

Environment

July 2025

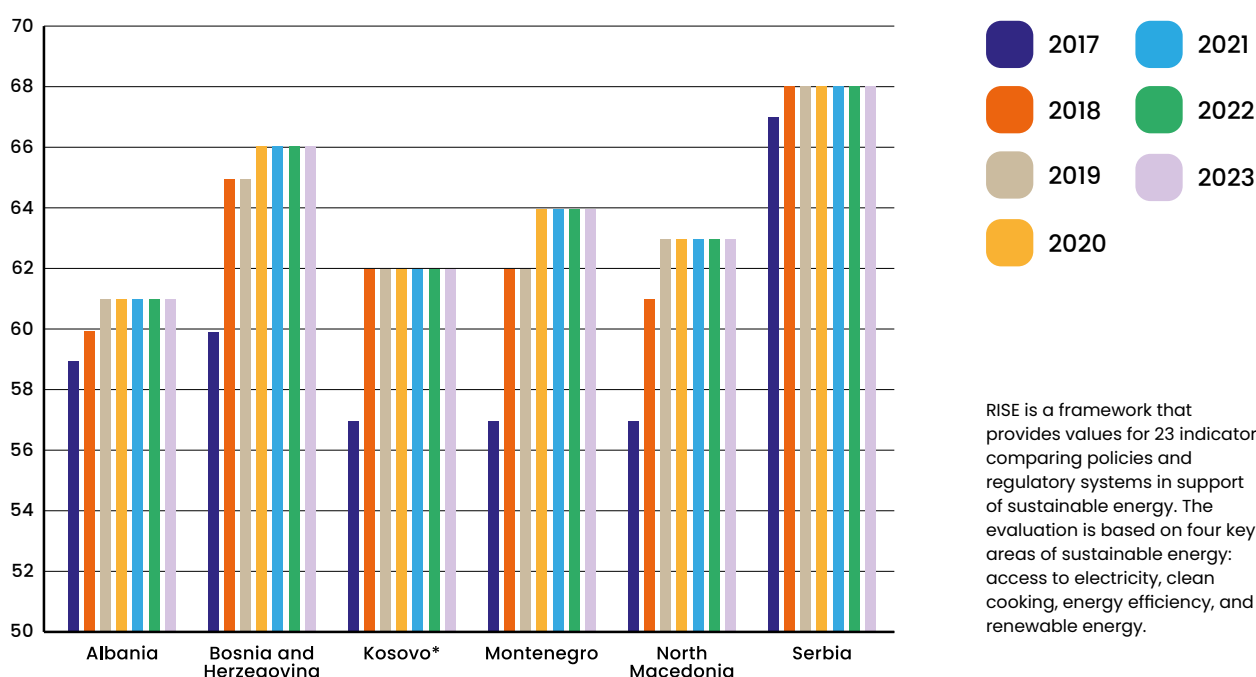
The **Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport** is a long-term strategy from the EU and the Western Balkans (WB) for cooperation with the region. It will contribute to the region's economic and societal development and builds on three main pillars: Political, Thematic, and Regional.

The project POLICY ANSWERS monitors the implementation of the Western Balkans Agenda, and the broader context, progress and achievements are summarised in regular reports. In this Monitoring Card, you find the results of the third round of data collection during 2024 and the first months of 2025 in comparison to the data collected in the previous second monitoring round.

In terms of Environment, the monitoring focuses on the "Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)" and various achievements outlined in the WB Agenda (see next page).

Achievements in a wider context of the Western Balkans Agenda

Regulatory Indicators for Sustainable Energy (RISE)



Sources











































Authors' calculation based on RISE (2024)
<https://rise.esmap.org/> (accessed 28 January 2025).

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Regional Indicators

Thematic soil pollution database for the Western Balkans 	Inclusion of the region in pan-European depollution-related networks 	Western Balkans Green and Circular Economy Stakeholders Platform 
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Western Balkans Economy Indicators

	Western Balkans Green Agenda implemented			Counteracting climate change & environmental degradation		
Indicator and overall assessment of the region	Transition to sustainable transport 	Transition in the energy sector 	Energy Community Just Transition 	Integrated National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) 	Disaster Risk Management 	EU Mission: 100 climate-neutral and smart cities 
Albania	Only one public initiative in place, no new initiatives 	No new projects/initiatives in the field 	Not coal dependent 	NECP adopted Emission Trading System (ETS) not in place 	Disaster Risk Management Centre (DRMC) not in place yet 	Participating in the Mission 
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Increased number of public initiatives 	New projects and initiatives in the field 	Coal phase-out date not set 	NECP not adopted ETS not in place 	DRMC in place 	Participating in the Mission 
Kosovo	One new public initiative in place 	No information provided 	Coal phase-out date not set 	NECP not adopted ETS not in place 	DRMC in place 	Not participating in the Mission 
Montenegro	No information provided 	No information provided 	Coal phase-out date set 	NECP not adopted ETS in place 	DRMC in place 	Participating in the Mission 
North Macedonia	No public initiatives in the field 	One new public initiative in place 	Coal phase-out date set 	NECP not adopted ETS in place 	DRMC in place 	Not participating in the Mission 
Serbia	Increased number of public initiatives 	New projects and initiatives in the field 	Coal phase-out date not set 	NECP not adopted ETS in place 	DRMC in place 	Not participating in the Mission 

Legend:  On track or maintaining achievement  Moderately improving, Challenges remain  Stagnating, Significant challenges  Decreasing, Major challenges  Information not available

Highlights

Western Balkans partners endorse Hamburg Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans (GAWB)
Successful participation of the Western Balkans in the New European Bauhaus

