bulgaria	
National strategic documents and Policies	<b>The National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan 2030</b> , approved by the Council of Ministers on 25 November 2019, is the key reference document, defining the framework for climate change adaptation actions and national priorities until 2030.
Educational programmes and school curriculum	Climate change topics are mainly covered in the following school subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• at the primary level: The Man and the Nature and The Man and the Society,</li> <li>• at the lower secondary level: Biology and Health Education, Science subjects;</li> <li>• at the high-school level: school subjects biology, chemistry, physics, geography, ecology &amp; environmental protection.</li> </ul>
Teacher training programmes	Climate change and energy efficiency are not addressed as a stand-alone topic in the Teacher-training curriculum; insufficient educational materials and sources in Bulgarian for organising a resource-efficient, low-carbon and climate-resilient economy;
Informal learning	Various initiatives get popularity, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A children's museum Muzeiko is offering a specially designed games, including climate change-related ones</li> <li>• Earth Hour, WWF - last Saturday in March</li> </ul>
Citizen science and NGOs	Among the most active NGOs supporting climate change initiatives and projects in schools and educational institutions in Bulgaria are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation</li> <li>• National Trust Ecological Fund - Sofia</li> </ul>

The ClimaTePD project "Towards a new model of Teachers' Professional Competence Development on Climate Change" aims to support secondary school teachers to develop skills in teaching climate change topics through new active teaching methods and digital technologies.

The consortium includes. FORTH – Greece- project coordinator, Universitat de Barcelona (Spain), Sofia University (Bulgaria), Friedrich-Alexander-Universitaet Erlangen Nuernberg (Germany) and Hacettepe Universitesi (Turkey).