

The Romanian Court of Accounts

During the period of 2017-2019, the Romanian Court of Accounts carried out audit missions in areas that are included in the objectives of sustainable development, respectively:

- ❖ Performance of social assistance benefits for preventing and combating poverty, child and family support
- ❖ Performance audit on water quality and management
- ❖ Performance audit on the natural gas market
- ❖ Performance audit on monitoring air quality and efficient management of greenhouse gas emission certificates, allocated to Romania by the Kyoto Protocol (parallel audit) (SDG 13)
- ❖ Performance audit on the use of public funds allocated during the period of 2002-2016 for the construction of sports halls, both in urban and rural areas, in order to guarantee access to modern sports facilities
- ❖ Performance audit on the use of funds allocated from the state budget for the acquisition and implementation/operationalization of studies, projects and software, purchased at MSI, for its own activities and those of other institutions, but also for monitoring their implementation at the level of other beneficiary institutions and from the perspective of achieving interoperability.

Summary of the audit report on SDG 13

Air quality monitoring and efficient management of greenhouse gas emission certificates, allocated to Romania through the Kyoto Protocol

The general objectives of the audit were to evaluate the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the administration of public funds allocated to the activity of air quality monitoring (focusing on efficiency aspects) and to evaluate the efficiency of managing greenhouse gas emission certificates allocated to Romania by the Kyoto Protocol.

The general conclusion of the audit highlights the fact that Law no. 104/2011 creates the organizational, institutional and legal framework for cooperation between public authorities and institutions with competences in the field of air quality assessment and management, in a unitary manner throughout Romania. Since the implementation of Law no. 104/2011, the public authorities and institutions with attributions and competences in the field of air quality have passed, through a multitude of organizations / reorganizations, which has led, most of the times, to the ignorance or non-inclusion of the attributions and responsibilities incumbent on them under the Law, in the normative acts of organization and functioning. Consequently, some of the authorities stipulated in the normative act unjustifiably consider that they have no attributions in the field of air quality, and most of the authorities mentioned in the law have not

provided a structure to fulfill their attributions under it. The concept of "air quality management" should not be translated only because of projects or as a way of complying with reporting obligations incumbent on Romania under treaties to which it belongs.

Given the implications for health and quality of life, the stakes of effective air quality management are much higher, and this should be reflected in how decision-making bodies choose to draw up strategies and assessment methods.