

# Management Plan 2022

Directorate-General Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

(DG GROW)

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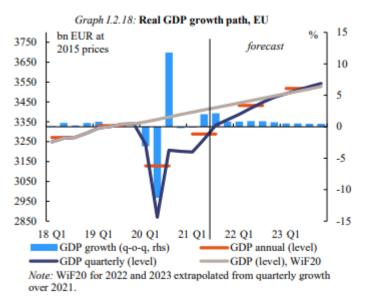
#### INTRODUCTION

This Management Plan defines the main outputs for DG GROW in 2022 in order to realise the objectives of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024. It reflects the priorities in the Commission Work Programme for 2022. The starting point of the Management Plan is DG GROW's mission statement:

#### To create opportunities for all – European business & citizens

With its regulatory powers, a spending programme and policy measures, DG GROW is well-placed to foster opportunities and welfare for all. This allows entrepreneurs, small and large businesses and their employees to fully enjoy the benefits from a large, integrated and globally competitive single market.

The work in 2022 will be governed by the rebound of the EU economy from the pandemic recession and its path to expansion. According to the latest European economic forecast, the EU economy is forecast to achieving a growth rate of 5%, 4.3% and 2.5% in 2021, 2022 and 2023 respectively, while growth in the euro area is projected to be identical to the EU in 2021 and 2022, and 2.4% in 2023. However, this outlook depends heavily on two factors: the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and the pace at which supply adjusts



Source: Euroean Economic Forecast, Autumn 2021 (Europa.eu) p. 24.

to the rapid turnaround in demand following the re-opening of the economy.

For the challenges to be tackled, DG GROW is engaging with practically all services in the European Commission to promote the competitiveness of the economy in support of Europe's recovery. As we are reaching the mid-term of this mandate in 2022, the focus of the work will be on delivering on outstanding commitments of the Political Guidelines and the six headline ambitions, allowing co-legislators to reach agreement on key legislative proposals before the next European elections in 2024. The response to the pandemic and the subsequent recovery has been challenged by disruptions in the supply chains: DG GROW will use all available tools to monitor and reinforce the resilience of the supply chains. DG GROW will continue to deliver on Europe's digital decade by further strengthening a digital single market and supporting Europe's open strategic autonomy in key areas such as semiconductors and critical raw materials, while building on the efforts to make Europe the world's first climate neutral continent by 2050.

The key deliverables of the DG in 2022 will mainly contribute to two of these Commission headline ambitions:

#### A Europe fit for the Digital Age

Europe is on its way to a digital and green transition in order to stay globally competitive. In 2022 DG GROW will continue to deliver on Europe's digital decade by further strengthening a digital single market, developing industrial transition pathways for ecosystems where needed, building up resilience and supporting Europe's open strategic autonomy in key areas such as semi-conductors and critical raw materials. Standardisation will be deployed more strategically as an enabling tool in order to support such priority areas.



#### Specific objective 1

European enterprises make the digital and green transition



#### Specific objective 2

More European SMEs have access to crossborder business



#### Specific objective 3

More business opportunities are generated by trading in the Single Market



#### Specific objective 4

Promote compliance with EU Single Market rules and enforce them

#### A European Green Deal

The European Green Deal is the new growth strategy for Europe in the coming years. DG GROW will foster the transition to a climate-neutral, resource efficient and competitive economy and the move towards zero-pollution in Europe. In 2022, the DG will prepare major initiatives on sustainable products and car emissions.



#### Specific objective 1

Increase the share of material recovered, recycled and fed back into the economy

## PART 1. Delivering on the Commission priorities: main outputs in 2022

## General objective 1 - A Europe fit for the digital age



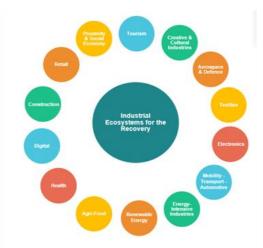
# Specific objective 1: European enterprises make the digital and green transition

#### New policy initiatives

### Industrial Ecosystems as a starting point

The ecosystem approach, announced in the Commission Communication "A new industrial strategy for Europe" and confirmed in May 2021 in the Commission Communication "Updating the 2020 New Industrial Strategy" is "a new policy approach to deliver [the green and digital transition], by focusing on better connecting the needs and support provided to all players within each value chain or industrial ecosystem".

In 2021 DG GROW undertook a first analysis of 14 industrial ecosystems, incorporated in the 2021 Single Market Report. In 2022 analytical work on



industrial ecosystems will continue following two broad directions. First, a horizontal and methodological analysis to improve the analytical framework and the statistical methodology to measure and monitor ecosystems, including through KPIs. Secondly, a series of policy- and ecosystem-specific projects will apply and test the ecosystem approach in concrete initiatives.

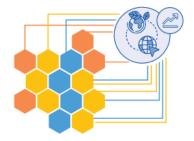
#### Implementing the updated Industrial Strategy

EU's strategic dependencies are a key pillar of the updated Industrial Strategy. A first comprehensive and cross-cutting analysis of the issue included both a mapping of the EU's product dependencies as well as six in-depth reviews/analyses covering a number of specific strategic areas, such as raw materials, batteries, hydrogen, semiconductors, active pharmaceutical ingredients and cloud and edge technologies.

In 2022 DG GROW will continue tackling these identified dependencies while rolling-out a second round of in-depth reviews further developing its approach to screen for possible dependencies across relevant ecosystems.

#### **Charting transition pathways**

Business models and value chains need to be transformed in order to become the foundation of a green, digital and resilient European economy. This transition requires concrete and actionable plans, transition pathways, developed for each of the industrial ecosystems. The process of developing



transition pathways for the prioritised ecosystems will continue in 2022. Building on the tourism, energy intensive industries, construction and proximity and social economy pathways on which work started in 2021, the DG will, in partnership with industry, public authorities and other stakeholders, co-create the 'green and digital industrial transition pathways' for ecosystems where needed. The Staff Working Document for the transition pathway of the *textiles* ecosystem will be published in 2022 along with the Strategy on sustainable textiles and will be followed by a stakeholder consultation. Similarly, the Staff Working Document for the transition pathway of the mobility ecosystem is also going to be published in 2022.

The Industrial Forum will play a key role in channelling the active involvement of stakeholders in the process by stimulating a dialogue on strategic dependencies, cross-border and cross-ecosystem investment opportunities, advanced manufacturing and analysis of industrial ecosystems.

The Industrial Forum Task Force 2 will present a blueprint for the transition pathways (matrix model) at the EU Industry Days in February 2022. The blueprint will guide the development of the transition pathways for the industrial ecosystems.

DG GROW will continue to closely monitor the development of industrial alliances. Two new industrial alliances – Alliance for Industrial Data, Edge and Cloud and Industrial Alliance on Processors and Semiconductors Technologies – have been launched in July 2021. In 2022, the launch of additional industrial alliances will be taken into consideration, in close cooperation with the most concerned DGs: Alliance on Zero Emission Aviation, Alliance on Space Launchers, and Renewable and Low Carbon Fuels Value Chain Alliance.

#### Improving the EU intellectual property ('IP') framework

The Commission's Intellectual Property Action Plan identified a set of actions to further improve the EU IP framework and make it fit to support the EU recovery and the twin transition. Europe is home to some of the world's leading innovations, but companies are still not fully able to protect their inventions and capitalise on their intellectual property

Commissioner Thierry Breton

In 2022 DG GROW will reinforce the EU Patent

acquis, which will timely complement the imminent launch of the Unitary Patent system. DG GROW will (i) coordinate and improve compulsory licensing schemes, as a last resort mechanism, to ensure adequate access to critical technologies in times of crises, (ii) optimise the supplementary protection certificates system to make it more transparent, (iii) assure predictable, transparent and smooth standard essential patents environment.

DG GROW will also revise the EU legislation on design protection to make it more affordable and accessible to companies, in particular SMEs. DG GROW will also propose legislation on geographical indication protection at EU level for handicraft and industrial products. To support SMEs, DG GROW will set up, together with EUIPO, an ambitious SME IP Fund.

Finally, DG GROW will propose an EU Toolbox against counterfeiting. This Toolbox will set out a coherent, effective and coordinated action against counterfeiting, both online and offline. It should clarify the actors' roles and responsibilities, enhance cooperation, facilitate information sharing and promote the use of adequate tools and technologies.

#### Supporting reform, resilience and recovery - the European Semester

#### Addressing dependencies and supply chain shortages

In 2022 DG GROW will continue to carefully monitor obstacles to recovery and in particular dependencies and supply chain shortages, for example in the areas of raw materials, COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics as well as other goods or services that are key to deliver on the EU's green and digital transition



The Task Force for industrial scale-up of COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics (TFIS) will continue its activities related to production capacities, shortages and supply chain bottlenecks.

### New Commission capacity for securing supply chain resilience

EU industries are experiencing supply chain uncertainties and disruptions that have a significant impact on industrial output limiting EU economic growth. Semiconductors and magnesium are only two recent prominent examples. This initiative led by DG GROW will establish a capacity inside the Commission with external expertise to reinforce our ability to identify at an early stage and assess supply chain risks to EU industries and propose possible mitigating measures.

### EU chips act

Semiconductors are at the core of our world's digitisation and global technological race. Their shortage has very concrete consequences on the EU economy and jobs. DG GROW will contribute to a Commission proposal for a European Chips Act. By bringing its expertise of industrial ecosystems, DG

The race for the most advanced chips is a race about technological and industrial leadership. Europe cannot and will not lag behind

Commissioner Thierry Breton

GROW's contribution will centre around gauging existing and future demand of Europe' industry for semiconductor inputs through a targeted stakeholder survey and helping to frame the EU's chips policy around the established needs. DG GROW will work with CNECT to map the entire semiconductor value chain in order to identify and build upon Europe's strengths and address its weaknesses. In parallel, DG GROW will organise targeted discussions with industry on the potential of new and advanced technologies based on leading-edge chips, by showcasing use cases in an effort to boost demand for such cutting-edge chips.

## the European Semester

In 2022 the European Semester will continue to be closely connected both in terms of process and substance with the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) and the national Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs). DG GROW will be fully involved in the assessment of the RRP

implementation in the cross-cutting policy realm of industrial policy, single market, competitiveness, resilience and industrial transition pathways.

DG GROW will map and analyse those measures in the RRPs that touch upon its policy areas such as SMEs, public procurement and industrial ecosystems (e.g. tourism, construction, energy intensive industries). This work will also support the RRF Scoreboard and RRF reporting. It will also feed into the Annual Single Market Report.

#### Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction

## CWP 2022 REFIT: Review of the design Directive and Review of the Community design Regulation

The envisaged revision of the design Directive and of the Community design Regulation follows an evaluation of the current EU legislation on design protection. The revision aims to make the framework fit for purpose in the digital age and to increase legal certainty and predictability for the benefit of individual designers, design-intensive industries and small and medium-sized enterprises. Simplification of procedures and reduction of administrative burden (including fees to be paid) are among the main objectives of the reform.

## CWP 2022 REFIT: Revision of the legislation on supplementary protection certificates

While the EU legislation on supplementary protection certificates (SPCs) is fit for purpose according to the evaluation of the current EU legislation, its fragmentation (SPCs are administered and enforced at national level) hampers its effectiveness and efficiency. The creation of a unified SPC grant procedure and of a unitary SPC would strengthen the single market for pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals and make SPCs fit to support the twin digital and green transition. It will lead to a strong reduction of the costs/burden and increased legal certainty for SPC applicants, including SMEs and start-ups, as a centralised granting mechanism will be available.

## Evaluations and fitness checks

- Evaluation of Reg. (EU)2015/758 of the eCall in-vehicle system
- Evaluation of the Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive

#### **Public consultations**

- Type approval of motor vehicles regarding access to in-vehicle generated data
- Environmental impact of photovoltaic modules, inverters and systems

#### **External communication actions**

In February 2022, GROW will hold the fourth edition of the European Industry Days (EUID) entitled "Unlocking the future: EU industrial ecosystems on the path to the transition". The EUID integrate the dimension of the young generation. The overall concept of the EUID will streamline youth issues and involve young people, thereby strongly contributing to the 2022 European Year of Youth and the spirit of "NextGenerationEU" from the industrial angle. The blueprint for transition pathways and update on 14 industrial ecosystems will be presented

during EUID 2022 as well. Moreover, the EUID will kick-off the 18 months celebrations around the 30 years of the Single Market with a speech by Commissioner Breton. As the 30th anniversary of the single market is occurring in January 2023, DG GROW intends building up the momentum towards it during 2022 by deploying several actions linking to foreseen presidency events.

DG GROW will organise an EU stand at the Hannover Industrial fair 2022, focussing on the twin transition and resilience. DG GROW further plans another edition of the Raw Materials Week

DG GROW calls for stakeholders' participation in designing the specific pathways to renewing each of the EU's industrial ecosystems.

#### Other important outputs

### **Developing Artificial Intelligence**

• 'Adapting liability rules to the digital age and AI'

The Product Liability Directive<sup>1</sup> helps consumers to get compensation when they suffer physical injury or property damage due to defective products. The Directive needs to be updated to cater for products in the digital and circular economy, whose safety is not determined only by their design and production but by changes while in use, such as software updates, data flows, algorithms, or hardware refurbishments.

The Commission is also considering harmonising certain national liability rules to make it less difficult to get compensation for harm caused by artificial intelligence-based products and services. Last, in relation to the implementation of the recently proposed Machinery Regulation, the Commission is considering adopting a standardization request to develop standards for AI systems and AI robots.

#### Cybersecurity

In 2021 the Commission adopted a delegated act under the Radio Equipment Directive. Its objective is to improve the security of a broad range of products and strengthen our resilience against cyber threats. As a follow-up, the Commission will adopt a standardisation request to develop standards for cybersecurity in 2022.

## Strengthening the competitiveness of industrial sectors

• Short-term rentals initiative for a stronger tourism ecosystem

Short-term accommodation rentals (STR) have grown across the EU as an alternative to other accommodation types, such as hotels. Boosted by online booking platforms, they have enriched the tourism offer and created opportunities for individuals, businesses and tourism locations. However, there is a need to consider the impact of STR on wider communities and public policy objectives, like protecting urban centres. DG GROW would like to facilitate the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EUR-Lex - 31985L0374 - EN (europa.eu)

development of a responsible, fair and trusted single market for STR, as part of a sustainable and digital tourism ecosystem. In 2022, DG GROW will propose targeted measures to improve transparency/access to data on STR, needed for enforcement purposes, and market access conditions, in particular for SMEs.

• The creative economy contributing to the twin transition

Under the 'Cultural and creative industries ecosystem' DG GROW fosters the competitiveness of creative economies to drive the twin transition and disseminate the values of the New European Bauhaus movement. This includes promoting creativity-driven business models through dedicated support under the SME pillar of the Single Market Programme (Worth Partnership Project), promoting skills cooperation under the Pact for skills for this ecosystem (large scale partnership foreseen for Q1 2022) and ensuring the transparent circulation of cultural goods in the single market.

Proximity and social economy contributing to the twin transition

DG GROW supports the competitiveness and resilience of the 'Proximity and social economy' industrial ecosystem, by facilitating cooperation among players (i.e. cities, regions, local communities) and creating conditions for social economy business models to thrive. This includes, among others, providing viable digital and green solutions for businesses and their employees and making local economies more prosperous and resilient through dedicated support under the SME pillar of the Single Market Programme (Intelligent Cities Challenge - ICC), promoting skills cooperation under the Pact for skills for this ecosystem (large scale partnership foreseen for Q1 2022) as well as promoting social economy business models and making housing more affordable, accessible and sustainable.

• New rules on access to in-vehicle generated data to foster competition and innovation

As announced in the Commission's Communication of 19 February 2020 on a European strategy for data, the vehicle approval legislation is being reviewed with the aim to propose an initiative in 2022. The initiative will complement the data act and will address specific issues identified in the automotive sector on the secured access to car data, resources and functions. The act will also cover some other aspects linked to the digital and green transformations: new autonomous vehicles, software updates and battery replacement of electric vehicles. The new rules will aim to ensure that vehicle legislation is fit to the digital age and to foster innovation, preserving competition for the benefits of consumers.

### New policy initiatives

#### Implementing new initiatives from the SME Strategy

The SME strategy will continue to support SMEs in becoming more sustainable, more digital and more resilient across all industrial ecosystems. Key activities in 2022 include access to finance, better regulation and ensuring SMEs' access to networks such as Enterprise Europe Network, European Cluster Collaboration Platform and Digital Innovation Hubs and mentoring programmes such as Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs.

Activities focusing on analysing the SME scale-up potential are also planned with the aim of improving our understanding of SMEs' scale-up trends, drivers and barriers. Policy analysis, including related to industrial ecosystems, digitalisation and sustainability is also included. This accompanies the work of the SME Performance Review in providing better knowledge of the situation of SMEs at European and national level.

The SME Envoy network will continue to be the focal point for the SME related policies at national level, ensuring the link between the Commission, SMEs and their representatives.

#### **Access to finance**

**InvestEU**: 2022 will focus on the roll-out of InvestEU, ensuring that financing flows to projects and companies, including SMEs. With DG GROW steering the development of financing under the SME window of the InvestEU, a new guarantee facility will be available, targeting SMEs perceived as higher risk or with insufficient collateral or which are in need of solvency support. It will also support SMEs and small mid-caps that embark on innovation, digitalisation or sustainability projects as well as those active in the cultural and creative sector.

Moreover, the **European Investment Fund (EIF)** will co-invest alongside other public and private investors into funds that support equity finance for SMEs and small midcaps in areas of special EU policy interest, such as sustainability, digitalisation, innovation, space and defence, women-led financing, deep and green tech. Financing will be supported along all development stages from tech transfer to start-up, to scale-up and to the IPO stage.

A full roll-out of **ESCALAR**, a first-of-a-kind risk/reward mechanism to boost the availability of venture capital funds for high-growth scale-ups in the EU, is also foreseen for 2022.

DG GROW will also launch **Access2Finance online events** in order to inform, together with other involved actors, relevant local stakeholders about the InvestEU's different windows. For 2022, the first six online promotional events are planned, including alignment with communication activities on the NextGenerationEU. Financial intermediaries from across the EU will be encouraged to apply so that all support is available across the Union.

#### **Regulating better**

DG GROW will continue to apply Better Regulation principles to its own legislative work. EU actions are to be based on evidence and on understanding the impact in a way that citizens and stakeholders can contribute throughout the process. In 2022, DG GROW will, in particular, start implementing the One-in-one-out rules announced in the April 2021 Communication on Better Regulation.

To build a business-friendly environment where SMEs can thrive, it is necessary to include an SME dimension in all EU acts and policies. To make sure that they do not put disproportionate burden on SMEs, DG GROW's helpdesk monitors and supports all Commission departments in ensuring systematic and proportionate application of the 'SME test' in impact assessments. In 2022, DG GROW will proceed with the implementation of burden reduction actions from the SME strategy, such as the EU SME Envoys' regular dialogue with the Regulatory Scrutiny Board and the Fit for Future platform, establishing the SME filter as well as supporting the Envoys' collaboration with the Single Market Enforcement Task Force.

### **Enforcement actions**

A number of enforcement actions have been deployed in a strategic manner over the last few years, in particular in the area of services, including professions, public procurement and automotive. These packages have produced significant tangible results and resulted in substantial reductions of single market obstacles and better implementation of key legislation. In 2022, the focus will be on those cross-cutting areas with a **potential to ease investment to speed the recovery across different ecosystems**. With a significant portion of RRF funds to be spent via public procurement, it is more important than ever to ensure that public buyers have at their disposal a sound legal framework properly enforced in all the Member States, including these obligations related to the digitalisation of procurement (i.e., e-invoicing Directive) or to the effective use of remedies and efficient system of national review bodies at national level. Moreover, it will remain necessary to prevent additional or to remove existing barriers to the **free movement of goods** particularly in the construction, health, agri-food and retail ecosystems.

#### **Enforcing the Late Payment Directive**

A pilot project on the EU Observatory for payments in commercial transactions will be launched in 2022 to support the enforcement of the Late Payment Directive. It will take into account the results of an ongoing study preparing some key feasibility recommendations. The Observatory will focus on ecosystems that are particularly affected and will build on the example of the European Construction Sector Observatory. It will have a "Data collection and Analysis" function, a "Dissemination function" (with Annual and thematic reports, webinars and workshops) and a repository function (analytical studies, etc...).

In addition, a pilot project on facilitating SMEs' access to 'Alternative Dispute Resolution' schemes to solve payment disputes faster will be launched.

#### **External communication actions**

DG GROW will organise the yearly SME Week, a pan-European campaign which aims to promote entrepreneurship. The campaign consists of events spread over several months, culminating in the SME Assembly to keep up the close dialogue with SMEs. 'Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs' (EYE) has been stepped up and will allow for both intra EU and global exchanges for entrepreneurs. A dedicated promotional campaign will run until second half of 2022. Further 'Business Planet' episodes are planned to be broadcasted on Euronews.

A new multiannual campaign to promote 'EU support tools for SMEs' will be prepared and launched in 2022 by means of a pilot campaign. Such tools managed by various DGs, free of charge and easily accessible, include the Enterprise Europe Network, European Cluster Collaboration Platform, Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs, Your Europe Business, Access2finance, Access2markets, Intellectual property help desk, SOLVIT, Your Europe Advice, Cassini and more.



Specific objective 3: More business opportunities are generated by trading in the single market

#### **New policy initiatives**

#### **CWP 2022: strengthening the Single Market with an Emergency Instrument (SMEI)**

The COVID-19 crisis has both shown the vulnerability of the single market and its key role in ensuring the resilience of the EU economy. The Commission will come forward with the Single Market Emergency Instrument to help prevent future disruptions.

The SMEI will provide an umbrella tool for crisis preparedness and response. Regardless of the nature of a given crisis, it will ensure recourse to a number of soft and hard law measures to safeguard free movement of goods, services and persons as well as availability of key products and services, with a clear focus on coordination and cooperation, transparency and speed.

#### Protecting geographical indications at EU level for non-agricultural products

To help companies, in particular SMEs, valorise their intangible assets in the single market, as part of the Intellectual property action plan, DG GROW will propose legislation on geographical indication protection at EU level for handicraft and industrial products. This will complete the existing protection schemes for agricultural products and open the way to international protection for all products.

#### Ensuring the European Standardisation Strategy supports the triple transition

The industrial strategy update in May 2021 identified the enabling role of standards for facilitating the profound transformation towards green and digital EU industries and a resilient single market.

DG GROW is preparing a standardisation strategy for adoption at the beginning of 2022, which will aim to enable the European standardisation system to deliver on the triple transition challenges for EU industries with actions to strengthen the European way

standards are being prepared and delivered, more leadership at innovation, cutting-edge standards that foster innovation and education/skills/expertise. The strategy includes an action to propose a technical amendment to Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 in order to clarify governance requirements for the European standardisation organisations when responding to the Commission's standardisation requests. Finally, several standardisation requests will also be adopted by the Commission in 2022 with the aim to obtain European standards supporting the objectives of the Green Deal (e.g. on plastics, and on eco-design for specific products).

## Harnessing the power of public procurement

With a responsibility for 14% of GDP, public buyers provide multiple opportunities to businesses. To help them tackle effectively strategic dependencies in procurement, DG GROW will publish specific guidance in 2022.

They will also be encouraged to make sustainability a major consideration in their procurements. To this end, DG GROW will support network building (through buyers working groups and online platforms), provide a helpdesk on green and socially responsible public procurement and engage with stakeholders on how to green public infrastructure.

It will also deepen the understanding of our framework through webinars and workshops and support public procurement of innovation projects to showcase their benefits in creating markets, including assisting agile SMEs. To better tailor its policy actions, DG GROW will assess the economic effects of the thresholds for the application of the public procurement directives on the internal market.

A Communication on the public procurement data strategy, as a follow-up to the 'European strategy for data' of 2020 is also envisaged for 2022.

Lastly, an amendment of the eForms Regulation is envisaged in 2022 to translate the necessary updates identified by the Member States and the Commission. The eForms Regulation is at the core of the digital transformation of public procurement in the EU.

#### Fostering professional services in the single market

In 2022, DG GROW will deliver two of the initiatives on the single market for services under the updated Industrial Strategy:

- a) The EU e-declaration for posting of workers will reduce the compliance costs without compromising the social and labour market objectives of the information requirements, by offering a simplified multilingual digital form to be used by Member States on a voluntary basis, in place of their non-harmonised national language forms.
- b) The request for standards for some priority professional services in the ecosystems with high relative weight in the green and digital transition (such as construction, automotive and advanced manufacturing), further to enabling the green and digital transition, will tackle barriers to the cross-border provision of services, by reducing the need to additional national safeguards in the form of certification or other requirements and by building consumer trust regarding the service they buy from foreign suppliers.

Furthermore, DG GROW will update Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications to reflect the impact of generally acknowledged scientific and technical progress on the minimum training requirements of several professions covered by the system of automatic recognition. The update is expected to be discussed in the Council in the second part of 2022.

#### **Opening global markets**

In 2022, DG GROW will work towards asserting Europe's competitive position within global value chains and strengthening the **Open Strategic Autonomy** of the single market. It will pursue an overall objective of facilitating the internationalisation of European companies and support greater resilience of Europe's international value chains. To this end, DG GROW will actively engage in developing international partnerships with key partners, notably in areas of critical or strategic importance.

The DG will engage in Europe's overall **economic diplomacy** through business support in third countries. This includes the EU Japan Centre for Industrial cooperation and the European Business Organisations.

DG GROW will develop cooperation with international partners through established industrial policy and regulatory dialogues with Japan, the Republic of Korea, China, Taiwan and Ukraine. The DG will fully engage in the work of the EU-US Trade and Technology Council, notably in areas related to critical supply chains, SMEs and standardization.

The DG will also continue to **assist enlargement countries** in their path towards EU accession and support Eastern and Southern Neighbourhood partner countries' ambition to further align with European regulations (including the implementation of Association Agreements such as with Ukraine, Morocco or Tunisia), both at regional and bilateral level.

DG GROW will also seek to develop **ambitious cooperation globally**, notably with Africa and South-East Asia, both at regional and selected bilateral level, pursuing opportunities for market integration and business cooperation through political outreach and targeted financial programming.

DG GROW will contribute to the negotiations and implementation of **Free Trade Agreements focusing on improved market access** for EU ecosystems. Such agreements should also facilitate access of EU SMEs to third countries markets.

In 2022, DG GROW will continue to represent the EU at the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee of the WTO and will continue to **protect EU interests in international trade** by preventing the technical barriers imposed by other WTO Members.

DG GROW will provide analyses and evidence to **support the use of Trade Defence Instruments**, as well as EU sanctions, and will contribute to the Commission's work in tackling market distortions linked to foreign subsidies in the single market. DG GROW will also be involved in the screening mechanism to identify, assess and mitigate potential risks for security or public order of foreign direct investments.

DG GROW will **actively pursue reciprocal opening of the procurement markets** of third countries by supporting strong rules in the WTO and negotiating ambitious trade agreements. In the context of the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA) under the aegis of the WTO, DG GROW is encouraging new accessions to the GPA of major trade partners of the EU who are not yet Parties to the GPA or have not taken public procurement commitments with the EU, in particular those of Brazil and China. DG GROW is also closely following the legislative developments among the GPA Parties, aiming at mitigating the risk from introducing protectionist or discriminatory measures.

At the multilateral level, the DG will actively contribute in areas of its competence to Commission work in multilateral fora, i.e. G7, G20, UN, etc.

#### **External communication actions**

DG GROW will celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the single market in conjunction with the European Year of Youth, announced by the Commission President in her State of the European Union speech. Celebrations should build up during 2022 and culminate in January 2023 (anniversary date). The Your Europe/Single Digital Gateway portal will both be promoted by and contribute to promoting the celebrations of the single market anniversary.

DG GROW will pursue its outreach efforts to relaunching the tourism sector via an appropriate information campaign on safe tourism. Two promotion campaigns, one on the 'European Smart Tourism Capitals' and the other on the 'European Destination of Excellence' (EDEN), both selected in 2021, will be deployed.

### Other important outputs

#### Rolling out the Single Market Programme (SMP)

The SMP work programme for 2022 sets out the main priorities and actions for the implementation in its second year of existence. A combination of annual and multiannual work programmes will implement all parts of the SMP presented in five annexes to one Commission Implementing Decision, following broadly the objectives of the SMP.

The 2022 projects in the SME pillar of the SMP combine projects appreciated for their pragmatic assistance to SMEs as well as those providing tailored help due to the COVID-19 consequences. The SME pillar continues implementing the SME strategy in the context of industrial ecosystems and the SME components of the updated Industrial Strategy, with a strong focus on supporting SMEs' recovery and the green and digital transition while helping them achieve success in an increasingly competitive and fast moving environment. The 2022 work programme includes the budget contribution for the calls for the Enterprise Europe Network, the Joint Cluster Initiative, Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs and the Intellectual Property voucher for post-COVID-19 recovery and green and digital transitions.

Implementation (mainly through grants or procurement) of certain parts of the programme have been tasked to two Executive Agencies. EISMEA is delegated with the management of certain contracts under strands covering SMEs, the Internal Market and support to standardisation and Consumers while HaDEA is delegated with parts of the health strand of DG SANTE.

#### New policy initiatives

#### Surveilling products in the single market

The new Regulation on market surveillance and compliance of products became applicable in 2021. Its implementation will pick up speed in 2022, notably through the following:

- The Network of Member States for Product Compliance (**EUPCN**) established its work Programme in 2021. It contains 18 strands of work that will be implemented in 2022.
- Designate **Union testing facilities** for market surveillance by: a) finalising an implementing act enabling the Commission to launch calls for expression of interest, and b) launching such calls, to determine the public testing facilities of the Member States that will take on the role of Union testing facilities.
- Make possible **joint actions** of market surveillance authorities through the funds received from the Single Market Programme.
- Organise a **Market Surveillance Conference** together with the French Presidency in June 2022, to gather experiences on policy implementation from Member States and stakeholders.
- The work to establish a **Single window interface** for information flows between market surveillance and customs authorities will take off in 2022.

#### **Ensuring mutual recognition**

Mutual recognition of goods is a core principle and single market anchor for the free flow of non-harmonised goods. Based on the 2019 Regulation on the mutual recognition of goods, DG GROW will launch two new projects in 2022: a) Launch of the 'Exchange of Officials' programme, allowing officials working in an authority in one country to visit their counterpart authority in another country, b) Awareness raising on mutual recognition. DG GROW will reach out to the businesses and authorities including via innovative visual material explaining the application of the principle of mutual recognition.

Furthermore, and in the same vein, DG GROW will continue providing **training courses** for officials from national and regional authorities involved in mutual recognition; reaching out to the **product contact points** (PCP) and product contact points for construction (PCPC) to make sure they have access to the Information and Communication System on Market Surveillance (ICSMS) and have updated their websites with the necessary information related to mutual recognition. DG GROW prepared a new common visual identity for all these contact points to improve their visibility. They are the main communication channels between authorities and businesses, DG GROW will therefore continue to support their activities in 2022.

The Commission's opinions related to the application of the Regulation represent a new possibility in the **SOLVIT problem solving procedure**. These opinions may help the proper application of the principle of mutual recognition and build new best practices. Last, DG GROW will prepare a set of **Frequently Asked Questions** to bring the principle of mutual recognition closer to businesses and facilitate the work of the authorities.

#### Removing obstacles via the Single Market Enforcement Task Force (SMET)

SMET tackles concrete obstacles hampering the freedom of the EU businesses and citizens to travel, live and do business in the EU. The achievements of the task force have proven that the goodwill, the cooperation and the joint work between Member States and the Commission lead to tangible results. DG GROW will continue to use this innovative tool proactively and, together with Member States, a new set of priority barriers will be identified and tackled during the next year.

#### Solving disputes in the single market - SOLVIT

SOLVIT is a network for resolving single market complaints or disputes. It will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2022 and on this occasion, DG GROW will organise awareness raising activities and events. SOLVIT will further strengthen its cooperation with Enterprise Europe Network and will further increase its findability. It will continue its efforts to ensure that 'SOLVITable' complaints are transferred to the network through CHAP and ensure transfer of information on problems with EU law detected in SOLVIT to European and national policy makers. DG GROW will continue to address the issue of the lack of resources in some of the centres that have a huge impact on the functioning of the network.

#### **Supporting administrative cooperation - Internal Market Information System (IMI)**

IMI connects Member States' administrative bodies and facilitates cooperation between them, thus considerably simplifying cross border procedures in several areas of the single market. In 2022, declarations on posting of workers as required in the area of road transport in Mobility package and exchanges of information between authorities on firearms will be done through the IMI. DG GROW will continue expanding the use of this tool also in other areas and constantly modernise it.

#### Measuring performance - Single Market Scoreboard

The Single Market Scoreboard presents in a transparent and objective way the performance of Member States in applying, implementing and enforcing the single market rules and objectives. DG GROW will continue to work on the modernisation of this well-established tool and improving its coverage, user friendliness and its links with other workflows such as the European Semester process.

#### Fostering dialogue on enforcement - Package meetings

Enforcement package meetings allow for open and constructive dialogue on enforcement issues between the Commission services and Member States' authorities. They complement formal, written exchanges in infringement procedures and help finding solutions in compliance with EU law.

In addition, they open a communication channel for closer cooperation with other enforcement tools (e.g. SOLVIT network, ICSMS, SMTD notifications). Such meetings were organised with all Member States and allowed to solve misunderstandings and find solutions to problems efficiently and without burdensome procedures. Building on this experience DG GROW will streamline the usage of this tool targeting the cases where real progress can be achieved in this cooperative manner.

#### Developing alternative compliance tools

#### Informing and advising about the single market

The **Your Europe portal** informs citizens and businesses about EU and national rules in the single market. It was upgraded at the end of 2020 to become the **hub of the EU single digital gateway** (SDG), also providing access to assistance and problem-solving services as well as, in two years' time, to online procedures. Member States are adding content to the gateway and preparing for the digitalisation of procedures foreseen by the SDG Regulation by December 2023. Works are ongoing to accommodate all EU and national content in the portal, where necessary with tailor-made solutions. By December 2022, Member States must notify municipal websites to the Commission. Your Europe's search function will need to be expanded to make such sites findable for visitors to the portal.

Tailor-made advice to citizens and businesses about their EU rights are also provided by the **Your Europe Advice service** free of legal or EU jargon. 95% of the enquiries are answered within 3 days. In 2020, Your Europe Advice replied to about 33.000 enquiries and has a database with about 350.000 real-life cases. In 2022, emphasis will be laid in ensuring excellent quality and in making the wealth of information on the database available for policy shaping.

In parallel, a technical system for the cross-border automated exchange of evidence and application of **the 'once-only' principle** (technical system) is being set up by the Commission in close cooperation with the Member States. That technical system will allow citizens and businesses to retrieve evidence that they need for one of the 21 administrative procedures covered by the SDG regulation and to use that evidence in the relevant procedure. To this end an implementing act setting out the technical and operational specifications of the technical system is aimed to be adopted in 2022.

#### **Notifications**

DG GROW will continue streamlining the operation of the **Single Market Transparency Directive (SMTD)**. A new system, TRIS-TBT, is proposed to replace two existing systems, TRIS v.2 and TBT. It will greatly improve the capacity of the EC to manage both the SMTD and the TBT Agreement for the needs of the EU, eliminating the existing gaps of today's tools

with new and revised features and updated processes within the business unit, the other EC services and the Member States. In parallel, the transparency of the notification procedure will be greatly increased by the systematic publication of Commission reactions under the SMTD.

As regards notifications under the Services Directive, the update of the Handbook on the Services Directive should assist Member States in complying with their notification obligations. It will be complemented by dedicated trainings and workshops on the notification procedure to increase awareness of Member States.

#### Assessing national rules for professions

While substantial work has been done already, it is required to **continue delivering the full potential of the services single market**, targeting selected areas and matters where single market obstacles are particularly prevalent or where topical issues persist across a range of services sectors. In particular, this includes a thorough transposition check and enforcement action regarding Directive (2018)958 on a prior proportionality assessment for new or amended regulation of professions.

Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction, evaluations and fitness checks

#### CWP 2021 - REFIT - Evaluation of the New Legislative Framework for Products

The New Legislative Framework aims to improve the single market for goods by enhancing market surveillance and boosting the quality of conformity assessments. The initiative will evaluate whether the Framework remains fit for purpose in a digital and circular economy taking into account the COVID-19 experience.

## General objective 2 - A European Green Deal



Specific objective 1: Increase the share of material recovered, recycled and fed back into the economy

#### **New policy initiatives**

#### Making chemicals sustainable

The Chemicals strategy for sustainability aims at a toxic-free environment, where chemicals are produced and used in line with the green and digital transition.

To better achieve its objective, a **targeted revision of the REACH Regulation** is envisaged by the end of 2022. It will include a simplification of the communication in the supply chains, a reform of the authorisation and restrictions regime to make the system more effective and efficient and a revision of the enforcement provisions.

A targeted revision of classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP Regulation) is also foreseen for 2022. It will aim at introducing new hazard

classes (such as endocrine disruptors) increasing the pace of harmonised classifications and simplifying labelling requirements (inter alia by introducing the option of digital labelling) to reduce administrative costs.

**Microplastics** accumulate in the environment and may have potentially adverse effects on organisms. DG GROW proposes to restrict the placing on the market of microplastics that are intentionally-added to products. This should prevent the release of 500 000 tonnes of microplastics over 20 years.

The revision of the **Cosmetic Products Regulation** will introduce the generic approach to risk management for the most harmful chemicals, such as endocrine disruptors. It will also reinforce provisions to take account of combination effects from simultaneous exposure to multiple chemicals, review the definition of nanomaterial, simplify labelling information and explore the reattribution of scientific and technical work as regards cosmetics to a European agency.

Revision of the **Toy Safety Directive** will strengthen the protection of children against possible risks in toys, in particular from chemicals, and will further complete the single market for toys. The initiative will also consider the introduction of a digital product passport containing selected manufacturer compliance information while it will improve compliance and enforcement of toy safety rules.

Within the **Farm to Fork strategy**, DG GROW will assist in the implementation of the code of conduct on responsible business and marketing practices by developing targeted SME support actions aiming at enhancing SME information and assessment of integrating coherent business practices as well as aiming at developing a proportionate monitoring of the code's implementation.

Last, DG GROW will contribute to developing and implementing the industrial production dimension in main actions such as the **Health Emergency and preparedness Response Authority (HERA)** and to accompanying the launch of an Important project of Common European interest (IPCEI) in the pharmaceutical sector.

### **Developing the circular economy**

In 2022, DG GROW will continue to support the work of the **Circular Plastics Alliance** to implement the European Plastics Strategy and achieve the EU target of 10 million tons of recycled plastics in the European market by 2025.

To this end, DG GROW, together with DG ENER and DG ENV, is developing the **Sustainable Product Initiative (SPI)**, foreseen to be adopted in 2022. SPI aims to make products fit for a climate-neutral, resource-efficient and circular economy, ensuring that the performance of frontrunners in sustainability progressively becomes the norm. The core of the legislative proposal will be the extension of the scope of the Ecodesign Directive beyond energy-related products to make it applicable to the broadest possible range of products and make it deliver on circularity. A key feature of the SPI will be the **Digital Product Passport**, a tool to increase the sustainability and the digitalisation of our economy, facilitating information exchange between different industry sectors, Member States' authorities, and citizens.

Circularity is an essential part of the industry transformation towards climate-neutrality and long-term competitiveness. Thanks to industrial symbiosis (IS) resources remain in productive use for longer closing the industrial (pre-consumption) loop.

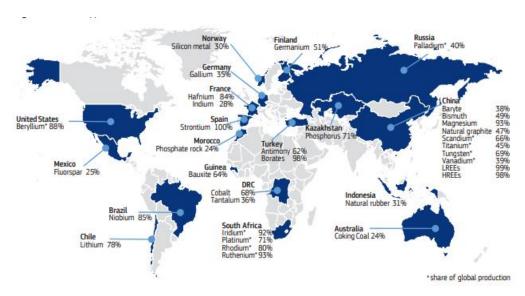
In November 2022 the **project Circlean** - European network of businesses and SMEs on industrial symbiosis - will be finalised. The aim of the network is to enable the uptake of IS. It will develop an industry-led reporting and certification system, set up a match-making tool and propose a self-assessment methodology to facilitate the identification of IS potential.

Securing raw materials for Europe EU industry is heavily dependent on imports of raw materials. In the case of critical raw materials, markets are often intransparent and monopolised. The establishment within the Commission of a 'supply chain capacity' that

A number of raw materials are essential for Europe to lead the green and digital transition and remain the world's first industrial-continent. We cannot afford to rely entirely on third countries – for some rare earths even on just one country.

Commissioner Thierry Breton

is able to identify and propose mitigating measures to supply chain disruptions/shortages and to secure supply long term should increase the resilience of raw materials supply chains. This capacity should a) advise on strategic issues (intelligence gathering, monitoring, expertise) and b) be able to operationally direct financial support, coordinate stockpiling, and support the implementation of strategic partnerships and the critical raw materials action plan. Developing further strategic partnerships including with resource-rich African countries and the European neighbourhood will improve diversification of supply.



GLOBAL SUPPLIERS OF EU CRITICAL RAW MATERIALS

#### Strengthening the sustainable textiles industry

In close cooperation with industry and other stakeholders, DG ENV and DG GROW will present an **EU Textiles initiative** to strengthen industrial competitiveness and innovation and to boost the EU market for sustainable and circular textiles. It is a way to enable the textile sector to emerge as global leader in green and circular business models and technologies. A transition pathway for the textile ecosystem will complement this initiative.

#### Promoting sustainable corporate governance and responsible business conduct

The proposal on sustainable corporate governance, which DG GROW co-leads with DG JUST will offer companies a predictable and harmonised framework to assess and manage human rights and environmental risks, sustainability risks and impacts in their value chains that will contribute to their sustainability transition.

#### **CWP 2021 – Cars emissions (EURO 7)**

To accelerate the shift to sustainable and smart mobility, transport should become significantly less polluting. Efforts have been made over the last four years to reduce emissions of air pollutants, in particular in the wake of the 'Dieselgate'. New power trains – battery, electric and hydrogen – are emerging as an alternative to the combustion engine. While the roll out of such technologies is accelerating, it is still slow. In the meantime, more needs to be done to 'clean' the combustion engine to ensure the protection of health and the environment and to prevent fragmentation of the single market due to individual national measures (e.g. diesel bans, petrol bans). DG GROW will prepare more stringent yet realistic air pollutant emission standards for combustion-engine vehicles ('Euro 7'). The legislative proposal will be accompanied by a back-to-back evaluation and impact assessment.

#### Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction

## CWP 2022 — REFIT: Revision of the Regulation on the making available and placing on the market of detergents

The revision of Regulation (EC) 648/2004 will address the weaknesses identified by the evaluation and adapt the regulatory requirements for detergents to recent developments and socio-economic needs. It will follow-up on the EU chemicals strategy for sustainability. A key issue identified by the evaluation was that the concepts and definitions used in the detergents Regulation may not always be in line and coherent with the meaning they have gained over time and in practice.

This results in lack of clarity on whether certain products available on the market fall under the scope of the Regulation or not (e.g. microbial cleaning products).

## CWP 2022 — REFIT: Revision of the end-of-life vehicles Directive and the Directive on the type approval of motor vehicles

The revision will promote a more circular approach by linking design issues to end-of-life treatment, considering rules on mandatory recycled content for certain materials of components and improving recycling efficiency. The merging of the two Directives into a single instrument, covering the whole life-cycle of the automotive sector, would provide legal clarity to economic operators and administrations, compared to the current situation which relies on a fragmented approach.

## CWP 2021 - REFIT: Repairing and making fit for the future the Construction Product Regulation

The on-going revision of the Construction Product Regulation (CPR) was triggered by the results of the evaluation published in 2019 and pointing to the need of repairing, enhancing and making future-proof the CPR legal framework. The CPR was also identified in the European Green Deal and in the Circular Economy Action Plan as a regulatory tool with a potential to contribute to the climate-neutrality and circular economy objectives; the revision will aim at enhancing the sustainability and ultimately the environmental impact of construction products while eventually supporting the green and digital transition of the construction ecosystem.

#### **Public consultations**

- Revision of EU legislation on registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals
- Revision of Regulation (EC) 648/2004 on the making available and placing on the market of Detergents
- Revision of the Toy Safety Directive
- Revision of the Cosmetic Products Regulation (EC No 1223/2009) following the EU Chemicals Strategy for sustainability

#### **External communication actions**

DG GROW plans to deploy a social media campaign to explain, in simple terms, the benefits of the EU intervention in the fields of chemicals, detergents, toys and fertilisers.

The 'Circlean' project communication campaign will, inter alia, help companies realising the circular economy: finding buyers for their waste products or finding providers of cheap second-hand raw materials from industrial waste as production input.

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

The specific situation stemming from the pandemic during the last 2 years highlighted the need for continuing past efforts in harmonisation and digitalisation to modernise the administration in the Commission. In that spirit, DG GROW will continue in 2022 to promote corporate initiatives in financial management, such as eProcurement (where DG GROW is Business Process Owner of eSubmission and eEvaluation), the use of the qualified electronic signature, as well as the tools used for the expert groups. DG GROW will support the Commission in developing adequate corporate IT solutions for multi-DG programmes such as the Single Market Programme (Financial Forecasting Solution and Multi-annual Programming & Planning Solution).

The internal control framework (<sup>2</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 GROW 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

To deliver on its ambitious agenda, DG GROW needs to continue counting on its skilled, motivated and dedicated staff. DG GROW attaches high importance to human resources issues. The competencies and engagement of our staff are our key assets. Motivation and constant development of staff can be best achieved in an environment where rules and goals are transparent, achievement is rewarded and where staff can rely on a long-term orientation of personnel policy and the commitments made by the management.

To retain but also to attract this important and highly qualified staff, DG GROW will implement the corporate human resources strategy, creating the right conditions for our staff to deliver on our priorities. DG GROW will complement these actions by implementing its local HR Strategy that was adopted in 2021 with clear actions to address some of its specificities. After the reorganisation of the DG, DG GROW will continue to ensure that the allocation of resources that are made available by the central services are in adequation with the workload of the Units and promote internal mobility to retain good talents. DG GROW will manage its human resources allocations to ensure the delivery of its core tasks and priorities.

DG GROW recognises the importance of internal communication as a way of building staff engagement, enabling better collaboration between the services and developing a culture of

<sup>(2)</sup> Communication C(2017)2373 - Revision of the Internal Control Framework

openness, motivation and trust where staff has a strong sense of belonging and purpose. Therefore, DG GROW will develop an internal communication strategy.

DG GROW already reached its target in terms of gender equality as defined in the Commission decision SEC(2020)146 of 1st April 2020 for middle management positions. DG GROW will ensure that this representation rate of 44% of female middle managers is maintained as well as at least 50% of female Deputy Head of Unit reached.

Following the College decision on complementary measures for reinforcement of gender equality policy at management level, DG GROW has designated Heads of Unit to deputize for the Directors. DG GROW has reached the gender balance target by appointing five female Heads of Unit as Deputy to the Directors, reaching thereby 55.5% of female representation (target 55%).

GROW 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.

GROW actions on equality, diversity and inclusion for internal staff are reflected in the Equality Mainstreaming Work Plan.

**Objective:** GROW 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

Maiii outputs iii 2022		
Output	Indicator	Target
Gender diversity at the level of Deputy Heads of Unit	% of women & men in Deputy's functions	• >50% of women in Deputy's function
Develop a new methodology and policy to ensure more flexible and agile replacement of staff and reallocation according to the needs  Close monitoring and management of job quotas / external staff budget to ensure the best use of quotas and budget made available  Retain talents by proposing to staff alternatives and job opportunities within the DG	<ul> <li>Statutory staff vacancy rate</li> <li>External budget execution</li> <li>Number of vacancies filled internally</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To be achieved by end 2022</li> <li>Privilege internal mobility</li> <li>Keep statutory staff vacancy rate &lt; 2%</li> <li>External budget execution close to 99%</li> <li>&gt;20% of vacancies filled internally</li> </ul>
Identify negative priorities and actions to be undertaken following the results of 2022 allocation of resources and compensation exercise	<ul> <li>Number of posts returned to central services</li> <li>Number of posts and amount of external budget negotiated for the 2022 complementary allocation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Return 12 posts by 16/5/2022</li> <li>&gt;1</li> </ul>
Trainings on data and economics	<ul> <li>Colleagues reached by those trainings</li> </ul>	• 5% of colleagues following those trainings
Grow Talks sessions	Number of sessions	• >5 sessions

Deliver an Internal Communication Strategy for DG GROW	Publication of the Strategy	• By May 2022
Staff awareness actions to promote equality, diversity and inclusion	<ul> <li>Number of awareness actions via internal communication or events</li> </ul>	• >5 actions

### **B. Sound financial management**

The new **long-term EU budget 2021-2027** and the #NextGenerationEU recovery programme comes with new challenges and new ways of working. This has implications on the financial management; namely on budget implementation, governance of the programmes, and simplified, harmonised and digital working methods. The year 2021 has been challenging regarding the late adoption of the MFF and related multi-DG programmes (for DG GROW Single Market Programme and Horizon Europe).

In 2022, the main focus will be on the implementation of the programmes. The operational and budgetary governance of the Single Market Programme (7 DGs, DG GROW coordinating) remains a challenge without having a corporate planning, monitoring and reporting tool.

Regarding **internal control**, DG GROW will continue to improve its internal control system by performing a review of its internal control indicators and by organising a dedicated workshop on internal control matters during GROW Financial days scheduled twice a year. The reinforcement of the supervision of the external entities implementing the EU budget on behalf of DG GROW (both budgetary and internal control) will continue under the next long-term EU budget.

These actions aim to ensure identification and **adequate management of the risks** and to provide reasonable assurance on the legality and regularity of the financial transactions. Respective recommendations for further improvements (including those coming from European Court of Auditors and the Commission's Internal Audit Service) will be duly monitored and addressed on time in view of ensuring accountability and transparency. It should be noted that at end 2021, DG GROW has not received any critical or very important recommendations to be followed-up. DG GROW is lead on several performance audits, which will continue in 2022, which is challenging as it implies a lot of coordination work.

DG GROW will continue to improve its **sound financial management** and aims at remaining among the best performing DGs. To further increase its efficiency and financial performance, further reflections are ongoing for optimising the financing workflows.

DG GROW monitors its financial performance through the monthly **GROW Financial Report** including necessary Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in parallel with the Financial Dashboards developed by DG BUDG. These reports provide the necessary key indicators to ensure a sound and efficient management and the follow-up of financial transactions (budget consumption, time-to-register, time-to-pay, quality of the financial files, etc.).

DG GROW will continue its efforts to reach the targets in the tables below. As every year, DG GROW will do the assessment of its internal control system together with the fraud risk assessment in the frame of the annual risk assessment exercise.

**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	<ul><li>Risk at payment</li><li>Estimated risk at closure</li></ul>	<ul> <li>remains &lt; 2 % of relevant expenditure</li> <li>remains &lt; 2 % of relevant expenditure</li> </ul>
Effective Ex ante controls – public procurement and grant management verification	<ul> <li>Maximum 10 days for in- depth additional ex-ante legal controls</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Procurement and grant above 139 kEUR</li> </ul>
Effective Ex ante controls – financial verification	<ul> <li>Maximum 4 days to perform the financial ex-ante verification</li> </ul>	All transactions except low- value payments below 5k EUR
Efficient controls – budget	Budget execution	<ul> <li>remains 100% of commitment and payment appropriations in operational lines and of commitment appropriations in administrative line</li> </ul>
Efficient controls - Legal time to execute the payment	Time to pay	• % paid with delay - less than 1% of payments done
Efficient controls - Target date to register invoices within 7 calendar days	Time-to-register	• % outside the 7 calendar days less than 1%
Economical controls - Cost of controls of procurement process	<ul> <li>% of overall cost of control in comparison to the total commitment appropriations consumed at year end</li> </ul>	• Less than 10%
Economical controls - Cost of control of supervision process for entrusted entities	% of overall cost of control in comparison to the total annual amount delegated excluding any remuneration paid	• Less than 5%
Provide necessary financial knowledge to DG GROW staff	Number of trainings	• Twice-a-year

### C. Fraud risk management

DG GROW anti-fraud strategy was last reviewed in October 2020 following the update of the Commission anti-fraud strategy and the modification of the DG GROW activities since 1 January 2020. DG GROW will review its anti-fraud strategy in 2022, taking into account the redeployment of its activities further to its reorganisation in March 2021.

On a regular basis, DG GROW organises information sessions for newcomers including ethics and anti-fraud aspects. All information related to fraud risk management is published on DG GROW's Intranet and updated whenever needed. The implementation of its action plan is monitored on a regular basis. DG GROW is lead DG for Action 42 in the Commission anti-fraud strategy (voluntary ex-ante assessment mechanism for the compliance of large-scale infrastructure projects with EU procurement rules).

**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>3</sup>) aimed at the prevention, detection and correction (<sup>4</sup>) of fraud.

Main outputs in 2022		
Output	Indicator	Target
Provide information on ethics and anti-fraud aspects for the organisation of information sessions	<ul> <li>Number of information sessions provided to newcomers including anti- fraud and ethics issues in the frame of the induction days</li> </ul>	Organise once a year a training session
Enhance cooperation with OLAF to contribute to the implementation of the Commission Anti-fraud Strategy (CAFS) by participating in existing Commission Fraud Prevention and Detection Network (FPDNet)	<ul> <li>Participation in the FPDNet meetings and exchange of best practices</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Publish at least once a year on anti-fraud/ethics page on GROWNet</li> </ul>
Raise fraud awareness with adequate trainings on anti-fraud and on ethics and integrity	<ul> <li>Training session to be organised in collaboration with OLAF</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Organise at least once a year a financial training including anti-fraud aspects for DG GROW staff</li> </ul>

<sup>(3)</sup> Communication from the Commission 'Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy: enhanced action to protect the EU budget', COM(2019) 196 of 29 April 2019 – 'the CAFS Communication' – and the accompanying action plan, SWD(2019) 170 – 'the CAFS Action Plan'.

<sup>(4)</sup> Correction of fraud is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.

- The Control Strategy is always reflecting DG GROW activities and adapted in case of change
- The DG GROW Control Strategy is up to date by 31.12.2022

## D. Digital transformation and information management

The digital transformation activities of DG GROW in 2022 will accommodate two major strategical developments that were conceived during 2021. Implementation of industrial ecosystems' lenses on one hand for the analysis and monitoring of execution of the Recovery and Resilience Plans of Member States and on the other for the Streamline IT@GROW programme.

In view of DG GROW strategic priorities identified above, and in accordance with the 2021 survey on the data state of play and the future data needs in the DG, actions will be launched aiming at setting up a common data platform where relevant data on industrial ecosystems and country knowledge would be easily accessed and processed and at making available of analytical tools and methods for efficient use of those data.

The main purpose of the Streamline IT@GROW programme is the reduction of the number of in-house built systems by replacing them by corporate or market available solutions or by merging existing systems within business domains; it is expected that its successful completion will both minimize DG GROW's exposure to cyber threats and reduce maintenance costs in the mid-term horizon. Synergies with the corporate initiatives "Addressing Legacy IT" and "Dual Pillar Approach" will also be analysed and exploited. Modernising DG GROW's IT systems portfolio through completion of ColdFusion Transformation Programme which is also part of Streamline IT@GROW will further reduce the risk of having any deprecated technology and decrease the risks associated with hosting unsupported technical solutions.

In the cybersecurity domain, DG GROW will continue to invest in the security preparation and awareness, both in respect to the system owners and the internal development teams: to this purpose, we rely on our experienced System Security Officer (SSO), who will continue working in close collaboration with corporate services in DIGIT.S, taking advantage of the new proposed assessment and monitoring services that DIGIT will put in place in 2022. This role has proved essential in the preparation of the Security Plans for the IS developed in-house, since the SSO leads this exercise and ensure quality of the results. In 2022 we will continue our ongoing security awareness action launched in 2020 and to organise follow up for the awareness trainings/workshops.

With regards to new projects aiming to improve the functioning of the single market from the legal perspective, the intention is to conduct an analysis identifying actions that could lead to better use of data in support of policy action and enforcement activities.

Furthermore, in 2022, continued focus will be put on further developing the collaborative culture for data, by bringing together data-suppliers, users and experts in the DG GROW data network, coordinated by a dedicated Data Unit that will drive its agenda. DG GROW plans to revise its data management guidelines and statistical guidance to provide guidance on data management and data quality in line with corporate developments. DG GROW has also presented its Data Action Plan to develop initiatives reusing and complementing the corporate developments, to aim at delivering tailor-made data solutions, exploit synergies and professionalise the data value chain.

In addition, DG GROW will continue its active participation to the corporate governance board IMSB (Information and Management Steering Board), support the network of Local Data Correspondents (LDCs) and the Statistical Correspondents Network.

In this context and more specifically on the Country Knowledge Management, DG GROW will also take contact with JRC and DIGIT to exploit any potential synergies, assure the best solution and minimize the investments. Country Knowledge is of particular importance for DG GROW's recently established Member States' units who will be invited to get involved in the process.

To ensure rigorous implementation of the data protection rules DG GROW Data Protection Coordinator (DPC) will focus efforts on three areas:

- Increase awareness at all levels of DG GROW staff, focusing on the needs of every type of actor and on the practical implementation, e.g. the most recurrent and risky activities, such as public procurement, meetings and events, consultations, IT tools, international transfers and on data subject procedures;
- Promote the use of unit inventories of processing operations to improve continuous compliance monitoring and in particular the implementation of the Commission's Data Protection Action Plan (C(2018) 7432 final);
- Ensure that GROW IT systems and websites comply with data protection rules, including security aspects.

DG GROW will continue working on mapping the degree of implementation per Unit (to target awareness actions and inform internally about the latest corporate development). It will further focus on ensuring compliance with data protection rules in the area of procurement, grants and experts management.

**Objective:** DG GROW 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
Common data platform for ecosystems and country knowledge relevant information	<ul> <li>DG GROW has easy access to relevant data sources and can perform the analysis needed for better use of data with the focus on monitoring the RRPs performance</li> </ul>	Data platform used by DG GROW units by end of 2022
Streamline IT@GROW programme	<ul> <li>Further analysis performed, Program Charter approved with roadmap for adopting new digital solutions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PC approved in Q1 2022; digital solutions in place by end of 2022 for legacy systems running on obsolete technology</li> </ul>
Analysis on better use of data for policy action and enforcement activities	Study commissioned	• Q4 2022

Data management professionalisation	<ul> <li>Awareness-raising activities for management &amp; policy officers</li> <li>Guidelines for data-driven development available</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Awareness-raising via 2 meetings of GROW data network</li> <li>Guidelines for data-driven development in place for use by Q4 2022</li> </ul>
Collaborative culture on data	GROW data network action plan adopted and delivery on first priorities	<ul> <li>First action plan implemented according to schedule by Q4 2022</li> </ul>
Increase staff awareness in DG GROW on personal data protection rules	<ul> <li>Percentage management attending awareness raising activities</li> <li>Percentage of staff attending awareness raising activities</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Senior Management: 50%</li><li>Middle Management: 50%</li><li>Other Staff: 50%</li></ul>
Mapping the degree of implementation of data protection procedures	<ul> <li>Number of records due</li> <li>Number of privacy statements due</li> <li>% of Unit inventories</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Percentage of records prepared</li> <li>Percentage of privacy statements prepared</li> <li>Number of Unit inventories prepared</li> </ul>
GROW IT systems complying with data protection rules	Number of GROW IT systems	<ul> <li>Percentage of GROW IT systems complying with data protection rules</li> </ul>

## E. Sound environmental management

DG GROW will continue the work from the previous years to propose measures both at the corporate level and GROW specific ones in a number of areas in accordance with the overall corporate strategy to reduce the related day-to-day impact of the administration and its work on several aspects:

- Infrastructure (buildings, lifts, water fountains, waste collection etc.);
- Supplies, including food in cafeterias and canteens, stationery and meeting material;
- Rationalise missions and travelling, including daily commuting and increase the number of virtual meetings;
- Promote virtuous behaviour (waste collection, biking, use of stairs), through information campaigns and ad-hoc events.

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

#### Main outputs in 2022

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

i. More efficient use of resource	s (ellergy, water, paper).	
Output	Indicator	Target
Staff awareness actions to reduce energy use in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns	<ul> <li>Number of awarenress actions via internal communication or events</li> </ul>	• At least 10 awareness actions by the end of 2022
Participation in the end of the year energy saving action, by reducing heating and lighting during the Christmas and New Year's holiday period	<ul> <li>Number of buildings participating</li> <li>Energy savings</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>BREY and N105 participating</li> <li>OIB target for reduction of energy saving</li> </ul>
Reduce the use of paper and printing of documents	Paper reduction thanks to the development of online tools to collaborate on documents	OIB target for reduction of paper supply
II. Reducing CO <sub>2</sub> , equivalent CO <sub>2</sub>	and other atmospheric emissions	s:
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).	<ul> <li>Number or % of staff informed/participated</li> <li>% of staff participating in VeloWalk</li> <li>% of sustainable commuters (5) at DG/service</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number or % of staff informed/participated</li> <li>% increase of staff participating in VeloWalk</li> <li>Increase % of sustainable commuters at DG/service (%) (<sup>6</sup>)</li> </ul>
Gradual increased use (and number of) VC (7) meeting rooms for meetings with stakeholders (avoiding business trips) in the DG, in collaboration with DG SCIC, OIB and OIL	Number of VC meeting rooms	Number of VC meeting rooms
Analysis of DG's missions trends /patterns (based on corporate ECstaff's professional trips (missions) ( 8 )), optimise and	<ul> <li>Number of missions</li> <li>CO<sub>2</sub> (t) emissions from DG's missions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of missions</li> <li>Reduce DG's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from missions (9) (%)</li> </ul>

<sup>(5)</sup> Sustainable commuting usually refers to environmentally friendly travel modes, such as. Public transport (bus, tram, subway, light rail), walking, cycling, and carpooling.

<sup>(6)</sup> Only for Brussels: Based on the results of the staff mobility surveys conducted by OIB.

<sup>(7)</sup> VC (Videoconferencing) room

<sup>(8)</sup> data provided by HR.D.02

<sup>(9)</sup> Based on data provided by the Commission's carbon footprint analysis (by HR.D.02), including business travel.

gradually reduce CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (e.g. by optimising the number of participants in the same mission, promoting more sustainable travelling options, promoting videoconferencing/ virtual events as an alternative)	(% means of transportation used)	Meet the target defined in the Greening policy of the Commission
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	Number of events organised
III. Reducing and management o	of waste:	
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/OIL where appropriate (for example, promote and label the waste sorting schemes in place)  Implementation of the EC Guidelines for sustainable meetings and events, e.g. reduce/eliminate single-use	informed/participated	<ul> <li>Number or % of staff informed/participated</li> <li>Reduce waste generation (%)</li> <li>Increase waste sorting (%)</li> <li>100%</li> </ul>
reduce/eliminate single-use plastics, gadgets/gifts  IV. Promoting green public process.	urement (GPP):	
Staff awareness actions on the	Number of actions	Number of actions
promotion of "green items" among EC office supplies' catalogue (for	• Number or % of staff	• Number or % of staff
example, introduce a DG-specific	<ul><li>informed/participated</li><li>% and value (EUR) of "green"</li></ul>	<ul><li>informed/participated</li><li>% and value (EUR) of "green"</li></ul>
office supplies' catalogue, including only 100% "green items)	<ul><li>items ordered</li><li>Number of contracts relevant for GPP criteria</li></ul>	<ul><li>items ordered</li><li>Number of contracts relevant for GPP criteria</li></ul>
Gradual introduction of GPP criteria in contracts and starting to monitor the process (10).	<ul> <li>Number of GPP-relevant contracts with green criteria (relevant value in EUR)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Number of GPP-relevant contracts with green criteria (relevant value in EUR)</li> </ul>

(10) For information, technical support is provided by the <u>Interinstitutional GPP Helpdesk</u>. See also GPP webpage <u>on MY IC</u> for EU reference/guidelines by DG ENV.

#### V. Supporting biodiversity:

Staff awareness actions on supporting biodiversity (for example for urban sites, sponsor the creation and maintenance of urban gardens, insect hotels and green roofs within EC-premises with the support of volunteers)

- Number of actions m<sup>2</sup> covered by the action Number of staff involved
- Number of actions m<sup>2</sup> covered by the action Number of staff involved

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

- DG GROW will participate in the pilot phases of the Financial Forecasting and EC Corporate Multi-annual Programming and Planning solution(s) being developed by DGs BUDG and DIGIT.
- Active involvement in the development of new functionalities in eProcurement (DG GROW being Business Process Owner of eSubmission and eEvaluation).
- Systematic use of eProcurement (PPMT) for low and very low value contracts.
- eGrants onboarding with the use of the Model Grant Agreement for the funding programmes implemented by DG GROW.
- Further optimisation of some GROW financial workflows for efficiency gains.

## **ANNEX: Performance tables**

Main outputs in 2022:	Rela	ted to spending programme(s): No
New policy initiatives		
Output	Indicator	Target
EU Toolbox against counterfeiting	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Short-term Rentals	Commission adoption	Q2 2022
Type approval of motor vehicles regarding access to in-vehicle generated data	Commission adoption	Q3 2022
Adapting liability rules to the digital age and Artificial Intelligence	Commission adoption	Q3 2022
Regulation on Standard Essential Patents	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Compulsory Licensing of Patents	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Initiatives linked to regulatory sim	plification and burden reduction	1
Output	Indicator	Target
Review of the Design Directive	Commission adoption	Q2 2022
Review of the Community Design Regulation	Commission adoption	Q2 2022
Revision of the legislation on supplementary protection certificates	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Evaluations and fitness checks		
Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of Reg. (EU)2015/758 of the eCall in-vehicle system	Finalisation	Q4 2022
Evaluation of the Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive	Finalisation	Q1 2022
Public consultations		
Output	Indicator	Target
Environmental impact of photovoltaic modules, inverters and systems - Eco design	Start of the Consultation	Q1/Q2 2022
Environmental impact of photovoltaic modules, inverters and systems - Energy Labelling	Start of the Consultation	Q1/Q2 2022
Type approval of motor vehicles regarding access to in-vehicle generated data	Start of the Consultation	Q1 2022
External communication actions		
Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Seek at least the same level of participants to and engagement at	Number of participants, reached, interactions, policy inputs	Reaching at least the 202 levels

days, Cluster conference, SME Week, SME Assembly, Plastic Alliance conference) as in previous years even though comparison between physical and virtual meetings is not straight forward. Seek high reach in (social media) campaigns	EUID: 6500 virtual Cluster Conference: 500 virtual (2020) SME Assembly/Week: 340 in person, 470 online Plastic alliance: 250 (2020)
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## Specific objective 2: More European SMEs have access to cross-border business by digital means Related to spending programme(s): No

	Relat	ted to spending programme(s): No
Main outputs in 2022:		
New policy initiatives		
Output	Indicator	Target
Enforcement actions on the Late Payments Directive	To be decided	2022
External communication actions		
Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Reaching the relevant target groups	Number of audience reached and	For recurring campaigns reach

Reaching the relevant target groups of entrepreneurs via mainly online campaigns on different 'hot' SME topics such as Access to finance, Escalar and internationalisation.

Number of audience reached and engagement received via at least 2021 levels and for new ones, where possible, build on existing audience from earlier campaigns to reach same levels

## Specific objective 3: More business opportunities are generated by trading in the single market Related to spending programme(s): Yes

## Main outputs in 2022:

### New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Single Market Emergency Instrument (SMEI)	Commission adoption	Q2 2022
Geographical indication protection at EU level for non-agricultural products	Commission adoption	Q1 2022
Standardisation Strategy	Commission adoption	Q1 2022
Communication on the public procurement data strategy	Commission adoption	Q3 2022

### **Public consultations**

Output	Indicator	Target
Single Market Emergency Instrument (SMEI)	Start of the consultation	Q1 2022

#### **External communication actions**

Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Disseminating and triggering demand with relevant entrepreneur audiences via Networks and events. Toolkit helping SMEs doing business abroad		Comparable to the EU Open for business yearly EEN promotion pilot campaign: 100 additional subscribers to EEN services in average per Member State

### Specific objective 4: Promote compliance with EU single market rules and enforce them

Related to spending programme(s): No

#### Main outputs in 2022:

No. of the last of			
NOW	nolici	v matt	iatives
14 C M	PULIC	/ IIIII G	alives

Output	Indicator	Target
Single Market Enforcement Task	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Force Report		

### Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the New	Finalisation	Q2 2022
Legislative Framework for products		

#### **External communication actions**

Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Reaching authorities and entrepreneurs, increase the signalling of single market barriers via Your Europe and number of citizens made aware of the new Your Europe/Single Digital Gateway.	Audience reached and feedback received.	Increase in visits on YourEurope/Single Digital Gateway and increase in single market barriers signalling via Your Europe YE/SDG visits 2021: 50 million

### General objective: A European Green Deal

Specific objective: Increase the share of material recovered and fed back into the economy

Related to spending programme(s): No

#### Main outputs in 2022:

## **New policy initiatives**

Output	Indicator	Target
Restriction on microplastics	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Sustainable products policy initiative, including a revision of the Ecodesign Directive (with DGs ENV and ENER)	Commission adoption	Q1 2022
Development of post-Euro 6/VI emission standards for cars, vans, lorries and buses	Commission adoption	Q3 2022
Revision of classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures (CLP) (with ENV)	Commission adoption	Q3 2022
Revision of the Cosmetics Regulation	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Revision of the Toy Safey Directive	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Revision of REACH Regulation (with ENV)	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Simplification and digitalisation of labels on chemicals (CLP, Detergents, Fertilising Products)	Commission adoption	Q4 2022

Initiatives linked to regulatory sim	unlification and buRerden reduct	ion
Output	Indicator	Target
Revision of the Regulation on the making available and placing on the market of detergents	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Revision of the end-of-life vehicles Directive and the Directive on the type approval of motor vehicles (with ENV)	Commission adoption	Q4 2022
Revision of the Construction Product Regulation	Commission adoption	Q1 2022
Public consultations		
Output	Indicator	Target
Revision of EU legislation on registration, evaluation, authorisation and restriction of chemicals	Start of consultation	Q1 2022
Revision of Regulation (EC) 648/2004 on the making available and placing on the market of Detergents	Start of consultation	Q1 2022
Revision of the Toy Safety Directive	Start of consultation	Q1 2022
Revision of the Cosmetic Products Regulation (EC No 1223/2009) following the EU Chemicals Strategy for sustainability	Start of consultation	Q1 2022
External communication actions		
Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Reaching main audience groups (entrepreneurs and citizens) to inform on Green Deal advantages and receive feedback and ideas.	Audience reached and feedback received.	At least same number of participants to related events as in 2021 Hannnover Fair: 10% of the fair's customers visiting the EU stand