



CeSaR

## Netherlands's contribution to the Country-specific recommendations (CSR) assessment

Semester cycle 2023

### CSR.2022.1

CSR 1 Subpart 1: In 2023, ensure that the growth of nationally financed primary current expenditure is in line with an overall neutral policy stance, taking into account continued temporary and targeted support to households and firms most vulnerable to energy price hikes and to people fleeing Ukraine. Stand ready to adjust current spending to the evolving situation.

Measures	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (17/02/2023 14:49 PM)</p> <p>As described in the 2022 coalition agreement, the Dutch government has set out an ambitious investment agenda for the coming years to tackle societal challenges in a wide range of areas, such as climate change, energy transition, digitization, nature preservation and housing. These investments will result in a temporary deterioration in the EMU-balance and EMU-debt. The government accepts this temporary deterioration, as these investments are necessary to preserve the welfare of future generations and to prevent higher costs in the future to address these challenges. Furthermore, the government has taken measures to address the consequences of the war in Ukraine. The increase in energy prices and inflation have a strong impact on the Dutch economy and households, which is especially felt by vulnerable groups. In order to support these groups, the government has implemented a range of measures. For example, as of 2023, a price ceiling is implemented for energy. Furthermore, the cabinet has reserved 50 million euro</p>

	<p>in an emergency energy fund. This fund is set up to support the most vulnerable households and prevent them from building up debt during the winter. The government aims to provide budgetary coverage for the costs of the energy ceiling in the spring of 2023. In this manner, the government intends to maintain a neutral policy stance respective to the budgetary framework as laid out in the starting document ('Startnota') of the coalition.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

CSR 1 Subpart 2: Expand public investment for the green and digital transitions, and for energy security taking into account the REPowerEU initiative, including by making use of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and other Union funds.

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (17/02/2023 14:00 PM)</p> <p>In the coalition agreement, the government announced an ambitious new investment agenda, including measures to invest in the green and digital transition. The government established a Climate Fund of 35 billion euro for the upcoming 10 years to support the green transition. For example, in 2023, 180 million euro will be invested in generating wind energy in the North Sea. Furthermore, 145 million euro will be invested in the production of hydrogen. Furthermore, the cabinet established a Transition Fund of 24 billion euro for measures to reduce nitrogen deposition, and restore and preserve nature. The RRF and RepowerEU are important elements of the government's ambitions to support investment in the green transition and sustainable economic growth. The government has taken additional measures to secure the energy supply. For example, by the import of liquid gas, the government ensures that the gas storages are sufficiently filled. Furthermore, the production limitation for</p>

	<p>coal power plants are temporarily removed. At the same time, the government stimulates citizens and companies to save energy where possible. Regarding the digital transition, the cabinet will continue implementing the measures as presented in the Dutch Digitization Strategy 2020 (Nederlandse Digitaliseringsstrategie 2020) and the recently published Digital Economy Strategy (Strategie Digitale Economie   Rapport   Rijksoverheid.nl), and Policy Agenda for value-driven digitalisation (Werkagenda Waardengedreven Digitaliseren   Rapport   Rijksoverheid.nl)..</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

CSR 1 Subpart 3: For the period beyond 2023, pursue a fiscal policy aimed at achieving prudent medium-term fiscal positions.

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Not Defined (17/02/2023 14:03 PM)</p> <p>The ambitious investment agenda will result in a temporary deterioration of the EMU balance. The EMU-balances of 2022 and 2023 are expected to be -1 and -3 percent of the GDP, respectively. Investment in (among other things) sustainability, education, digitization, nature preservation are necessary to preserve the wealth of future generations. In order to tackle these large societal challenges, the cabinet accepts this temporary deterioration of the balance. The EMU-debt is expected to remain sustainable both on the short and medium-long term. The EMU-debt expected to be stay below 60 percent of GDP, at 50,4 percent of GDP in 2022 and 49,5 percent of GDP in 2023, .Public debt is expected to increase to approximately 61 percent of GDP in 2030, as a result of the ambitious investment agenda . In the medium term, the government aims for a stable development of the public debt. To achieve this, the government takes measures</p>

	<p>to curb the increasing expenses on health care, among other things. For example, the government monitors the effectiveness of treatment and care more closely, which saves up to 1,1 billion euro from 2037. Furthermore, the government appointed a taskforce that will investigate the implementation of several measures, as preparation for the next cabinet period.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

CSR 1 Subpart 4: Reduce the debt bias for households and the distortions in the housing market, including by supporting the development of the private rental sector and taking measures to increase housing supply.

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:06 PM)</p> <p>Regarding the mortgage interest tax relief, the government adhered to the planned downward trajectory. The maximum mortgage interest relief rate reached approximately 37% this year. Despite the occurring decrease in housing prices, the risk of the value of mortgage debt exceeding the value of the home property for a large group of households has significantly decreased compared to the situation in 2008. This is indicated by an analysis conducted by De Nederlandsche Bank.[1] Efforts to stimulate the construction of mid-rental dwellings are specifically included in the construction plans of the minister of Housing and Spatial Planning.[2] Moreover, the extension of rental regulation to include the mid-rental sector have been explicitly tailored to ensure the construction of new affordable rental dwellings is still financially feasible.[3] Our effort to increase the housing supply are included in the construction plans of the minister of Housing and Spatial Planning. Our policy is aimed at increasing the availability of enough affordable and quality houses. An example is one of our programs 'programma</p>

	<p>woningbouw' (program housing) that we have created. That programme is focused on achieving three goals. To build at least 900.000 houses until 2023, have two thirds of those houses be affordable and to build at least 100.000 houses every year. Therefore, we have created four action lines: 1. Strengthen the directive role of the government in the building of houses (working together with provinces and municipalities) 2. Acceleration the process of building houses 3. Stimulate fast housing (by supporting municipalities) 4. Building houses in large-scale locations 1) Financial Stability Report, autumn 2022 (page 32) 2) Programma Woningbouw, released March 11th 2022 3) Kamerbrief over regulering middenhuur, released December 9th 2022</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

CSR 1 Subpart 5: Enact and implement the reform of the pension system agreed in 2019 and 2020.

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:07 PM)</p> <p>Measures to address this CSR are included in the Dutch Recovery and Resilience Plan.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

## CSR.2022.2

CSR 2 Subpart 1: Swiftly finalise the negotiations with the Commission of the 2021-2027 cohesion policy programming documents with a view to starting their implementation.

Measures	
<b>Entry 1</b>	MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (17/02/2023 14:08 PM)  All programmes have been submitted, approved and initiated.
Comments	
State of play	

### CSR.2022.3

CSR 3 Subpart 1: Promote adequate social protection for the self-employed without employees,

Measures	
<b>Entry 1</b>	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:15 PM)  Measures to address this CSR are included in the Dutch Recovery and Resilience Plan.
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 3 Subpart 2: tackle bogus self-employment

Measures	
<b>Entry 1</b>	MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:15 PM)  Measures Measures to address this CSR are included in the Dutch Recovery and Resilience Plan.
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 3 Subpart 3: and reduce the incentives to use flexible or temporary contracts.

Measures
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**Entry 1**

MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 18:11 PM)

The new cabinet in place from January 10th 2022, has formulated ambitions to address structural labor market challenges. These are thus planned reforms, that still need to be worked out into legislative proposals during the term of the new government (till 2025). In an advice of the social partners for the period 2021-2025, a foundation was laid for new labour market measures. This advice, together with the report of the Work Regulation Committee published in januari 2020 , provides the guideline for the ambitions surrounding reform of the labor market. In July 2022, the Dutch cabinet announced its forthcoming plans to reform the labour market. In December 2022, the Dutch House of Representatives have been informed about measures focused on working with and as a self-employed . A letter with an update on the labour market reforms will be sent to the Dutch House of Representatives coming spring. One of the five overarching themes in this approach focusses on introducing measures encouraging sustainable employment relationships within agile enterprises and improved regulation of temporary contracts and triangular employment relationships. Regarding regulating flexible types of employment, the main goal of the Dutch cabinet is to encourage and strengthen the economic independence of the employee. National efforts are therefore focused on reducing the differences between flexible and open-ended contracts. The Dutch cabinet works on reforms regarding on-call contracts, temporary contracts, and the chain provision. Furthermore, the Dutch government works on accessible form of labour dispute resolution. These measures are briefly described below.

- Building upon the efforts introduced by the law Arbeidsmarkt in Balans, the Dutch cabinet chooses to abolish on-call contracts in its present form (for example zero-hour contracts) and to replace these contracts by a new type of contract (to be further discussed with the social partners). With this measure, the Dutch cabinet aims to achieve more income security for workers. [Furthermore, regarding scheduling uncertainty, the Dutch cabinet works on ways to offer more clarity to employees about when they are on call. This is being developed in conjunction with the proposal of the social partners regarding a balanced ratio between availability and



contract hours.] •Regarding temporary contracts/posting of workers the Dutch cabinet aims to improve the job security of temporary workers (uitzendkrachten), in line with the recommendations of the social partners. These efforts focus on further explorations and technical development of the following 1) shortening the periods of uncertainty for temporary workers, by legally restricting the so-called phase A to 52 weeks; 2) shortening phase B to 2 years and 3) letting go of the interruption period in both phase A and B. • The Dutch cabinet wants to address prohibited legal arrangements in temporary employment (keeping workers employed, while limiting the workers protection from dismissal) and to focus on prevention and thus increasing the outlook on a permanent contract for employees. In line with one of the goals of advice of the social partners, the Dutch cabinet aims to abolish the possibility of permanently temporary work for the same employer. A recent evaluation of the Law on Employment and Security (Wet werk en zekerheid) shows that 14 percent of the employers makes use of the periods between temporary contracts of a minimum of six months. After these periods a new chain period of temporary contracts starts, where a worker receives another temporary contract with the same employer. The Dutch cabinet finds this highly undesirable and will therefore think of technical solutions, in close cooperation with the social partners, to address these types of legal arrangements. • The Dutch cabinet will also further implement the recommendations proposed by labor commission Roemer, such as more accessible form of labour dispute resolution. Vulnerable employees such as migrant workers should be able to make use of this in order to achieve better effectuation of their labour rights. Links: Samenvatting coalitieakkoord | Regering | Rijksoverheid.nl <https://www.ser.nl/nl/Publicaties/advies-sociaal-economisch-beleid-2021-2025> Rapport 'In wat voor land willen wij werken?' | Rapport | Rijksoverheid.nl Kamerbrief over Hoofdlijnen Arbeidsmarkt | Kamerstuk | Rijksoverheid.nl Voortgangsbrief over werken met en als zelfstandige(n) | Kamerstuk | Rijksoverheid.nl

### Comments

## State of play

CSR 3 Subpart 4: Address labour and skills shortages, in particular in healthcare, education, digital and technical jobs and construction, including by tapping underutilised labour potential originating from the high share of part-time employment and the lower employment rate of people with a migrant background.

## Measures

<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (17/02/2023 14:25 PM)</p> <p>Policy initiatives on improving the position on the labor market of Dutch residents with a migrant background: In 2018 a program named 'Further Integration into the Labor Market' (In Dutch: Verdere Integratie op de Arbeidsmarkt (VIA)) has been developed to improve the position in the labor market of Dutch residents with a migration background. Within this program, several pilot projects have been carried out aimed at developing evidence based tools for employers, municipalities and educational institutions which they can use to develop and implement effective diversity policies. Since December 2021 the insights that are gained from these pilots are being implemented between a partnership of 21 national organizations through a Working Agenda (2021-2025). These insights are 'evidenced based' and are helping to execute an evidenced based policy. These insights consisted of, amongst others, encouraging objective recruitment processes; more emphasis on language training and matching during reintegration on the labor market for Dutch residents with a migrant background. The follow-up of this pilot program is named 'For an Inclusive Labor Market'.</p>
<b>Entry 2</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:24 PM)</p> <p>Regarding addressing labor shortages in education: The Dutch cabinets efforts focus on stimulating (1) more influx of new teachers, (2) retaining existing teachers and (3) innovation in school organization (see link for recent communication to Dutch parliament):</p>

	<p><a href="https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/12/13/decemberbrief-lerarenbeleid">https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/12/13/decemberbrief-lerarenbeleid</a> - Concerning the influx of teachers we invest in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Improving teacher salaries</li> <li>o Subsidies for second career teachers</li> <li>o Subsidies for teaching assistants</li> <li>o Flexibilization initial teacher education</li> <li>o Stimulate and facilitate regional cooperation between schools and teacher education institutes</li> </ul> <p>- Concerning retaining existing teachers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Scholarships for training and education</li> <li>o Subsidies for methods for reducing workload (e.g. more teaching assistant)</li> <li>o Improve coaching and support of new teachers</li> </ul> <p>o Legislation for improving strategic HR-policies in schools</p> <p>- Concerning innovation of the school organization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Research and best practices</li> <li>o Regional cooperation</li> </ul>
<p><b>Entry 3</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:25 PM)</p> <p>In a recent letter (see link <a href="https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2023/02/03/kamerbrief-aanvullende-maatregelen-arbeidsmarktkrapte">https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2023/02/03/kamerbrief-aanvullende-maatregelen-arbeidsmarktkrapte</a>), the government informed the House of Representatives about recent measures to tackle the shortage on the labor market, in addition to the measures and actions initiated in the summer (see link <a href="https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/06/24/kamerbrief-over-aanpak-krapte-op-arbeidsmarkt">https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/06/24/kamerbrief-over-aanpak-krapte-op-arbeidsmarkt</a> ). An important part of the approach are the sectoral measures, which are elaborated upon below. Together with the recent letter, the Government is launching its Green and Digital Jobs Action Plan, aimed at tackling labor shortages in technology and ICT. In addition to these sectoral and generic measures that have been initiated, the government is exploring additional measures to address the shortage. At the moment, the following measures are further developed together with social partners and (educational) organizations: (1) various actions aimed at making work pay more by tackling the (marginal) tax burden. In the letter, the government outlines six options for reducing the extremes in marginal pressure (more than 70%) in the short term. A very high marginal pressure is often related to the phasing out of care and/or rent allowance. The largest contribution to the marginal pressure comes from the income tax. Several measures have been taken in recent years that have taken major steps towards reducing extremes in marginal pressure. Adjustments have been made to the rent allowance, the</p>

	<p>employed person's tax credit and the child allowance for this purpose; (2) additional efforts to increase labor supply, for example by the Broad Offensive bill that was adopted at the end of November 2022, improving the jobs agreement, guiding long-term welfare recipients to work (including through further training via practical learning in secondary vocational education) and the development of the future labor market infrastructure. The government is also committed to increasing labor participation and improving the labor potential of migrant workers, the elderly and other groups within the untapped labor potential, for example by combatting discrimination; (3) financial support for switching to structurally tight sectors by making substantial resources available to improve employment conditions in education sectors. The Cabinet is also working with the Future-proof Labor Market Care &amp; Welfare program to create sufficient scope for retaining employees, for innovative working methods and techniques, and for learning and development in the care and welfare sector. In addition, the government is working on the Green and Digital Jobs Action Plan. Due to the various nature of the measures, these fall under the scope of a number of Ministries, responsible for the sectors concerned.</p>
<p><b>Entry 4</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (17/02/2023 14:23 PM)</p> <p>Regarding addressing the labour shortages in the healthcare sector: Via the Future-proof Labour Market Care &amp; Welfare program (Toekomstbestendige Arbeidsmarkt Zorg en Welzijn, see link <a href="https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/09/30/kamerbrief-programma-toekomstbestendige-arbeidsmarkt-zorg-welzijn-programma-taz">https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/09/30/kamerbrief-programma-toekomstbestendige-arbeidsmarkt-zorg-welzijn-programma-taz</a> for communication to the Dutch parliament in September 2022) and the agreements made in the Integral Care Agreement (Integraal Zorgakkoord) and the Housing, Support and Care for the Elderly Program (in Dutch: Programma Wonen, Ondersteuning en Zorg voor Ouderen), the Dutch cabinet aims to work towards more suitable and less labour-intensive care in the future. This is done in close collaboration with various stakeholders such as social partners, health care purchasers and the education sector, with the aim of realizing an more adequate future organization in the care and welfare sector, in terms of quality and accessibility. In the Future-proof Labour Market Care &amp; Welfare</p>

	<p>program various initiatives are developed revolving around the following three pillars: (1) stimulating innovative working methods and techniques, (2) creating sufficient scope for retaining employees, and (3) encouraging learning and development for the workers in the care and welfare sector.</p>
<b>Entry 5</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (17/02/2023 14:25 PM)</p> <p>The Dutch government has recently presented the Action Plan Green and Digital Jobs (see link <a href="https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2023/02/03/inzet-op-arbeidsmarktkrapte-in-de-klimaat-en-digitale-transitie-het-actieplan-groene-en-digitale-banen">https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2023/02/03/inzet-op-arbeidsmarktkrapte-in-de-klimaat-en-digitale-transitie-het-actieplan-groene-en-digitale-banen</a> ) announcing additional efforts to address the labor market shortage in sectors crucial for energy and climate transitions. Scaling up successful regional public-private initiatives is one of the key measures of the Action plan. The Green and Digital Jobs Action Plan will be a coherent package of initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Measures taken by technical and ICT employers.</li> <li>o Additional measures from the generic labor market shortage</li> <li>o Additional measures specific to the climate and digital transition. The measures must result in an effect on:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase intake in science and technology education;</li> <li>2. Retaining and increasing technical employees in technology and ICT;</li> <li>3. Labor productivity enhancing innovations;</li> <li>4. Strengthening governance and preventing fragmentation of initiatives.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

CSR 3 Subpart 5: Strengthen up- and reskilling opportunities, in particular for those at the margins of the labour market and the inactive.

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Implemented (17/02/2023 14:31 PM)</p>

STAP – individual learning budget to participate in learning activities

- After STAP was introduced in 2022, the subsidy was in high demand and the amount of people applying for the subsidy usually exceeded the number of available subsidies per time slot. Since its introduction 214.500 people have made use of the STAP budget, 71.500 of which had a maximum education of MBO4 (EFQ4). Overall, most trainings (50.200) were completed in the health and welfare sectors.
- Arising challenges/growing pains related to relevance of the budget for the labor market position of individuals, misuse of training providers and issues regarding accessibility of the budget have been addressed. Action to address misuse was announced in this communication to Parliament 1 and recently the STAP regulation was adjusted 2.

- An additional 125 million annually (for four years) will become available via STAP in 2023 for people with a maximum education of EFQ4 to engage in training.
- Furthermore, STAP was general in nature and aimed at broadly stimulating a learning culture in society. Considering labor market shortages in various sectors, the Dutch cabinet is exploring ways to make STAP more targeted at jobs in sectors with a strong societal relevance to the Dutch labor market in the coming years.
- In 2022 the Dutch cabinet has introduced a so-called overview of learning opportunities via [leeroverzicht.nl](https://www.leeroverzicht.nl).<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, the Dutch cabinet is also working on an initiative aiming to encourage learning culture in a broader sense in the Netherlands. The parliament will most likely be informed about this in Q1.

1) <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/11/28/kamerbrief-stap-budget> 2)

2) <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2023/02/06/aangescherpte-stap-regeling-herstart-28-februari> 3)

3) <https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2022/09/23/kamerbrief-beleidslijnen-leven-lang-ontwikkelen>

### Comments

### State of play

## CSR.2022.4

### CSR 4 Subpart 1: Reduce overall reliance on fossil fuels

Measures	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Not Defined (17/02/2023 14:32 PM)</p> <p>The Netherlands supports the recommendation of the Commission to reduce the dependency on fossil fuels. In the context of RepowerEU the Netherlands has undertaken different actions in the past year to end the dependency on Russian fossil fuels in particular, by boosting gas savings, increasing the deployment of renewable energy and the diversification of energy supplies. The Netherlands is stimulating the deployment of renewable energy through offshore wind, solar-PV, geothermal energy, biogas and aquathermal energy sources. Moreover, the Netherlands is stimulating the production and imports of green hydrogen. The Netherlands has announced the construction of two nuclear power plants and has started with the preparatory work to enable this. Furthermore, the Netherlands is boosting energy savings, among others via the multiannual national isolation programme, new energy savings norms and new incentives to boost the renovation of buildings with a weak energy performance. The Netherlands also supports the use of hybrid heat pumps in the built environment and is developing sustainable heat networks. The Climate and Transition Fund, the National Growth Fund and the Dutch Recovery and Resilience plan will provide substantial financing to the targets outlined above.</p>
Comments	
State of play	

CSR 4 Subpart 2: by accelerating the deployment of renewables, in particular by boosting complementary investments in network infrastructure and further streamlining permitting procedures,

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:36 PM)</p> <p>Regarding permitting in the field of the energy transition the Netherlands faces many legal and technical challenges due to the fact that we have a small-sized country and a dense population. For example, the foreseen benefits of REPowerEU with regard to the compatibility with nature directives are expected not to materialize, as there are few (or no) places that could be designated as go-to area in the densely populated countryside. In the sphere of permitting The Netherlands differs regarding energy infrastructure and industry itself (the entities which are making use of the infrastructure by applying energy for manufacturing, production and related services). Permitting regarding infrastructure is merely focused on spatial planning and nature restoration (nitrogen and protection of animals/plants/natural areas). While permitting in the field of the industry is focused on environmental/health impact. Regarding our national energy infrastructure the central government has a role by streamlining permitting procedures, for example by the instrument called 'Rijkscoördinatieregelingen' (RCR). This instrument makes it possible to streamline, combine and centralize the decision-making on several permits for an energy project on national level. However these RCR- procedures still guarantee the participation of civilians and other stakeholders). The national government does not have an active role regarding the permitting of industry, decentral bodies are in charge. The government is currently assessing all possible (legal) manners, in the total energy supply chain (so also including permitting for industry), which could be used to speed up permitting procedures in order to enhance the progress of the energy transition. A possible outcome could be the adaptation of legislation in order to further streamline the procedures (while still providing the necessary safeguards), however our national framework depends on the European legislation.</p>



<p><b>Entry 2</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:35 PM)</p> <p>For IPCEI (Important Projects of Common European Interest) hydrogen, an additional €1,6 billion, next to the previously announced €35 million, is reserved for subsidizing projects which participate in the European IPCEI hydrogen process.</p>
<p><b>Entry 3</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:35 PM)</p> <p>For several reasons, amongst which rapid development of renewables, congestion issues on both transmission and distribution grids have arisen. To address these issues the government has started a national programme in September 2022 (the National Action Plan on Congestion). In this programme all involved stakeholders, such as system operators, regulatory authorities, government bodies producers and electro-intensive users have cooperated to define a set of 50+ actions aimed at improving the grid planning process, the speed of grid development and the efficient use of the existing grid by adjusting laws and regulations and increasing demand and supply flexibility. The implementation of the programme starts in January 2023 and first evaluation will take place in Summer 2023. Besides the national programme, TSOs and DSOs continue developing and strengthening the electricity grid as their highest priority. Grid operators are investing 3.9 billion euros in the electricity grid on a yearly basis. A new projection of the expected necessary investments is expected early 2023.</p>
<p><b>Entry 4</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:34 PM)</p> <p>The Dutch government has announced that the opening budget for the SDE++ round in 2022 will be € 13 billion, which is much higher than in earlier years (in 2020 and 2021 the SDE++ budget was € 5 billion). Part of the extra € funding stems from the additional € 6.8 billion announced in September 2021. € 2 billion results from a higher ETS price prognosis, which provides additional budget space. In December of 2021, the Dutch government has announced an adjustment in the SDE++</p>

	<p>from 2023 onwards, by the placing of so-called “fences” (flexible budget reservations) for three groups of technologies: high-temperature heat, low-temperature heat and molecules. The SDE++ ranks applications based on subsidy intensity. The lower the subsidy intensity, the higher the chance it will receive a subsidy. This results in technologies with a higher subsidy intensity (such as green gas or geothermal) being underserved, which is undesirable given their important role in the energy transition. Supporting these technologies now will lead to cost reductions and a more cost-effective energy transition in the long term. Therefore, fences will be introduced for technology groups with a higher average subsidy intensity. In July of 2022, the Dutch Government has announced that the fenced groups of technologies will receive a budget reservation of € 750 million, based on a total SDE++ reference budget of € 5 billion.</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

CSR 4 Subpart 3: improving energy efficiency, in particular in buildings,

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:37 PM)</p> <p>Different subsidies for energy efficiency improve energy efficiency, in particular in buildings. With the SVM subsidy (Subsidieregeling Verduurzaming MKB) small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can hire an advisor for customized energy advice in buildings and processes. And for support in implementing one or more measures from that advice. In 2023, €14.4 million will be available for energy advice and support to help SMEs. The subsidy will probably open in April 2023 and close in the fall of 2023. It is still uncertain if the subsidy will reopen in 2024. The ISDE subsidy (Investeringssubsidie duurzame energie en energiebesparing) provides assistance</p>

	<p>to homeowners and business users for taking energy-saving and sustainable measures in their existing home or business premises. In 2023, € 350 million will be available for solar boilers, (hybrid) heat pumps, insulation measures, connections to a heating network and an electric cooking facility. A new budget is made available every year. The ISDE grant will continue until 2030.</p>
<p><b>Entry 2</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:37 PM)</p> <p>The energy efficiency obligation, which obliges companies consuming more than 25,000 m<sup>3</sup> gas and/or 50,000 kWh per year to implement all energy saving measures with a payback time of 5 years or lower (Energiebesparingsplicht) <a href="https://english.rvo.nl/topics/sustainability/energy-efficiency-notification-obligation/energy-efficiency-obligation">https://english.rvo.nl/topics/sustainability/energy-efficiency-notification-obligation/energy-efficiency-obligation</a>. From 2023 onwards, exceptions for EU ETS-installations, greenhouses and other large energy user are altered and these companies will have to comply with the energy efficiency obligation, including its four year reporting cycle. Large energy users have to execute an energy audit including an implementation plan, which on different aspects goes beyond the EU EED energy audit. In addition to energy efficiency measures, measures for renewable energy production and switching energy carriers also fall under the obligation as long as they reduce CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions and have a payback time of five years or less. The required legislation will be published in the beginning of 2023.</p>
<p><b>Entry 3</b></p>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Adopted (17/02/2023 14:38 PM)</p> <p>Policy programme to speed up the energy-efficiency of buildings (PVGGO) In June 2022, the programme to speed up energy efficiency in buildings was launched (Programma Versnelling Verduurzaming Gebouwde Omgeving, PVGO) The programme contains a mix of policy instruments, such as stimulation the development of district heating, individual measures targeted at home-owners and utility buildings and stimulation of innovation in the construction industry. Energy efficiency is the primary focal point of this policy programme.</p>

<b>Comments</b>
<b>State of play</b>

CSR 4 Subpart 4: and accelerating investments in sustainable transport

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 14:42 PM)</p> <p>The coalition agreement for 2021-2025 is committed to reducing the emissions from the mobilitysector. This entails significant investments, in order to reach our climate-goals and improve our air-quality. We are investing in clean mobility by stimulating electric mobility, including the second-hand market. Sustainable city-logistics and freight are receiving greening investments as well. The government is investing in a faster roll-out of charging-ginfrastructure, among others with a fund of €15 million for regional and local governments to hire the required staff-experts. In order to accelerate investments in sustainable transport, we are making use of subsidy-schemes. With the subsidy 'electric personal-cars private individuals (SEPP) we are stimulating the uptake of emission-free personal-cars. We are doing the same for light commercial vehicles (subsidy SEBA), clean and emmission-free non-road mobile machinery and vocational heavy duty vehicles (SEBB) and zero-emission heavy duty vehicles (AanZET). This last subsidy was so popular that it was depleted in one day, upon which it was decided to make an additional investment by increasing the fund for the subsidy. Furthermore, an additional €400 million have been made available for the Clean and Emission-free Building (SEB) program. €2.5 million has been reserved for the program Safe, Smart and Sustainable in order to further stimulate cycling. Some 1.5 million euro annually has been reserved from different budgets to further stimulate cycling. Finally, approximately another 850 million euro has been made available to invest in cycling-infrastructure.</p>

<b>Comments</b>
<b>State of play</b>

CSR 4 Subpart 5: and sustainable agriculture.

<b>Measures</b>	
<b>Entry 1</b>	<p>MEASURE TYPE: Announced (17/02/2023 16:36 PM)</p> <p>In the coalition agreement for the period 2021-2025 substantial investments in sustainable agriculture are announced. The National Program for Rural Areas addresses the challenges in agriculture and nature through a €25 billion transition fund until 2035. Furthermore, for farmers and growers who want to make a transition to a less nitrogen-intensive and more extensive and sustainable business, it is possible to apply for funding through the Investment Fund for Sustainable Agriculture. This fund consists of €21 million during the pilot period (running until July 2023). Under this fund, farmers and growers can apply for funding against relatively flexible financial conditions (link: <a href="#">Investeringsfonds Duurzame Landbouw - Nationaal Groenfonds</a>)</p>
<b>Comments</b>	
<b>State of play</b>	

03 April 2023