

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The new ARERA Strategic Framework 2022-2025 has been approved**

*Over the next four years: consumer protection and empowerment, just energy transition, digitalization and objectives associated with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

Milan, 14 January 2022 - ARERA's 2022-2025 Strategic Framework has been approved. After consultation with all stakeholders, the framework establishes the objectives that will guide the development of ARERA's regulation over the next four years in the electricity, gas, water, waste and district heating sectors. The Strategic Framework focuses on consumer protection and empowerment, through tools and communication, digitalization and 'just' and sustainable energy transition across the energy and environmental sectors, the improvement of infrastructures, services and competition. It also focuses in particular on the new themes of the Energy Communities, electric mobility and decarbonisation with renewables and clean hydrogen.

In order to direct its strategic regulation towards objectives of social, economic and environmental sustainability and to increase its accountability towards stakeholders, ARERA has also decided to associate the objectives of the Strategic Framework with one or more Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

The structure and content of the Strategic Framework - broken down into themes applying to all sectors and insights on individual sectors - are articulated on two levels: strategic objectives and lines of action. The **objectives** encompass the overall strategy based on the current and medium-term scenario, with reference to both fields cross cutting all sectors (the central role of the consumer, system innovation, simplification, transparency and enforcement of the regulatory framework), and fields specific to Environment and Energy and compliant with national and international regulations. The **lines of action** summarize the main measures and actions that ARERA intends to pursue to achieve each strategic objective.

In particular, the Strategic Framework was approved after a detailed consultation process involving dedicated annual ARERA hearings (attended by 58 stakeholder representatives, including consumer and user associations, environmental associations, trade unions, business associations, institutions, local authorities, universities, private individuals, etc.), and the consultation document to which were added a further 13 comments. The 51 papers of the hearings and the comments received are available on the ARERA website

<https://www.arera.it/it/audizioni/pubbliche/audizioni2021.htm>