



# Management plan 2022

Directorate General ENVIRONMENT

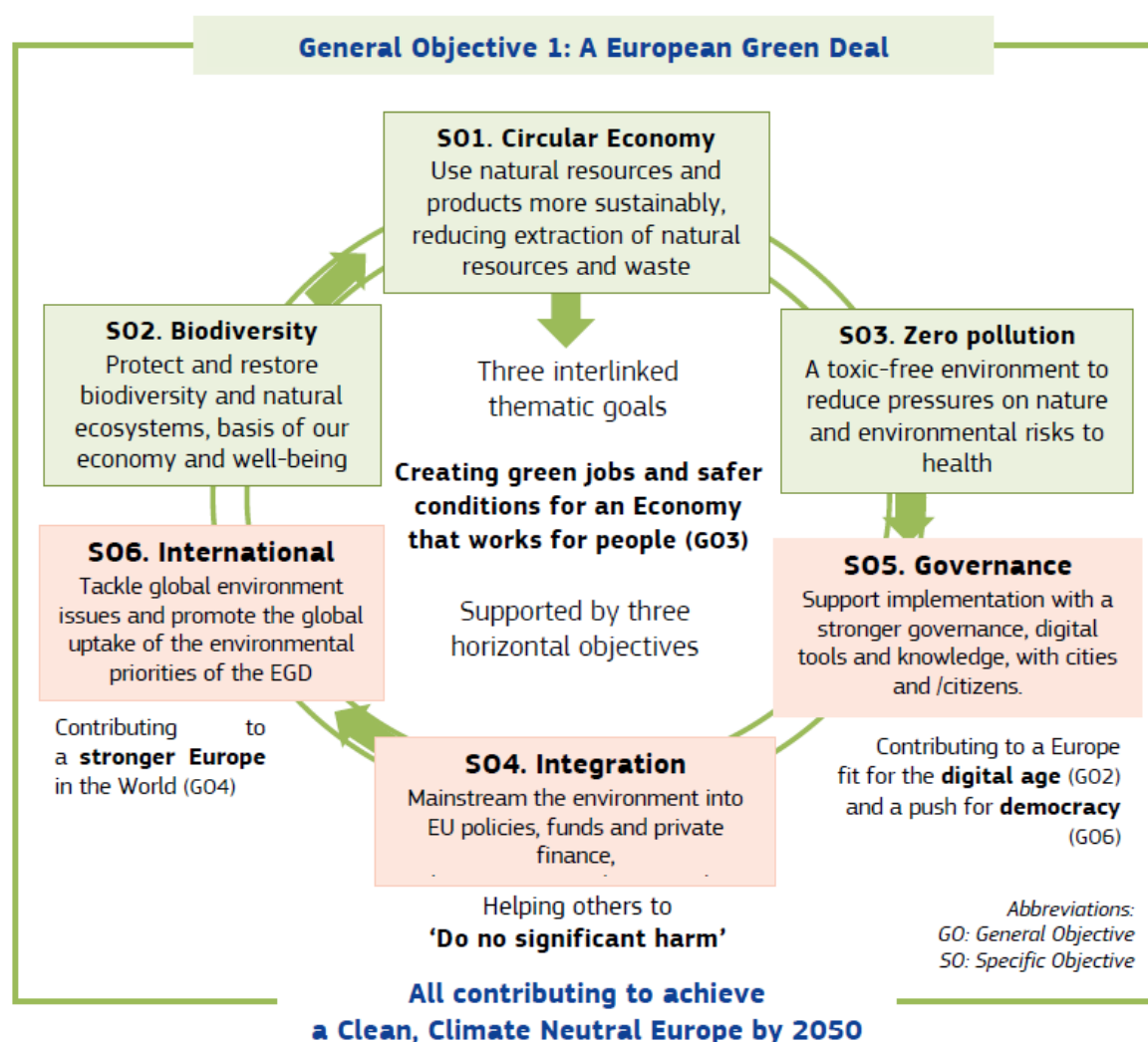
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## INTRODUCTION

The **Directorate-General for Environment** leads the European Commission's activities in the field of the environment. Its **key mission** is to contribute to enabling EU citizens to live well, within the planet's ecological limits, based on an innovative, circular economy, where biodiversity and ecosystems are protected and restored, environment-related health risks are minimised in ways to enhance our society's resilience, and where growth has been decoupled from resource use and its impacts.

As outlined in its [Strategic Plan 2020-2024](#), Directorate General Environment pursues six specific objectives, primarily contributing to the Commission's general objective 1, **A European Green Deal** with very strong links to the Commission's general objective 3, **An economy that works for people** and general objective 4, **Stronger Europe in the world**. Improving environmental governance and data management will also contribute to general objectives 6, **a push for democracy**, and 2, **a Europe fit for the digital age**.



This management plan defines the most important outputs planned for 2022 to realise the above interlinked objectives, with a particular focus on the priorities set out at Commission level in a challenging global context.

President Von der Leyen, in the 2021 State of the Union address, underlined Europe's determination to bounce forward from the pandemic, while seizing the opportunities offered by the twin green and digital transitions. The **European Green Deal** is the EU's strategy to achieve a resource-efficient, carbon-neutral and regenerative economy, respectful of human and environmental health. Initiatives such as on **Sustainable Products** and **Textiles** will contribute to boost product design and business models that retain the material value in the economy, avoid waste generation and create green jobs, while the **Green Claims** proposal will help consumers to make more sustainable choices. Progress towards a more **circular economy** will be crucial in delivering on climate, biodiversity and zero pollution goals.

When it comes to the **interlinked climate, biodiversity and pollution challenges**, Europe can do a lot, but cannot do it alone. The EU is committed to show strong leadership in addressing together the climate and biodiversity crisis. In November 2021, COP26 delivered relevant commitments to further climate action and limit global warming. It also showed that climate change is a symptom of a wider problem, the relentless depletion of natural resources, with its impact on biodiversity loss. Directorate General Environment will take active part in the multilateral negotiations that should lead to the endorsement of a new Global Biodiversity Framework at the 15<sup>th</sup> Conferences of the Parties to the **Convention on Biological Diversity** in spring 2022. The **nature restoration** proposal will strengthen the EU's role in pursuing an ambitious biodiversity outcome at international level.

The pandemic has strengthened the need for a stronger, **integrated health and environment agenda**. DG Environment has contributed to this agenda with key elements such as the Biodiversity strategy, the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability and the Zero Pollution Action Plan. In 2022, the core of the DG's legislative work will focus on completing the **Zero Pollution** ambition with new legislative proposals on **Water pollution**, **Air quality** and **industrial emissions**, measures to reduce **microplastics** and **mercury** pollution and several proposals aimed at more sustainable **chemicals**, as well as on supporting the European Parliament and the Council to turn proposals into EU law.

Across domains, the DG will continue pursuing an ambitious **Better Regulation** agenda. The 2022 Commission Work Programme has reinforced its **Refit** annex on legislative simplification and burden reduction. DG Environment has included **burden reduction** among the objectives of several **legislative proposals** (on Urban Waste Water Treatment, End-Of-Life vehicles, the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in electronics, the 'GreenData4All' initiative, and on the reallocation of chemicals work to the EU agencies).

The green transition is substantially underpinned by the **EU's multiannual budget** and the **Recovery Plans** as well as by the promotion of private investments guided by sound **sustainability criteria**. The **integration** of environmental considerations into EU spending programmes and sustainable finance will remain a priority. The **LIFE programme** will continue supporting environmental policy objectives with a budget that the co-

legislators have substantially increased for 2022, recognising the policy relevance of this relatively small programme.


Strengthening the **governance framework** is key to ensure that EU environment legislation delivers the intended benefits to citizens, business and organisations. Efforts to support **implementation** by Member States will continue and **enforcement action** will be pursued when necessary. **Monitoring frameworks** will be set up to enable measuring progress and a strong **scientific base** will continue to be developed, steering research and in collaboration with key knowledge partners.

Through its **international activities**, the DG will promote high environmental standards and the European Green Deal abroad. It will focus on addressing the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and will promote the circular economy as a key component of a green global recovery, including through the Union's trade agenda.

Environment remains a top priority for Europe's citizens. To strengthen the link between the Commission and the people of Europe, and to involve them more closely in the policymaking process, DG Environment will ensure that all major policy developments are accompanied by targeted **external communication** activities, while also making a full contribution to the Commission's corporate campaigns.

Finally, contributing to modernise **corporate administration** will remain a key management goal, as described in part 2 of this Management Plan. In 2022, the DG will move to a new building and implement an internal reorganisation. Adjusting to the new settings and achieving the intended efficiency gains in the continuing pandemics context will be particularly challenging.

## PART 1. Delivering on the Commission's priorities: main outputs for 2022

The narrative below presents the main outputs DG Environment plans in 2022 to attain its specific objectives and deliver on the Commission's ambitions. Further outputs are defined in the performance tables in annex. Priority initiatives announced in the 2022 **Commission Work Programme** are marked with the icon .

### **Specific Objective 1 - Circular Economy:** The EU economy is more circular and uses natural resources and products more sustainably



Several important deliverables of the new Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP) will be tabled in 2022, including the flagship **Sustainable Products Initiative** (SPI). This will drive improvements in product design through extension of the scope of the **Ecodesign Directive** beyond energy-related products. It will apply wider criteria to make sure products sold in Europe are safe, sustainable and circular, for example with minimum requirements for durability, reparability and recyclability, and addressing the presence of hazardous chemicals. Increasingly product value is dependent on product data, and this has become critical to value retention activities. An **EU Digital Product Passport** will therefore be proposed as part of the SPI, setting out data access requirements for circularity. A proposal to ensure that **green claims** on products are based on reliable, comparable and verifiable information will accompany the SPI, to help fighting greenwashing.

Sectors with the highest environmental impacts will remain under focus. Textiles are the 4<sup>th</sup> biggest pressure category in terms of raw material consumption, and 5<sup>th</sup> in terms of GHG emissions. In early 2022, a new **Strategy for sustainable textiles** will set out a comprehensive vision of how to develop a more circular and sustainable textiles system. Developed in collaboration with DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, the Strategy will also launch a transition pathway to engage the textiles industry, public authorities and consumers in addressing the **environmental and social impacts** while ensuring the **recovery and resilience** of the sector.

Several measures will be delivered to reduce **plastic pollution** and promote innovation in the context of the Plastics Strategy. A new policy framework for **biobased, biodegradable and compostable plastics**  will clarify the role that these plastics can play. On **microplastics**, new measures will be proposed to address unintentional release into the environment as well as to restrict microplastics intentionally added in products . Mandatory requirements will be developed on **recycled plastic content** and **plastic waste reduction** measures will be part of legislative revisions such as on Packaging and End-of-Life Vehicles.

The adoption of the **Batteries Regulation** by the co-legislators will still require active DG involvement. Once adopted, the Regulation will set far-reaching product sustainability requirements for batteries placed on the EU market, such as performance requirements to

contribute to the Union's climate neutrality objective. It will also significantly increase the collection, recycling and recovery targets for waste batteries. The preparatory work for the development of the implementing measures (almost 40 implementing or delegated acts) will commence in 2022. The DG will also be actively involved in the interinstitutional negotiations leading to the adoption of the proposal on the **Shipment of Waste**. An ambitious outcome will make sure that EU exports of waste do not generate environmental or public health challenges in third countries, that shipments for waste for recycling are facilitated in the EU and that illegal shipments are better addressed.

In 2022, DG Environment will continue to bring **EU waste legislation** in line with the circular economy principles and the waste hierarchy by tabling reviews of the Restriction Of the use of certain **Hazardous Substances** in electronics  and **End-Of-Life vehicles** , together with the Directive on the type approval of motor vehicles and in collaboration with DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. Rules on Packaging and Packaging Waste will also be revised, to reduce this waste, make all packaging reusable or recyclable by 2030 and to facilitate the uptake of recycled plastic in new plastic packaging.

Ensuring that legislation remains fit for purpose and removing unnecessary burdens will be among the objectives of these legislative revisions, in line with DG Environment's commitment to the Better Regulation agenda. An evaluation of the **Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment** Directive will be launched and the ongoing evaluation of the **Sewage Sludge** Directive will conclude. The effectiveness and relevance of these directives will be assessed *inter alia* in light of the new policy objectives on climate neutrality and circularity.

DG Environment will continue to guide and advise Member States on the correct **transposition of waste legislation**. Strategic **compliance and enforcement action** will continue to tackle persistent illegal and substandard landfills across the EU, to accelerate the alignment of national plans to the EU's circular economy objectives and to expedite the attainment of waste targets.

Tools to facilitate circular decision making in the public and private sectors will be refined and improved, with proposals for mandatory **Green Public Procurement** (GPP) criteria, GPP targets in sectoral legislation, and phasing-in mandatory reporting on GPP. In the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the **EU Ecolabel**, special efforts will be deployed to improve its uptake and visibility.

The European **Circular Economy Stakeholder platform** will continue to be the 'go-to' hub for stakeholders' information, best practice, networking and mobilisation. The Platform's #CircularTalks series will continue to bring stakeholders and public together to debate burning issues. In March, the European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference will focus on sustainable products.



Working towards the **global circular economy**, in line with the CEAP's international chapter, DG Environment will continue to promote the further roll-out of activities of the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) launched in early 2021, work with African and Latin American countries, inter alia, under the auspices of relevant regional alliances, continue to support regional initiatives in Asia (such as the Rethinking Plastics Project and the ASEAN Circular Economy Platform) and aim to launch negotiations on a **Global Plastics Agreement** to better manage plastics throughout their lifecycle and avoid marine litter at the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA5.2) in February/March 2022. The DG will promote the circular economy in various multilateral fora and strengthen bilateral Circular Economy cooperation with a number of G20 partner countries (see also information under Specific Objective 6) and plans to resume a limited number of Circular Economy Missions (delayed due to the Covid-19) once circumstances permit.

**External communication** activities will focus on the Textiles Strategy, an opportunity to place youth at the centre, in line with NextGenerationEU and the European Year of Youth and to illustrate links between Circular Economy, Biodiversity and Zero Pollution.

## **Specific Objective 2 – Biodiversity and natural ecosystems in the EU are put on the path to recovery by stepping up the protection and restoration of nature**

The implementation of the **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030** will continue guiding DG Environment's work on the protection and restoration of nature, notably with the delivery of the flagship proposal on **Nature Restoration targets**. As soon as the co-decision process starts, the focus will shift to supporting the co-legislators in negotiations that are expected to be challenging, in view of the ambition and novelty of the initiative.

The implementation of the **new governance framework for biodiversity** will progress, with the completion of the monitoring, progress tracking and review mechanisms. Efforts to boost the financing for biodiversity will include a new **biodiversity tracking methodology** to ensure adequate levels of biodiversity spending from the EU budget. A mechanism to promote and review 'pledges' of Member States will be put in place also within the framework of the **EU Biogeographical cooperation mechanism**, established under the Habitats Directive, in order to assess and steer progress towards the achievement of the EU Biodiversity Strategy targets on protected area and restoration.

DG Environment will also work with other services (notably DG Health and Food Safety and DG Agriculture) on several measures at the intersection of the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork strategies. Particularly relevant will be the update of the **EU Pollinators Initiative**, which will build on a review of the existing measures adopted in 2021. Stepping up implementation of the **Nitrates Directive** and making progress towards **integrated nutrient management** will be essential to ensure the sustainable use of nutrients in the EU and reach the European Green Deal objective of reducing nutrient losses by at least 50% by 2030. Action on nutrients is also relevant to address eutrophication in EU waters and protect the aquatic ecosystems and human health.



Continued efforts will be devoted to boost the implementation of the **Habitats and Birds Directives** and improve the conservation status of **EU species and habitats** building, in particular, on the **Natura 2000 network**. This will include a combination of bilateral dialogue (the ‘Nature dialogues’) with Member States, the development and dissemination of guidance as well as continued enforcement action focused on the completion of Natura 2000, on improving its effectiveness through conservation objectives and measures and on species and habitats in decline, including in the marine context.

**European seas and ocean** continue to be under severe threat from human activities. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive required Member States to achieve good environmental status by 2020. In 2021, a Commission report showed that good status was not achieved everywhere and highlighted both achievements and shortcomings in implementing the Directive. Based on that report, the DG will work on a revision of the Directive to be completed in 2023, while continuing to oversee its implementation. Compliance work will include the assessments of Member States’ marine strategies, based on reporting obligations due in 2020 and 2023. Also relevant will be to ensure the consistency of the Member States national maritime spatial plans with the objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy. An action plan to **conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems** will be developed with DG Maritime affairs and Fisheries to help bridging the objectives under the fisheries and marine environment EU policies. Efforts will mostly focus on the protection of the seabed and of sensitive species from the impacts of unsustainable fishing practices.

The **Soil Strategy** delivered in 2021 set the framework for a strong EU action on soil protection and will require substantial follow-up in 2022. DG Environment will work on its implementation with national authorities and stakeholders. An impact assessment will be launched for the Soil Health Law announced for 2023 in the Strategy.

The DG will also be involved in implementing the **EU Forest Strategy for 2030**. Forests are essential for human and planetary health, they are rich in biodiversity and are hugely important in the fight against climate change. Guidelines on biodiversity friendly re- and afforestation, on close to nature forestry and on the definition of primary and old growth forests will be prepared. A tool to monitor progress on the **3 Billion Tree Planting Pledge for 2030** will be developed, and preparatory work will start on a proposal on forest observation, reporting and data collection.

In November 2021, the Commission adopted a proposal on **deforestation** to minimise consumption of products coming from supply chains associated with deforestation or forest degradation. Supporting the co-legislators to reach an agreement will be a priority in 2022. As regards wildlife trade, the work will focus on the finalisation of the evaluation and revision of the **EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking**.

In the global context, the **15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity**, opened in October 2021, will take place in spring 2022 to agree on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. In its run-up, DG Environment will

intensify outreach to third countries as well as regional associations and multilateral organisations/initiatives and continue to encourage political and business leaders to join High Level Coalitions for an ambitious deal. Work to establish strong, **global business and biodiversity movement** building on the EU Business and Biodiversity Platform will also continue, including a push for an active role of the business community in the COP15. As the key element common to biodiversity, climate and zero pollution policies, **soil** will feature high not only on the COP15 agenda, but also in the context of the **UN Convention to Combat Desertification**. DG Environment will also lead the preparations and participate on behalf of the EU in the 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)**, which will take place in Panama in November.

**International work on forests** will be stepped up to engage partner countries in the fight against deforestation and forest degradation both bilaterally and multilaterally. Implementing the FLEGT Action Plan against illegal logging will also go on, including the implementation of FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreements.

DG Environment also supports and, where necessary, represents the EU in the **Regional Sea Conventions** to ensure that the interests of the EU are safeguarded and aligned with the requirements of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and other relevant EU legislation. In this context, the Commission will continue pushing for an Emission control area in the Mediterranean Sea.

**External communication** efforts will be pursued in the run-up to the COP15, in particular through the following actions: building up further the [United for Biodiversity](#) coalition; further dissemination of the [Pollinator Park](#) virtual reality experience to new audiences (including gamers and schools), synergies with the NextGenerationEU corporate communication campaign and the European Year of Youth; and full implementation of the [Green Track](#), a dialogue with youth by youth, about biodiversity and other environment issues, which also ties in with the European Year of Youth.

The strategic importance of Natura 2000 and recognition of the contribution of different stakeholders will be promoted through the Natura 2000 Day and Award as well as events to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Habitats Directive and the LIFE programme. Communicating around the 3 billion Trees Pledge will mobilise the greater public and strengthen the links between global political messages and tangible grassroots actions such as planting trees.

**Specific Objective 3 - Zero Pollution:** Citizens and natural ecosystems are better protected from environmental pressures and risks to health as a result of Europe's zero-pollution ambition and measures for a toxic-free environment

Reinforcing the Zero Pollution ambition of the European Green Deal is a priority for the Commission in 2022.

The **Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability**, adopted in October 2020, set out a roadmap to simplify and strengthen EU rules on chemicals, and work towards a one-substance/one-assessment process (i.e., when an assessment is proposed under one piece of legislation, full account shall be taken of the planning under other pieces of legislation).

Together with DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, DG Environment will continue working on **legislative proposals** to amend the REACH Regulation and the Regulation on the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of substances, and to reallocate to EU agencies scientific and technical work that is currently spread in a variety of actors (scientific committees, consultants, Commission services). By centralising the work, this proposal will reduce the burden on both stakeholders and the European institutions.


The revision of the **Mercury Regulation** that started in 2021 will continue in 2022 with the objective of restricting the manufacturing and trade in further mercury-added products, including dental amalgam and certain mercury-containing lamps.

At **international level**, multilateral activities will continue in the frame of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), and the relevant international conventions, notably the triple Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the Rotterdam Convention and the Stockholm Convention scheduled for June 2022 with the theme of "Global Agreements for a Health Planet: Sound management of chemicals and waste". On Mercury, parties to the Minamata Convention will address restrictions on mercury-added products, further aligning the Convention with the EU *acquis*.

Concerning **industrial emissions**, the revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive and the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register Regulation will be finalised, providing the opportunity to simplify these legal instruments, reducing unnecessary burden and aligning them with the ambitious objectives set out in the European Green Deal and the Industrial Strategy.


**Enforcement** action will continue in parallel, in particular to ensure that the authorisations of all major installations across the EU integrate the agreed best available techniques and any derogations given by Member States are adequately justified and to tackle breaches by individual installations with a serious environmental or health impact are brought to an end.


The EU has a robust regulatory framework in place to cap **ambient air pollution**. However, the number of premature deaths and other diseases attributable to air pollution remains high. This can be linked to the fact that some EU air quality standards are less stringent than the latest scientific advice, and to an only partially effective implementation

of the Ambient Air Quality Directives. In 2022, DG Environment will deliver a proposal to align EU's air quality standards  more closely with the recently updated World Health Organisation recommendations. In addition, provisions on monitoring, modelling and air quality plans will be strengthened to help local authorities, while improving the overall enforceability of the regulatory framework.

In parallel, the DG will contribute to the introduction of stricter requirements to **tackle air pollution at source**, notably from agriculture, industry, transport, buildings and energy, including through a number of European Green Deal measures and strategies (such as sustainable and smart mobility, renovation wave, and farm to fork).

**Enforcement** will be pursued prioritising the most serious cases in terms of levels and extent - so as to tackle the lack of compliance and adequate measures to meet air quality standards for key pollutants that continue to see persistent exceedances (PM10, NO2, SO2, PM2.5 and benzo(a)pyrene), the inadequate monitoring of air quality, the compliance with the NEC Directive, as well as restrictions on access to justice and ineffective penalties. With regard to noise, lack of noise maps and action plans where these are still missing will be addressed as appropriate throughout the year.

In the area of **water policy**, the DG will deliver a legislative proposal on **integrated water management**  to address the problem of the pollution of surface and groundwater in Europe. At present, a range of pollutants from agriculture, industry and households form a considerable pressure on water quality, increasing the risk to human and ecosystem health, and increasing the cost of water treatment. The Water Framework Directive and the Environmental Quality Standards Directive identify priority substances for which standards have to be met in surface waters and whose emissions have to be reduced or phased out. The Groundwater Directive sets standards for pesticides and nitrates in groundwater. Priority substances will be reviewed and include emerging threats such as pharmaceuticals, metals, pesticides and industrial chemicals.

The revision of the **Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive**  will tackle pollution sources, in particular those of emerging concern such as pharmaceuticals or microplastics, and address several improvements identified by a recent evaluation, such as transparency, investment planning, access to sanitation and affordability. Particular efforts will be made to simplify and automat monitoring and reporting, to reduce the burden on stakeholders. In the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, **waste water surveillance** proved to be an effective tool in identifying Covid-19 hot spots and variants. Building on this experience, the legislative revision will also include requirements to ensure surveillance for viruses and other pathogens present in waste waters, hence supporting public health. Currently and over 2022, EU funding supports the establishment of permanent Covid-19 surveillance systems in all Member States.

Implementation work will also continue on this and other water legislation. The 2020 recast **Drinking Water** Directive includes updated limit values for a set of pollutants and new requirements for contaminants of emerging concern such as endocrine disruptors and

micro-plastics. Several implementing and delegated acts are in preparation, including a watch-list on endocrine disruptors to be delivered in 2022. These will also contribute to the objectives of the Chemicals Strategy.

In March 2022, the Member States are due to report their 3<sup>rd</sup> River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs), for the period 2022-2027. In these plans, Member States are expected to indicate how they will ensure that the **Water Framework Directive** objectives will be met by the end of 2027. Assessing these plans and preparing compliance recommendations will be an important work stream.

Implementing the water legislation involves the construction of sanitation and drinking **water infrastructure**, as well as of nature-based and other solutions to enhance the EU's **water resilience** in the face of increasing floods and droughts, whilst maximising the co-benefits stemming from a water-smart implementation of the European Green Deal. Continued support to Member States will be provided throughout the implementation of EU funding programmes, so as to bring environmental, economic and societal benefits to EU citizens.

As regards **enforcement action** in the water sector, priority will be given in 2022 to the lack of compliance with the Water Framework Directive (including the follow-up to recommendations made in 2019, based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> RBMPs and draft 3<sup>rd</sup> RBMPs assessment as well as investigations launched on national compliance assurance methods used to implement this Directive); the lack of compliance with obligations on the collection and treatment of urban wastewater; the non-respect of obligations on Nitrates Action Plans and the non-designation of nitrate vulnerable zones, systemic breaches or serious health risks resulting from non-compliance with the rules on drinking water.

At **international level**, DG Environment will continue to promote the UNECE Water Convention, including follow-up to the 2021 Meeting of the Parties, and engage in promoting EU priorities for major global events, such as the 2022 World Water Forum and, in particular, the process leading up to the milestone 2023 UN General Assembly Water conference and water-related discussions in G20. The fight against pollution more broadly will be mainstreamed into DG Environment's relations with international partners (as outlined under Specific Objective 6).

**External communication** will also support the implementation of the Zero Pollution agenda, including for instance a special Eurobarometer on Air Quality.

**Specific Objective 4 – Integration:** Environmental concerns are integrated, and biodiversity standards mainstreamed, across EU policies, investments and finance, through existing consultation mechanisms and a proactive approach to coordination

**Environmental integration** means making sure that environmental concerns are fully considered in other policies, which is fundamental for the success of the green transition. .

The **European Semester** has become a key instrument of environmental integration in Member States economic and employment policies, with the Recovery and Resilience Facility as the driver of the reform and investment agenda in many EU countries. In 2022, starting from an assessment of the gap between the challenges that each Member State is facing and what is already addressed by the Recovery and Resilience Plans, DG Environment will contribute to the European Semester cycle by identifying the remaining needs in green investments and reforms to counter the growing socio-economic costs of environmental degradation and achieve environmental sustainability. This includes promoting country specific recommendations that take into account the European Green Deal priorities, and gradually increasing the focus towards needed reforms as growth picks up.

The entry into force of the own resource decision based on non-recycled plastic will be a powerful practical application of the “polluter pays” principle. It will not only be a new source of revenue to the EU budget but also provide a strong incentive to Member States to advance the circular economy and zero pollution agendas.

Environmental integration is key to secure compliance with the **do no significant harm principle** across other policies and **sectoral EU financial instruments**. At the same time, the EU’s Multiannual Financial Framework and the NextGenerationEU need to provide sufficient financing for the environmental policies.

In 2022, a key task will be to ensure that the objectives of EU environmental policies and the investments required to implement EU environmental legislation are included in the sectoral funding instruments, such as the partnership agreements and operational programmes for **Structural Funds**, **Just Transition Plans** and **Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plans**. In addition, particular attention will be paid to the implementation of the **Recovery and Resilience Plans**, for which DG Environment will verify that the Member States will comply with the targets and milestones defined for reforms and investments. This work will require constant collaboration with other DGs, in particular DG Regional and Urban Policy, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, DG Mobility and Transport, DG Energy, DG Structural Reform Support and SG-RECOVER. A solid and updated methodology for the tracking of the biodiversity target will be an important element.

Working in partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and national promotional banks, including as regards the implementation of the **InvestEU** programme will provide further opportunities to promote national investments that contribute to reduce the environmental implementation gap.

In 2022, the DG will continue its work to further the integration of environmental sustainability in all the relevant policies of the Union. This includes policy areas such as competition, taxation, employment and social policies, reflecting the close links between the economic, social and environmental dimension of sustainable development. Methods, criteria and standards will be developed to better integrate biodiversity considerations into public and business decision-making at all levels.



Work will continue as well on **sustainable finance**, with DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, DG Climate Action, Joint Research Centre and other core DGs and the European Environmental Agency (EAA). The work will focus on developing criteria for the identification of green economic activities based on environment objectives other than climate. The application of these criteria will have a wider purpose including through the Commission's proposal for an **EU green bond standard**, which will be key, following the Commission's commitment to use green bonds to raise at least 30% of **NextGenerationEU** funding. DG Environment will contribute to these processes, including by proposing new **EU Ecolabel criteria for financial products** in synergy with recent developments in the taxonomy and other financial and non-financial reporting initiatives. Promoting the EU approach to sustainable finance in all its environment aspects, notably through the International Platform on Sustainable Finance, will remain of strategic importance for the EU, as key global partners are developing their own taxonomy rules.

The **Strategic Environmental Assessment** (SEA) and **Environmental Impact Assessment** (EIA) directives will remain crucial instruments for the integration of environmental considerations into Member States programmes and projects. In 2022, DG Environment will start collecting data on costs and benefits for a report on the application of the revised EIA Directive due in 2023. Further guidance will be prepared for a shared understanding of the notions 'plans' and 'programmes' under the SEA Directive.

Work to achieve the full integration of environmental priorities in **EU external, enlargement, neighbourhood and development funding** will continue and require working in close collaboration with the European External Action Service, DG International Partnerships, DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations and the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments. With the successful prioritization of Green Deal priorities across the programming exercise for the EU's external cooperation instruments, the DG will contribute to the implementation of the programmes, manage and develop new projects under the Cooperation Agreements with the United Nations Environment Programme, and support global environmental governance through the Global Europe instrument for the new budgeting period 2021-2027.

Finally, the DG will aim to raise the awareness of potential beneficiaries on the available financial and funding support at EU level for green investments.

**Specific Objective 5 - Governance:** there is an enabling framework for implementation based on strong governance and enforcement action, supported by advanced knowledge and digital technologies, close collaboration with cities and citizens' engagement

In 2022, DG Environment will further work to promote effective environmental governance and secure observance of the environmental rule of law.

**Access to environmental information** is a key element to achieve this. By end 2022, the GreenData4All initiative will be proposed. The core aim is to modernise data collection and

management, making it easier for public authorities, businesses and citizens to support the transition to a greener economy, while reducing the administrative burden and align the framework with developments in EU digital data policy.

Environmental governance rights strengthen the private enforcement by citizens and their organisations of the obligations defined by the EU's environmental laws. This will continue to provide an indispensable complement to the public enforcement efforts deployed by the European Commission and by the national authorities of the Member States. Support to Member States will continue through the **Environmental Governance Forum**, which has aligned its activities to the priorities of the European Green Deal, for instance by targeted training to equip national judges with up-to-date environmental information.

In November 2021, the revision of EU rules on **access to justice in environmental matters at EU level** was adopted by the co-legislators. These rules now ensure that the Union's international obligations under the Aarhus Convention are met<sup>1</sup> and apply to all policy areas such as energy, agriculture, transport, health, internal market and environment. DG Environment will take measures to facilitate citizens' use of the new rights, prepare and publish guidelines applicable for all EU institutions and align the internal working arrangements to minimise the workload on the implicated services (e.g. collaborative IT workspaces, templates, frequently asked questions and guidance). Finally, it is necessary to continuously monitor the developments in the workload and its distribution to allow action to be taken if required and ensure effectiveness of this instrument.

In December 2021, the Commission tabled a proposal on the revision of the **Environmental Crime Directive**, developed by DG Environment and DG Justice and Consumers. The two DGs will support the co-decision process that will kick-off in 2022 and will start deploying the additional measures outlined in the Communication accompanying the proposal. The objective is to strengthen the protection of environment through criminal law, concerning the most severe breaches of EU environmental rules.

Good functioning of the **Environmental Liability Directive** contributes to the delivery of the polluter pays principle set out in the Treaty. It also contributes to good environmental governance, because entities liable for a potential environmental damage and for bearing the cost of restoration are likely to take necessary steps to prevent damages. In 2021, the European Parliament and the European Court of Auditors called on the Commission to consider reinforcing the application of this Directive. With this in mind, a second evaluation of the Directive, scheduled to be finalised in April 2023, will be launched in 2022; work will include collecting evidence through a public consultation.

Good environmental governance, public participation, access to information and to justice in environmental matters will continue to feature prominently in DG Environment's **relations with international partners**. Specific attention in that regard will be placed on candidate countries, potential candidates and countries in the Neighbourhood region

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1767 amending Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006 on the application of the provisions of the Aarhus Convention to Community institutions and bodies.

**Better Regulation** is an essential part of good governance and a fundamental commitment for DG Environment. Keeping up with high quality standards will be a very important challenge in view of the number of impact assessments and evaluations that will be ongoing in 2022. Close cooperation with the European Environment Agency and the Joint Research Centre will contribute to develop a strong **knowledge base**. Concrete projects, such as on citizens science and actions within the Environment Knowledge Community, will be launched to support the European Green Deal proposals. Beyond this, in its new role as co-chair of cluster 6 under the **Horizon Europe** programme, DG Environment will promote environment-related topics in the work programmes of this and the other clusters, as well as in the Partnerships and specific **missions**, notably on Soil, Oceans and Green Cities. The DG will continue applying a **foresight** approach to risks and opportunities for the environment through specific projects (FORENV) as well as contributing to the yearly corporate foresight report and the Horizon Europe Foresight Network.

Environmental action is particularly important in **urban settings** where more than 70% of EU citizens live. Cities have an important role in tackling environmental challenges and in helping to improve implementation of EU rules on the ground. Many cities are also susceptible to changing weather conditions and extreme events such as flooding, water scarcity and heatwaves. The **Green City Accord**, launched in October 2020, will mobilise cities to achieve greener, healthier and more resilient environments, with a focus on air, noise, water, nature and biodiversity, circular economy and waste. It will support the local delivery of the European Green Deal and in particular the CEAP, the urban dimension of the BDS, and the Zero Pollution Action Plan. Further efforts will also go into increasing outreach, in particular through the **European Green Capital and Leaf awards**.

As people's concern for environmental pollution increases, the European Parliament, the Ombudsman and civil society call for a real insight into Commission's enforcement action. With a renewed mandate stemming from the European Green Deal, the third **Environmental Implementation Review** (EIR) will provide an overall picture of the situation in each Member State, increasing public and private accountability in relation to the causes of implementation problems. The 2022 EIR package will consist of 27 country reports and a Communication analysing the compliance gap and including policy recommendations and guidance to the Member States. Accompanying the EIR, an environmental infringements interactive map will be delivered and provide (public) information on pending cases in a more attractive, friendly way. This will contribute to the visibility of Commission enforcement efforts, raising public awareness of EU action to protect EU citizens.

To multiply the **external communication** of environmental priorities and support corporate communication, DG Environment will develop tools to bring environmental policy closer to citizens and promote engagement, through an active information policy towards the general public via media including press, publications, website and social media, and to relevant stakeholders via specific conferences and events. The DG will continue mobilising networks such as "the Green Spiders Network" of national communication correspondents. It will continue to engage citizens and youth in the ongoing dialogues and debates –

including in the context of the Conference of the Future of Europe. The EU Green Week will take place from 30 May to 5 June 2022, in a revamped format that blends a high-level conference with interaction with youth and stakeholders, and puts Partner Events across the EU at its centre.

**Specific Objective 6 - International:** Global uptake of the environmental objectives of the European Green Deal is stimulated through participation in multilateral agreements, institutions and fora, EU accession negotiations, engagement with third countries and trade

Benefitting from a strong domestic environment *acquis* and a set of ambitious strategies under the European Green Deal, strong interaction with third countries is necessary to ensure that progress made domestically is not offset by pressures on the environment emanating from third countries. At the same time, the moral imperative for the EU to take action to **reduce its global environmental footprint** and be a leader for global environmental progress is increasingly recognised and is driving action for example in relation to waste exports and the global deforestation footprint (see Specific Objectives 1 and 2). DG Environment's external engagement will contribute to fulfilling the EU's aspiration to be a responsible **green global leader** and concentrate on addressing the triple environmental crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution in an integrated manner. In this context, the DG will continue to push a stronger health and environment agenda internationally, including by promoting closer attention to environmental determinants of health. This will contribute to the Commission's work with the Tripartite Plus organisations<sup>2</sup> towards a renewed global One Health consensus.

Focusing on unsustainable consumption and production as a common driver of these crises, the **global promotion of the circular economy** will remain a priority in 2022 as the basis of a green global economic recovery. DG Environment will also step up its work with the European External Action Service, the DG International Partnerships and other services towards a strengthened and expanded approach to **environmental security**. This will include, in the first place, achieving better recognition of the root causes of conflict, disasters and displacement linked to environmental degradation as well as depletion of and illicit trade in key natural resources. DG Environment will also work with in particular DG Trade on further **strengthening the trade-environment interface** in support of the green transition and responsible and sustainable value chains at World Trade Organisation and in other multilateral fora.

DG Environment will continue to engage at the multilateral level and in particular prepare and coordinate the EU's contribution to the second session of the **fifth UN Environment Assembly** (UNEA 5.2), focusing *inter alia* on a **Global Plastics Agreement**. 2022 will also be the year in which a number of substantive sessions of Conferences of the Parties of major Multilateral Environment Agreements will be held. It will also be the occasion to

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<sup>2</sup> The World Health Organisation (WHO), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

highlight and promote EGD priorities at major multilateral meetings such as the international meeting marking the **50th anniversary of the first Conference on the Human Environment** in Stockholm 1972 (Stockholm+50), as well as the special session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to mark the **50th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme** as a result of that Conference (UNEP@50). The DG will represent the EU, striving to achieve operational outcomes in line with the Green Deal ambitions. Continuing to strengthen the environmental profile of the **G7/G20** will constitute another priority alongside seizing other multilateral opportunities to progress on the priorities of DG Environment as outlined in previous chapters.

With regards to **bilateral and regional cooperation**, the thematic focus will follow the external dimension of the Commission's political priorities as outlined in the European Green Deal and the international chapters of the Biodiversity Strategy and the Circular Economy and Zero-pollution action plans. Another thematic focus will be on ensuring that the highest standards of environmental protection are upheld in **EU Free Trade Agreements**, where effective negotiation and implementation of the relevant trade and sustainable development chapters will be ensured in line with the recent Trade Policy Review. In addition, DG Environment will contribute to the Review of the 15 points action plan on the implementation and enforcement of Trade and Sustainable Development chapters in EU Free Trade Agreements.

An enhanced presence in **Africa**, in line with the political priorities of this Commission, will continue to be pursued. In particular, this entails contributing to the implementation of the Communication Towards a comprehensive strategy with Africa, establishing a more structured cooperation with the African Union (AU) and with Africa's major economies and launching a number of green initiatives (e.g. NaturAfrica) in cooperation with DG for International Partnerships and European External Action Service. The DG will also work on possible green deliverables for the 2022 EU-AU Summit. At continental level, active engagement will continue in the context of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the African Circular Economy Alliance.

Engagement will continue to be pursued with strategic partners through **Green Deal Diplomacy** initiatives and high-level dialogues on the broader environment agenda. In-person meetings will be pursued where feasible.

This will include **dialogues** with **key countries and regions** in particular G20 and strategic partner countries. DG Environment will in particular step up its dialogue and technical cooperation with the **United States** engaging in particular with the Department of State, Environmental Protection Agency and through the Trade and Technology Council taking advantage of opportunities opening under the Biden administration. It will also follow-up on the **EU-India** Leaders' Meeting Joint Statement from May 2021 and the EU-India Strategic Partnership Review engaging with the country on priority areas. Engagement with **Brazil** will continue on deforestation and the protection of the Amazon basin as well as on circular economy issues and water. The DG will continue to closely engage with

**China** as host of the Convention on Biological Diversity's 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties and indispensable partner for greening supply chains and transitioning to a global circular economy. A new impetus to the relations on circular economy was provided by the launch of a dedicated dialogue on the subject in November 2021. Finally, relations with **Japan** will focus on implementing the Green Alliance, a first of its kind concluded in 2021.

In the **enlargement** area, in addition to supporting enlargement negotiations, the DG will work with DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations and other concerned services to implement the Green Agenda for the **Western Balkans**. Work will also focus on the follow-up to the 2021 Ministerial meetings of the **Eastern Partnership** and of the Union for the Mediterranean and on the implementation of the Green Partnership with Morocco. Following the 2021 Communications on the Southern Neighbourhood and on the new EU Arctic Policy, work in 2022 will focus on building relations with these regions.

Finally, priority attention will be given to the implementation of the **Protocol concerning Northern Ireland** attached to the Withdrawal Agreement concluded between the EU and UK, as key pieces of EU environmental legislation continue to apply in Northern Ireland.



## PART 2. Modernising the administration: main outputs for 2022

The internal control framework <sup>(3)</sup> supports sound management and decision-making. It notably ensures that risks to the achievement of objectives are taken into account and reduced to acceptable levels through cost-effective controls.

DG Environment has established an internal control system tailored to its particular characteristics and circumstances. The effective functioning of the service's internal control system will be assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the year and be subject to a specific annual assessment covering all internal control principles.

### A. Human resource management

DG Environment shoulders a substantial responsibility in the implementation of the European Green Deal and the corresponding modern legislation that is necessary to put Europe on the green transition path. In 2022, the DG plans to deliver **24 major initiatives**, of which 15 legislative<sup>4</sup>. Another 3 to 5 future legislative proposals will be under development (in contrast with a total of 14 legislative proposals during the Juncker Commission currently being implemented). This is a heavy workload for a DG that has lost around 15% of its staff over the previous mandates.

Human resources will be under considerable pressure. Staffing needs will continue to be communicated on a regular basis to the central services while the DG keeps making the best possible use of its current resources. A long process of gaining **synergies and efficiencies** was concluded in 2021 and led to a small-scale **reorganisation**. Its implementation will be followed closely in 2022 and adjustments made, if necessary.

DG Environment will also continue to develop the building blocks of an **HR strategy**, in order to ensure a continuous effective management of human resources, optimising the capacity to deliver on priorities and keeping at the same time the interests of its staff at the core of this strategy. Allocating and managing efficiently the available human resources in a context of increased tasks and workload while maintaining and, if possible, increasing the skills and motivation of staff will be both very relevant and challenging.

The DG will continue to offer useful programmes in the field of **learning and development** to help staff to develop **skills and knowledge** that contribute not only to the success of the DG's work but also to the individual development of its staff. Promoting mobility will allow staff to renew motivation and move to areas where they can best display their **talents**. The DG has traditionally a high **level of engagement**, as regularly shown in the staff surveys. However, the increased pressure and workload have led to

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<sup>(3)</sup> [Communication C\(2017\)2373 - Revision of the Internal Control Framework](#)

<sup>4</sup> Please see initiatives listed under the headings "New policy initiatives" and "Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction" of the policy performance tables in annex (Delivering on the Commission's priorities, annex to part 1)

higher absence rates than normally registered in the DG and extra effort will be put on the importance of **well-being** and measures to prevent burnout.

The **new ways of working** applied during the COVID-19 pandemic will be maintained, where they have demonstrated increased efficiency and less burden for staff. **Internal communication** activities will be geared towards creating a sense of shared objectives and collective ownership of the achievements of the DG. Specific challenges in 2022 will be to adapt to the **new building** as well as to accompany the deployment of Teams + and Office365. More generally, internal communication will support developing a common governance for the use of collaborative platforms in the DG.

In the field of **equal opportunities**, DG Environment exceeded the target set for female representation in middle management positions for the period 2016-2020 (at the end of 2020, women represented 43% of the management, 13 out of 30 occupied posts). In April 2020, the Commission adopted targets for first female appointments to middle management during 2020-2022. DG Environment's target for this period is one new appointment and this target was met in 2021.

## **B. Sound financial management**

DG Environment aims at **sound and efficient management** of its financial resources, maintaining effective internal control, risk management and accounting systems.

The **LIFE Programme 2021-27** benefited from a significant increase in the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 (55%) when compared to the previous programming period. In early 2021 the initial steps have been completed and LIFE has been set in place (adoption of the LIFE regulation, adoption of the Multiannual Work Programme and Multiannual Financing Decision, finalisation of the delegation arrangements to the executive agency), allowing the implementation of the programme from middle of 2021; implementation will gain speed in 2022. In this regard, DG Environment will ensure close collaboration with and supervision of the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)**, which has to implement more than 80% of the LIFE programme 2021-27, as well as the legacy of the previous LIFE.

Work with the **European Court of Auditors** (ECA) will continue. This concerns both the audits of financial transactions for the annual budget discharge as well as environmental policy performance audits. Particularly relevant in 2022 will be the audits on the *Circular Economy* and *Sustainable Soils*. The publication of both reports is planned for the last quarter of the year. The DG will also be associated to several other audits, but to a lesser extent. Further audit tasks will be carried out by the **Internal Audit Service**, in particular the planned audit on the monitoring of implementation of trade agreements which also concerns DG Trade and DG Agriculture and Rural Development.

## C. Fraud risk management

The updated **Anti-Fraud Strategy (AFS)** of the DG was endorsed by the senior management in November 2020. It covers the period 2020-2023 and applies to all types of expenditure as well as to non-spending activities. In 2022, DG Environment will focus on the following actions:

1. Analyse significant fraud risks, in the context of the Annual Risk Assessment (when relevant).
2. Keep a regular channel of cooperation with CINEA to exchange information on the need to know basis (and budget implementation) and to fight against fraud and irregularities.
3. Supervision of alleged fraud cases and cooperation in tackling them jointly, when appropriate, with OLAF, European Public Prosecutors Office and CINEA.
4. Reporting to OLAF on time on follow up of recoveries and other measures/actions stemming from OLAF recommendations and monitoring financial and non-financial recommendations.
5. Provide training and information on anti-fraud matters for DG Environment staff dealing with budget implementation.

DG Environment's anti-fraud objectives and actions, established in the action plan, have been aligned with the objectives and actions of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy<sup>5</sup>.

## D. Digital transformation and information management

The digital transition is one of the key ambitions of the Commission's political guidelines, subsequently confirmed as a cornerstone of the post-Covid recovery plan. The Commission is determined to lead by example and evolve into a digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven administration.

In 2021, DG Environment started implementing the relevant Commission strategies and corporate guidelines in a more open and effective manner. In 2022 the focus will be on integrating corporate requirements with the existing data, information and knowledge governance. Regular meetings will take place at management level to discuss the strategic aspects, with more specific meetings organised at technical levels to find solutions for information that is currently ungoverned, and to handle new data flows.

Another key action to harness the potential of data in support of the political priorities will be to draft a new data, information and knowledge management action plan, focusing on a set of measurable short-term operational objectives, followed by a progress monitoring compiled every six months. A new set of guidelines at the DG level will be drawn up, and regular in-house online trainings will be put at the disposal of staff.

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<sup>5</sup> Actions 1 and 2 are aligned with actions 1, 56 and 60 of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS 2019); action number 3 with action 5 of the CAFS 2019 and action 4 with actions 13 and 53 of the CAFS 2019.

The DG is streamlining its information system landscape to ensure harmonisation and efficiency in delivering maintenance efforts. Platforms for data management, integration and communication will be enhanced as part of the Commission Modernisation Plan. They will allow easy and secure handling of new requests on data sets or data exchanges, as part of an in-house provided service.

In the framework of the revision of the Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR), implementing acts for the future EU-wide system for electronic data interchange (EDI) will be drafted. They will provide technical guidance to design and deliver domestic interoperable digital solutions for authorities and the private sector in the Member States, and for trans-EU border shipments for non-EU States. The implementing acts will also describe how to achieve interoperability between the WSR EDI and other networks such as Electronic Freight Transport Information (eFTI) platforms and the EU Customs Single Window.

As regards records management, the objectives defined in the DG strategic plan will continue to be pursued, in line with user needs and taking account of the corporate eDomec, personal data protection and information security rules.

Furthermore, the DG will continue raising awareness about the need to protect Sensitive-Non-Classified information by the use of appropriate markings in order to reinforce restrictions on sensitive documents and improve security.

Further steps will be taken to raise awareness and ensure full compliance with the Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. In 2022, existing procedures will be further analysed and implemented to ensure that the DG Data Protection Coordinator is consulted on procurement and other relevant activities, to check that they comply with the applicable rules.

Local training and coaching sessions on records management, personal data protection and information security will continue to be organised. The DG will also encourage staff participation in Commission's centrally organised in-depth trainings. IT Security will feature prominently in the operation of all existing information systems, ensuring follow-up on the risk assessments and their security plans.

## **E. Sound environmental management**

DG Environment will continue implementing the local **EMAS action plan** adopted in 2019. Raising awareness and providing staff with adequate equipment to reduce their footprint at work are at the core of this plan.

In 2021, linked to the situation created by the **Covid-19** pandemic, DG Environment reached all the proposed objectives for energy savings, paper consumption, CO2 caused by missions travel and staff commuting.

At the end of 2021, the DG moved to a **Dynamic collaborative space**, which should allow the DG and its staff to step up their efforts on energy savings, lowering the CO2 footprint

thanks to continued teleworking and reduced commuting. Based on the corporate decision on cutting the **mission budget** by 20%, DG Environment will aim at a bigger reduction of travelling by 30%, and will organise meetings in hybrid or full videoconference as often as possible.

Internally, the corporate initiative to implement the **electronic signature** for middle and senior management will allow the DG to keep the savings on printing paper, as most of the files and notes will continue to be signed electronically.

In 2022, recognising the growing environmental **impact of the digital sector**, and as part of its efforts to reduce carbon footprint, DG Environment aims to reduce even more the number of documents exchanged by e-mail within the DG by promoting document sharing on the **new platform SIFC** (new Sharepoint).

The corporate work on greening the Commission's procurement, launched in 2020, is expected to finalise in 2022 and provide **green procurement criteria** for all DGs. DG Environment participates actively in that work. Once the corporate criteria are finalised, the DG will, if necessary, update its own procurement guidelines (which were already updated in 2021 to integrate green award criteria in the procurement calls for studies and services). Finally, the DG intends to organise awareness training sessions on **Greening the European Commission**, once the Communication is adopted.

## **F. Initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities**

In view of the high political priority of environment policies within the European Green Deal and the constraints due to limited resources available, in 2021 DG Environment launched a process leading towards measures aimed at **synergies and efficiency gains**.





Based on the output of two working groups created specifically with that purpose as well as exchanges organised at all levels, the DG underwent a **targeted structural reorganisation** aimed at supporting operational units by pulling resources together when appropriate, as well as by facilitating the collaboration between horizontal support teams.

Two elements of this reorganisation are, in particular, expected to lead to efficiency gains



- A new **Briefing cell** has been established and will create a content database to enable the production of basic and repetitive briefing content, so that operational units only need to contribute to briefings with targeted and specific information.
- The **Decision-making team** has been pulled together, grouping staff that was working in different units on the different stages of the preparation of Commission files. The new team will cover the complete timeline for any Commission decision, from planning to adoption. A DG central Helpdesk and an 'internal procedures' wiki will be made available, providing a one-stop shop on procedural information for staff.

## ANNEX: Performance tables

### Delivering on the Commission's priorities (annex to part 1)

<b>General objective: A European Green Deal</b>		
<b>Specific objective 1: The EU economy is more circular and uses natural resources and products more sustainably</b>		
<i>Related to spending programme: LIFE</i>		
<b>Main outputs in 2022:</b>		
<b>New policy initiatives</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Sustainable Products Policy framework (PLAN/2020/7714)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q1
Regulation on substantiating environmental claims using Environmental Footprint methods (PLAN/2020/7435)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q1
EU strategy for sustainable textiles (PLAN/2020/8698)	Adoption of Communication by the Commission	2022 Q1
 Policy framework for biobased, biodegradable and compostable plastics (PLAN/2021/11083)	Adoption of Communication by the Commission	2022 Q3
 Measures to reduce the unintentional release of microplastics in the environment (PLAN/2020/8355, in collaboration with DG GROW)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q4
 Restriction of microplastics intentionally added to products under REACH (PLAN/2021/10271, in collaboration with DG GROW)	Adoption of Regulation by the Commission	2022 Q4
<b>Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Revision of Directive 94/62/EC on Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive in order to reinforce the essential requirements for packaging to be placed on the EU market (PLAN/2019/5396)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q3
 Revision of the Restriction of the use of certain hazardous	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q4



substances in electronics (ROHS Directive 2011/65/EU) (PLAN/2020/10018)		
 Revision of the end-of-life vehicles Directive and the Directive on the type approval of motor vehicles (PLAN/2020/8644, in collaboration with DG GROW)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q4
<b>Evaluations and fitness checks</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
 Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive 86/278/EEC (PLAN/2020/7406)	Finalisation of the evaluation and Staff Working Document	2022 Q2
<b>Public consultations</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Review of the Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (PLAN/2021/12032)	Public consultation launched	2022 Q2
Evaluation of the Ship Recycling Regulation (PLAN/2021/13186)	Public consultation launched	2022 Q3/Q4
<b>External communication actions</b>		
<b>Output/ Result</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Circular Economy communication actions including social media promotion	Number of impressions Number of engagements with DG Environment Social Media accounts	140 000 impressions 5000 engagements
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Revision of Regulation (EC) 1013/2006 on Shipments of Waste (PLAN/2019/5394)	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2022 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
Update of concentration limit values of persistent organic pollutants in waste – Amendments to Annexes IV and V on waste of the Regulation on persistent organic pollutants in waste (PLAN/2019/5397)	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2022 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference	Event organised	2022 Q2
New EU Ecolabel criteria for financial products (PLAN/2020/9815)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q4 / 2023 (delivery date depending on of taxonomy criteria)

		by FISMA)
Development and amendment of Ecolabel criteria for several products (detergents; furniture and bed mattresses; wood-, cork- and bamboo-based floor coverings; tourist accommodation service and indoor cleaning services; growing media, soil improvers and mulch; indoor and outdoor paints and varnishes; absorbent hygiene products (PLAN/2021/13122, 13167 and 13168)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q2-Q4
Green Public Procurement – development of criteria for Buildings	Publication of Staff Working Document	2022 Q4
<b>Restriction of Hazardous Substances in waste (ROHS)</b> – Management of exemptions under Directive 2011/65/EU:	26 exemptions expected under Annex III and 22 under Annex IV	2022 Q2-Q3
<b>Single Use Plastics</b> – Guidelines for Extended Producer Responsibility criteria on the costs of cleaning up litter (PLAN/2020/6697)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q4
<b>Early Warning Reports on waste management</b> Reports on the Member State progress towards meeting WFD and PPWD and LD waste management targets	Finalisation and publication (together with the European Environment Agency)	2022 Q4
<b>Waste shipments</b> – Report on implementation of the Waste shipments Regulation for 2016-2018 (PLAN/2020/9889) – EU position for the Conference of the Parties of the Basel Convention on the transboundary movement of hazardous waste (PLAN/2021/12333)	Adoption of report by the Commission  Adoption of proposal by the Commission and the Council	2022 Q1  2022 Q2

**General objective: A European Green Deal**

**Specific objective 2: Biodiversity and natural ecosystems in the EU are put on the path to recovery by stepping up the protection and restoration of nature**

*Related to spending programme: LIFE*

**Main outputs in 2022:****New policy initiatives**

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for setting legally binding EU nature restoration targets as per EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (PLAN/2020/8491)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q1
Action plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems ( <i>in collaboration with DG MARE</i> ) (PLAN/2020/9887)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q2
Revision of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (PLAN/2020/8696)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q3
Revision of the EU Pollinators Initiative (PLAN/2021/11443)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q3
Integrated Nutrient Management Action Plan (PLAN/2020/9816)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q4

**Evaluations and fitness checks**

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (PLAN/2019/6139)	Finalisation of the evaluation and publication of conclusions (Staff Working Document)	2022 Q3

**Public consultations**

Output	Indicator	Target
Integrated Nutrient Management Action Plan (PLAN/2020/9816)	Public consultation launched	2022 Q2
Soil Health Law (PLAN/2021/13172)	Public consultation launched	2022 Q2

**External communication actions**

Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Global Biodiversity Coalition "United for #Biodiversity"	Number of coalition members	At least 350 members
Natura 2000 Day and Award celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Habitats Directive (May 2022)	Institutions using materials	30 institutions using materials
Pollinator Park teaching materials	Social media outreach	10 million impressions
Three Billion Trees	Webpage visits	10 000 visits

On The Green Track pre-COP15 campaign for youth (events, website, social media)	Events numbers, website visits, Social Media impressions and engagements	Min. 15 events organised by youth as a result of the call for events  Min 3 million people reached via websites, Social Media, events and other outreach activities (networking, meetings etc.)
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### Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market (PLAN/2019/6251)	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2022 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
Management of Nitrates derogation requests from Member States. (PLAN/2021/12357)	Adoption of relevant decisions by the Commission	2022 Q1
Update of the list of invasive alien species of Union concern (PLAN/2020/8838)	Adoption of Regulation by the Commission	2022 Q1
Forest protection: - Guidelines on closer-to-nature forestry; - Guidelines on biodiversity friendly afforestation and reforestation; Guidelines on the definition, mapping, monitoring and strictly protecting all EU's remaining primary and old-growth forests	Publication of guidance documents	2022 Q2-Q4
Management of Natura 2000 - Guidelines supporting implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives in relation to climate change impacts - Guidelines supporting implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives in relation to tourism's impacts. - Update of the lists of Sites of Community Importance (PLAN/2021/10210)	- Publication of two guidance documents. - Adoption of six implementing decisions by the Commission	2022 Q4
Defining investment priorities for Natura 2000 and green infrastructure (PLAN/2021/12255)	Publication of Staff Working document	2022 Q1
Global biodiversity – UN Conventions - Conference of the Parties of the Biodiversity Convention (BDS COP	Preparation, outreach to parties and EU participation accomplished	2022 Q2

15) - Conference of the Parties of the Convention to combat Desertification (UNCCD COP 15) - Meeting of the Parties to of the Nagoya Protocol (MOP4)		
Forest international policy: - 17th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF17) - 26th session of the FAO Committee on Forestry - 58th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC)	Preparation and participation accomplished	- May 2022 for the United Nations Forum - The dates for the FAO and ITTC events are still to be defined by the relevant bodies at the time of drafting
Preparation of the EU position in the Conference of the Parties to the CITES Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (COP 19) (PLAN/2021/11267 and 11269)	Two proposals adopted by the Commission and the Council	2022 Q2 and Q4 (ahead of the COP, in November)
Marine environmental protection: - Development of threshold values for seabed integrity, marine litter and underwater noise - Assessment of Member States monitoring programmes	Guidance document delivered under the MSFD common implementation strategy Staff Working document delivered	2022 Q4




## General objective: A European Green Deal





**Specific objective 3:** *Citizens and natural ecosystems are better protected from environmental pressures and risks to health as a result of Europe's zero-pollution ambition and measures for a toxic-free environment*

*Related to spending programme: LIFE*

## Main outputs in 2022:

### New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
 Revision of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on the hazard classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (PLAN/2021/10629)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q3
 Integrated water management Revision of pollutants affecting surface and ground waters (PLAN/2020/8554)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q3
 Revision of the Ambient Air Quality Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC (PLAN/2020/8962 and	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q3

PLAN/2020/8636)		
Revision of Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury (PLAN/2020/9940)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q4
<b>Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
 Revision of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (PLAN/2020/6608)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q2
Revision of the E-PRTR regulation (PLAN/2020/8555)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q2
Communication on the revision of EU measures on industrial emissions (PLAN/2021/12446)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q2
 Revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (PLAN/2020/7347)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q3
 Horizontal proposal for reallocation of EU technical and scientific work on chemicals to EU agencies (PLAN/2021/11480, in collaboration with DG GROW)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q4
<b>Public consultations</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
 Targeted amendment of the REACH Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (PLAN/2021/10630, in collaboration with DG GROW)	Public consultation launched	2022 Q2
<b>External communication actions</b>		
<b>Output/ Result</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Zero Pollution communication actions	Number of impressions Number of engagements on DG Environment Social Media accounts	140 000 impressions 5000 engagements
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Report on the risks posed by polymers and identifying polymers of concern manufactured and imported in quantities of one tonne or more (REACH Article 138(2))	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q3



(PLAN/2018/3026)		
Amendment of Commission Regulation (EC) 440/2008 laying down test methods pursuant to the REACH Regulation - 9 <sup>th</sup> Adaptation to technical progress (PLAN/2018/3630)	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q3
Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures - 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> Adaptation to Technical Progress (relative to the addition and assignment of notes to substances (PLAN/2021/12224 and 12225)	Adoption of two delegated Regulations by the Commission	2022 Q2 2022 Q3
Commission summary report on the application of the Regulation on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (PLAN/2020/8477)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2022 Q1
Amendment of annex I of the POPs Regulation as regards hexachlorobenzene, PBDEs, PFOA, HBCDD and PCBs (PLAN/2021/11324, 12258, 12259, 12261)	Adoption of Delegated Regulations by the Commission	2022 Q3-Q4
Report on the application of Regulation (EU) No 649/2012 on the export and import of hazardous chemicals (accompanied by a SWD presenting the complete Union synthesis report) (PLAN/2020/8479)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2022 Q2
Industrial Emissions: adoption of Best Available Techniques (BAT) conclusions for the ferrous metals processing and the textiles sectors (PLAN/2022/40 and 41)	Adoption of two Commission decisions	2022 Q3 and Q4
Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) - Decision to sign/join/support the decisions of ICCM5 (5 <sup>th</sup> International Conference for Chemicals Management) and the High-Level-Declaration beyond 2020	EU representation at the 5 <sup>th</sup> Conference High-level declaration signed	2022, date to be confirmed by international institutions
4 <sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Minamata Convention on Mercury - part II Bali Declaration	Signing the Declaration Successful negotiations of EU position	2022 Q1
Conference of the Parties of the TEAI Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents	EU representation	2022 Q4

**General objective: A European Green Deal**

**Specific objective 4:** *Environmental concerns are integrated, and biodiversity standards mainstreamed, across EU policies, investments and finance, through existing consultation mechanisms and a proactive approach to coordination*

Related to spending programme: **LIFE**

**Main outputs in 2022:**

**New policy initiatives**

Output	Indicator	Target
Environmental Implementation Review 2022 (PLAN/2021/11473)	Adoption of a Communication by the Commission, accompanied by 27 Staff Working Documents	2022 Q3
Contribution to the European Semester Process	Environmental recommendations in country reports	2022 Q2 (Spring package)
Guidance document on the Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (PLAN/2021/13182)	Adoption of guidance by the Commission	2022 Q4


**General objective: A European Green Deal**

**Specific objective: 5** *There is an enabling framework for implementation based on strong governance and enforcement action, supported by advanced knowledge and digital technologies, close collaboration with cities and citizens' engagement*

Related to spending programme: **LIFE**

**Main outputs in 2022:**

**New policy initiatives**

Output	Indicator	Target
8 <sup>th</sup> EAP monitoring Framework	Monitoring framework established	2022 Q3
<b>Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
 GreenData4All – Revision of the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE Directive) and the Public Information Directive (PLAN/2021/11441)	Adoption of legislative proposal by the Commission	2022 Q4
Revision of the Regulations implementing the INSPIRE Directive (2007/2/EC), with particular focus on adapting Commission Regulation	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q1

(EU) No 1089/2010 as regards interoperability of spatial data sets and services, including the adaptation of Annex III to technical and scientific progress (PLAN/2017/1237)		
<b>Public consultations</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Evaluation of the Environmental Liability Directive (PLAN/2021/12649)	Public consultation launched	2022 Q2
<b>External communication actions</b>		
<b>Output/ Result</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Direct reach of DG Environment social media channels	Number of followers in Instagram Number of followers in Facebook Number of followers in Twitter Number of followers on LinkedIn	45 000 300 000 140 000 20 000
DG Environment website performance DG Environment web transformation	Number of visits Number of webpages transformed	3.5 million 200
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>
Annual INSPIRE Conference	Organisation of the event	2022 Q4
A new (post-2020) mandate for the Environment Knowledge Community (EKC) to support the European Green Deal.	Approval of the mandate at EKC DG-level and kick-off of the first set of actions.	2022 Q2
Science News Alert (Science for Environment Policy)	Publication of Science News	Publication of 20 news alerts and 3 future briefs (spread throughout the year)
Contribution to the implementation of Horizon Europe (work programmes, missions, partnerships) and co-management of cluster 6	Appropriate inclusion of environmental issues in research calls, partnerships and mission WP	Throughout the year
Cooperation Framework Agreement between DG Environment and JRC	Signature of the Agreement	2022 Q1
Opinion on the EEA Single Programming Document 2022-2024 PLAN/2021/10914	Adoption by the Commission	2022 Q3
Strategic Foresight: - 4 <sup>th</sup> FORENV Cycle (EU Foresight System for the Environment) - Contribution to the Commission's foresight work	- Organisation of 4 workshops and publication of a report covering 10 environmental emerging issues (topics to be defined) - Integration of environmental issues into the Commission's annual foresight report	2022 Q4 for the FORENV report. Workshops spread throughout the year, ahead of the foresight report

		Contributions to the Commission's foresight work throughout the year
EU Green Cities Awards: - European Green Capital Award - European Green Leaf Award	Titles awarded Award ceremonies organised	2022 Q3/Q4
Implementation of the Green City Accord (GCA) through workshops with EU Member States to promote the GCA cities support/participation.	Organisation of workshops	2022 Q4

## General objective: A European Green Deal

**Specific objective 6:** *Global uptake of the environmental objectives of the European Green Deal is stimulated through participation in multilateral agreements, institutions and fora, EU accession negotiations, engagement with third countries and trade*

Related to spending programme: **LIFE**

### Main outputs in 2022:

#### New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Sustainable Development Goals: Effective promotion of the environmental goals in the world	Participation in 2022 UN High Level Political Forum, including organisation of side event/s Organisation of G7/G20 workshops (through a PI project) Contribution to the EU participation in relevant G7 and G20 meetings and summits	July 2022  2-3 workshops organised  Environment contribution delivered
Declaration on plastics co-signed with China	Declarations signed	2022 Q2
Joint Declaration on Circular Economy with South Africa - Summit output	Declaration signed	2022 Q2
Commission joining the African Circular Economy Alliance as strategic partner (PLAN/2021/12211)	African Circular Economy Alliance joined	2022 Q1
Commission decision joining the Latin America Circular Economy Coalition (PLAN/2021/12209)	Coalition joined	2022 Q1
Joint Declaration for a Dialogue on Environment, Climate Action and Sustainable Development between the European Union and the Republic of Colombia.	Joint Declaration signed	2022 Q1

High-level Environment dialogues with key EU trade and strategic partners (TSD) on environmental issues	Participation in high-level dialogues	25 high-level dialogues and 15 TSD committees
Enhanced integration of environmental considerations into trade policy	Environment covered in trade agreements including during implementation	2022 Q1 to Q4 (and beyond) 15 trade agreements
Progress in the environment chapter of accession negotiations with Serbia/Montenegro	Progress in fulfilling the closing benchmarks.	2022 Q4
Annual programming of environment related projects under NDICI (Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument), including thematic work under the Global Challenges Programme of NDICI	Annual Action Programme 2022 adopted by the Commission	2022 Q4
Multilateral trade meetings including World Trade Organization (WTO) Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) meetings and OECD Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment (JWPTE) meetings	Preparation and participation accomplished	2022
Bilateral Free Trade Agreement negotiations with Chile, Australia, New Zealand and Indonesia	Preparation and participation accomplished	2022

## Modernising the administration (annex to part 2)

**Objective:** DG Environment employs a competent and engaged workforce and contributes to gender equality at all levels of management to effectively deliver on the Commission's priorities and core business.

### Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Staff survey	Staff engagement index	≥ 72%

**Objective:** The authorising officer by delegation has reasonable assurance that resources have been used in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and that cost-effective controls are in place which give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of underlying transactions.

### Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Effective controls: Legal and regular transactions	Risk at payment	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
	Estimated risk at closure	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
Efficient controls	Budget execution and time-to-pay	remains > 99 % of payment appropriations and increases remains > 97 % of payments (in value) on time
Economical controls	Overall estimated cost of controls	remains < 2% of funds managed
Effective controls: safeguarding of assets	Number of security incidents confirmed by the CSIRC	0
Effective controls: safeguarding of assets	Number of personal data breaches with risk to the rights and freedoms of the data subjects	0

**Objective:** The risk of fraud is minimised through the application of effective anti-fraud measures and the implementation of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS) <sup>(6)</sup> aimed at the prevention, detection and correction <sup>(7)</sup> of fraud.

**Main outputs in 2022:**

Output	Indicator	Target
Assessment of significant fraud risks, for further improvement in understanding of fraud patterns	Minutes of the annual risk management assessment Internal note on fraud risk assessment	2022 Q4
Channel of cooperation with CINEA to fight against fraud and irregularities	Meetings between DG Environment and CINEA with a focus on fraud related matters and anti-fraud actions	Throughout the year
Supervision of potential fraudulent cases and cooperation in tackling them jointly (DG Environment, OLAF, European Public Prosecutor's Office and CINEA)	Meetings with OLAF and with EPPO	Throughout the year
Training and information on anti-fraud matters	Workshop	1 in 2022
Reporting to OLAF on the state of play of implementation of both financial and non-financial recommendations.	Written contribution	1 in 2022

**Objective:** DG Environment is using innovative, trusted digital solutions for better policy-shaping, information management and administrative processes to forge a truly digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven Commission

**Main outputs in 2022:**

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for the DG key data assets	Percentage of implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for key DG data assets	Interim milestone by mid-2022: 50%
Keeping up to date the ENV data catalogue under the platform "Declare"	Regular meetings among the business and technical ENV staff to keep the ENV Data catalogue up to date	Throughout 2022 Meetings with each policy unit

<sup>(6)</sup> Communication from the Commission "Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy: enhanced action to protect the EU budget", COM(2019) 176 of 29 April 2019 – 'the CAFS Communication' – and the accompanying action plan, SWD(2019) 170 – 'the CAFS Action Plan'.

<sup>(7)</sup> Correction of fraud is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.



Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of new guidelines for optimal usage of data, information and knowledge management in the DG	ENV data community survey on optimal usage of new data guidelines	Throughout 2022
Implementation of the DG DIKM Action plan	Tasks accomplished and monitoring progress	Throughout 2022
Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR): Implementing Act for the future EU-wide system for electronic data interchange (EDI)	Available	End 2022
Ensuring IT security follow-up in all our systems	Percentage of DG information systems having an approved security plan	100%
Assessment of Information Systems with a view to identify potential for decommissioning	Percentage of DG information systems with a preservation assessment	50% (100% at the end of the mandate)
Increase staff awareness on data protection	Data protection awareness communication sent to staff	1
	General data protection events organised	1
	Percentage of DG Environment data controllers having followed training	100%

**Objective:** DG Environment takes account of its environmental impact in their actions and actively promotes measures to reduce the related day-to-day impact of the administration and its work, with the support their respective EMAS Correspondents/EMAS Site Coordinators.

### Main outputs in 2022:

#### I. More efficient use of resources (energy, water, paper):

Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
Staff awareness actions to reduce energy use in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or awareness actions about DG's total energy consumption in collaboration with OIB where appropriate.	Number of actions	At least 3 awareness actions
	Number or % of staff informed	100 % of staff informed
	Energy consumption reduction	Reduce energy consumption by 5%
Participation in the end of the year energy saving action, by closing down DG's buildings during the Christmas and New Year's holiday period.	Number of buildings participating	100 % of DG buildings participating
Staff awareness actions to reduce water use in the framework of	Number of actions	1 awareness action
	Number or % of staff informed	100% of staff informed

<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target (2019 as baseline)</b>
EMAS corporate campaigns and/or awareness raising actions about DG's water consumption in collaboration with OIB where appropriate.	Water consumption	Reduce water consumption 15 %
Paperless working methods at DG level (such as paperless working: e-signatories, financial circuits, collaborative working tools) and staff awareness actions to reduce office paper use in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or raise awareness about DG's office paper use in collaboration with OIB where appropriate.	Number of actions	1 action
	Number or % of staff informed	100 % of relevant staff informed
	Paper consumption	Reduce paper consumption by 10%

## **II. Reducing CO<sub>2</sub>, equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> and other atmospheric emissions**

<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target (2019 as baseline)</b>
Staff awareness actions on reducing GHG emissions (such as actions on sustainable commuting during EU Mobility week and VeloWalk corporate events) and/or raise staff awareness on sustainable commuting in collaboration with OIB or OIL (e.g. availability of bike parking facilities, lockers and showers, promote the reduction of parking spaces' use amongst staff).	Number or % of staff informed/participated	100% of staff informed/encouraged to participate
	% of staff participating in VeloWalk	5% increase of staff participating in VeloWalk
	% of sustainable commuters <sup>(8)</sup> at DG Environment	Increase by 5% of sustainable commuters
Staff awareness on digital pollution and gradual change of behaviours avoiding heavy emails, encouraging the use of ICT platforms, avoiding unnecessary storage of data.	Number of events organised	1 event organised

## **III. Reducing and management of waste**

<b>Output</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Target (2019 as baseline)</b>
Staff awareness actions about waste reduction and sorting in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or staff awareness actions about DG's waste generation in collaboration with OIB where appropriate.	Number or % of staff informed/participated	100% of staff informed/participated
	Waste generation reduction	Reduce waste generation by 10%
	Waste sorting increase	Increase waste sorting by 5%

<sup>(8)</sup> Sustainable commuting refers to environmentally friendly travel modes, such as. Public transport (bus, tram, subway, light rail), walking, cycling, and carpooling.

#### IV. Promoting green public procurement (GPP)

Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
Staff awareness of green procurement criteria	Number of actions	Number of actions: 2
	Number of staff informed	50 staff informed/invited to participate in training sessions
Gradual introduction of GPP criteria in contracts and starting to monitor the process.	Number of GPP-relevant contracts with green criteria	4 GPP-relevant contracts with green criteria