



European
Commission

Management Plan 2020

DG ENVIRONMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The **Directorate-General for Environment** (DG ENV) leads the European Commission's activities in the field of the environment. As established in the DG's Strategic Plan 2020-2024, its **key mission** is to contribute to enabling EU citizens to live well, within the planet's ecological limits, based on an innovative, circular economy, where biodiversity and ecosystems are protected and restored, environment-related health risks are minimised in ways to enhance our society's resilience, and where growth has been decoupled from resource use.

In 2020, as outlined in part 1 of the present Management Plan, DG ENV has either delivered or planned a number of initiatives announced in the 2020 Commission Work Programme (CWP) and the European Green Deal (EGD). These notably include a **circular economy** action plan, an update of **batteries** legislation, an ambitious policy framework for **biodiversity**, a more sustainable approach to **chemicals** policy and the **8th Environmental Action Programme**.

Across domains, the DG will pursue an ambitious **Better Regulation** agenda, with a significant number of evaluations, impact assessments and public consultations, for instance, in the fields of waste, water, industrial pollution, illegal logging or illegal wildlife trade.

Strengthening the governance framework remains a priority, to help close the **implementation** gap and ensure that Europeans reap the full benefits of EU environment legislation. Efforts to support Member States will continue or be set in motion, notably in the areas of **single use plastics** and **waste**. Enforcement action will be considered when necessary, and the rules granting **access to justice** on environmental matters will be revised and strengthened.


With its international activities, the DG will promote environmental standards and the EGD abroad, thereby contributing to global progress towards the **2030 Sustainable Development Goals**. The DG will also contribute to the negotiations on the future relationship with the **United Kingdom** and preparatory work for the implementation of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

In May 2020, in the context of the **COVID-19 pandemic**, the Commission adjusted its Work Programme to better respond to the crisis. DG ENV will prioritise activities that contribute to relaunch Europe's economy on a more sustainable basis, and will embed the Commission's approach to **resilience** and a **just transition** across its policies.

Working online efficiently and giving to staff a strong sense of direction will be management priorities, as described in **part 2** of this plan.

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

This management plan is the first established under the umbrella of the DG Strategic Plan 2020-2024. As outlined in its Strategic Plan, DG ENV will pursue six specific objectives, primarily contributing to the Commission's **general objective 1, A European Green Deal**. The narrative below presents the main outputs that the DG expects to deliver in 2020 under each specific objective. Further details are available in the performance tables in the annex.

The management plan focuses, as a priority, on the environmental initiatives announced in the **2020 Commission Work Programme**, as adjusted following the COVID-19 crisis. In the performance tables, such initiatives are flagged with the icon 

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

In March 2020, the Commission adopted an ambitious new **Circular Economy Action Plan** (CEAP), developed by DGs ENV and GROW in close cooperation with other relevant DGs.

The CEAP presents a set of cross-cutting initiatives to make production more circular across sectors, enable and encourage sustainable consumption, reduce waste and foster secondary materials markets. Comprehensive strategies are foreseen for resource-intensive and high-impact sectors. Implementing the CEAP will be a critical step in the transition to an economy where growth is decoupled from resource use and its environmental impacts. While many DGs will be involved, ENV will lead on a significant number of initiatives.

As a first step, EU rules on **batteries** will be revised in collaboration with DG GROW, building on an evaluation concluded in 2019 and after a thorough impact assessment. In the context of rapid global growth of electric mobility and energy storage, the review will aim at improving the design, durability and optimum use of batteries, the collection of discarded batteries and the recuperation of the valuable materials they contain. Sustainability standards will be proposed for all new batteries, to better protect the environment while ensuring a level playing field for producers. Once adopted, the revised legislation will contribute to the clean energy transition and underpin clean mobility and competitiveness in this sector.

Preparatory work will be launched on two legislative initiatives that will address sustainability across production sectors and consumption. The views of citizens and stakeholders will be gathered on the substantiation of **green claims** using environmental footprint methods, and on a new sustainable **product policy framework**, based on

applying ecodesign principles to all products and services in the EU and synergies with action on Green Public Procurement, EU Ecolabel and EMAS¹. In parallel, work will continue on implementing the Ecodesign Directive and Energy Labelling Regulation, with notably DGs GROW and ENER.

Collaboration with **stakeholders** remains key to the circular economy. In September, a show-room of EU Ecolabel products will be co-organised with German authorities and business partners, in the context of the German Presidency of the EU, and a Circular Economy Stakeholders Conference is foreseen in the autumn. The EU Business Awards for Environment will also contribute to promote circularity.

With regards to high-impact sectors, initiatives on the use of biodegradable plastics and on **microplastics** will be in progress and the first steps will be taken towards a comprehensive strategy for **sustainable textiles**. Work on **sustainable buildings** will continue with many building professionals. **Level(s)**, the framework to assess and report on sustainable performance, will be ready in 2020, for publication and as a basis for policy initiatives, particularly in the context of the **Renovation Wave**. DG GROW will be a close partner in all these developments.

Reducing waste remains a cornerstone of the circular economy. A significant number of evaluations will be concluded² and several legislative reviews will also be launched, as announced in the EGD and further detailed in the CEAP. This will include carrying out extensive stakeholder consultations, usually in the context of the ongoing impact assessments.

Implementation will also be reinforced, in line with the Commission focus on enforcement. Getting the updated **waste legislation** and the new **Single Use Plastic** Directive operational will require the development of several implementing acts and guidance notes (as detailed in the performance tables). Strategic compliance and enforcement action will continue, in particular with respect to landfilling and other waste targets. Contributing to the post-Brexit negotiations will be very relevant for the waste area, as will a proactive implementation of multilateral agreements such as the Basel Convention on transboundary movements of waste.

The Circular Economy Action Plan also outlines how the Commission will promote the **global transition** to a circular economy. As first steps, a Global Circular Economy Alliance will be set up, and a Vademecum established to support the work of the Delegations in third countries. Different dimensions of the circular economy will be further promoted in the DG international relations (see also specific objective 6)

¹ . A number of individual initiatives are listed in annex, under Specific Objective 1, category “other important outputs”.

² As mentioned in the performance tables. Further details are also available on the [Interinstitutional Database of EU Studies](#).

DG ENV's **Communication activities** will seek to raise awareness about key political issues most relevant to citizens, such as the right to repair and the textiles area, using a wide array of information and communication tools. The DG will actively support the corporate campaign on Circular Economy by preparing press material and factsheets and providing high quality input for videos. Networks like the “Green Spiders” and social media will also be mobilised.

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

In the first months of 2020, work under Specific Objective 2 focused on developing an ambitious **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030** (BDS) setting a clear roadmap of measures, commitments and targets for the protection of nature by the EU and its Member States. In the context of the coronavirus pandemic, the links between biodiversity loss, pests and disease were in the spotlight, and the need to prevent future crisis and increase resilience was strongly built in.

Intense work has already started on the implementation of the BDS commitments, as well as preparatory work on the new measures foreseen for delivery in 2021 and 2022. These will set the EU in motion towards meeting its biodiversity targets, including those linked to the Farm to Fork Strategy on the use of fertilisers and pesticides and on organic farming. Collaboration with a number of services, notably DGs AGRI, MARE, CLIMA, REGIO, TRADE and GROW, will be very relevant.

In parallel, a **new European biodiversity governance framework** will be put in place to monitor the implementation of the BDS, including a set of indicators to regularly assess progress and set out corrective action, if necessary.

A new legislative proposal for legally binding EU nature **restoration targets** is under preparation, building on the results of an ongoing evaluation of the actions taken to protect biodiversity until 2020. A public consultation will be launched in the autumn, with a double backward- and forward-looking perspective.

Helping Member States to meet their targets will be a priority, and will also boost implementation of the Habitats and Birds Directives, which are key elements of the regulatory framework protecting the EU natural capital. Building on the Natura 2000 network, guidance will be provided to assist Member States to identify new **protected areas**, including strictly protected areas. Based on mandatory reporting from Member States, a new **state of nature in the EU** report will be delivered and provide an update on the current conservation status and trends of protected species and habitats.

At the **international level**, following the adoption of the EU BDS, the immediate priority will be ensuring an ambitious **global biodiversity** framework at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations (UN) Convention on Biological Diversity, now

scheduled for the first half of 2021. In September, in the context of the UN General Assembly, the UN Biodiversity Summit and related events will offer a significant opportunity to showcase the EU's approach and encourage ambitious commitments at the highest political level. Targeted outreach to key third countries will also be conducted with a view to aligning negotiating positions in the run up to COP15.

Action to protect **soil and land** needs to be re-launched as a matter of urgency under the BDS. A revision of the EU Soil Thematic Strategy will be undertaken, with a view to achieving a better balance between the conservation and improvement of soil and the socio-economic benefits from its use. The DG will also continue to ensure an effective representation of the EU and its Member States in the context of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, notably in the ongoing Inter-Governmental Working group on Droughts.

Preparatory work will also start on a new **EU Forest Strategy**, in close collaboration with DG AGRI. Exploring ways to increase forests' resilience to wildfires and pests as well as their role as carbon sinks will be part of this work. These concerns, as well as the need to address the EU's global footprint, will underpin DG ENV's action to combat **global deforestation** and **illegal wildlife trade**. An impact assessment of possible measures to promote imported products and value chains that do not involve deforestation and forest degradation will be finalised and enable the Commission to take concrete measures in 2021, as announced in the EGD. A fitness check of the EU Timber³ and FLEGT⁴ Regulations will contribute to this process, and a Stakeholder Platform and a Forest Observatory will be put in place to ensure the broadest possible knowledge base and views from different perspectives. Discussions on forests will also continue in **multilateral contexts**, notably at the 15th session of the UN Forum on Forests, at the 25th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Committee on Forestry, and at the 56th session of the International Tropical Timber Council. As part of the efforts to protect wildlife, the DG will propose tighter rules for trade in Ivory and evaluate the EU Wildlife Trafficking Action Plan.

Seas and oceans continue to be under severe threat. According to the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Member States have to achieve good environmental status in 2020. Based on information provided by Member States, DG ENV will prepare a Commission report that will show the progress in achieving this objective, as well as the main pressures, measures and targets that Member States have identified.

Collaboration with DG MARE will be increasingly close, in line with the importance of marine and **fisheries** issues for the new biodiversity framework. Action against **plastic pollution**, including microplastics, under specific objectives 1 and 6, will also be very relevant. In addition, DG ENV will continue supporting the EU representation in the **Regional Sea**

³ Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market.

⁴ Council Regulation (EC) No 2173/2005 on the establishment of a FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the European Community.

Conventions⁵ and will explore opportunities for membership of the Bucharest Convention⁶. On 28 September, Commissioner Sinkevičius will host a **Baltic Conference** to raise awareness of the status and pressures on the Baltic Sea and advance solutions for improving.

Biodiversity will be the DG's **communication priority** in 2020, linked to the importance of nature and ecosystems for the economy, prosperity and well-being. Efforts will aim at promoting the EU's leading role in the upcoming international negotiations and at building momentum for biodiversity action on all levels. A **global coalition for biodiversity** conservation launched in March 2020 will mobilise national parks, aquariums, botanic gardens, zoos, science and natural history museums to jointly boost public awareness about the nature crisis. **Innovative technologies** will be explored to bring nature closer to people, for example a virtual reality exhibition on pollinators. On 20-22 October, the **EU Green Week 2020**, the DG's flagship communication event, will be dedicated to biodiversity. Via CitizEnv, engagement with citizens will continue in participatory formats and with a special focus on younger audiences. When available, corporate communication material will also be promoted.

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

In 2020, a **chemicals strategy for sustainability** will be presented to better protect citizens and the environment against hazardous chemicals and encourage innovation for the development of safe and sustainable alternatives. It will set out a roadmap to simplify and strengthen EU rules on chemicals and improve how EU agencies and scientific bodies can work together towards a one-substance process, by which substances are reviewed by one body only and from all relevant perspectives at once. In the context of the **COVID-19 crisis**, the strategy will aim to support the recovery of the chemicals industry and promote the EU's strategic autonomy for pharmaceuticals, disinfectants and other chemicals essential to health.

With regards to the **international agenda**, while the 5th session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management has been postponed to 2021, preparatory discussions will address the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. The foreseen adoption of the chemicals strategy will highlight the Commission's leadership and

⁵ HELCOM (Helsinki Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area), OSPAR (Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic) and UNEP/MAP (United Nations Environment Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan)

⁶ Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution adopted in 1992

comprehensive approach in this area, also underpinned by ongoing work in the context of the Stockholm (persistent organic pollutants), Rotterdam (international trade on hazardous chemicals and pesticides), Basel (transboundary movement of hazardous waste) and Minamata (mercury) conventions.

Environment pollution of air, water and soil continues to be of high concern for European citizens. Work on an action plan to address these interlinked challenges is ongoing, as required under the **zero pollution ambition** of the EGD, while efforts continue to step up implementation of the existing policies and legislation both within and beyond EU borders⁷.

Despite the progress made in recent decades, **air pollution** remains the first environmental challenge for public health. The second Clean Air Outlook will show where the EU and its Member States stand in respect of their legal targets and explore possible responses. A report on compliance with national emission ceilings will provide further information and contribute to the evaluation of the National Energy and Climate Plans. These will also feed into the improvement process foreseen to follow on the Air Quality fitness check.

Environmental noise is the second major threat to human health due to environmental factors. In collaboration with the Noise Expert Group, DG ENV will propose noise reduction measures to reduce the burden on health. Existing policy frameworks will be assessed, at international, EU and national levels, to identify the improvements that are needed.

As regards **water quality and efficiency**, the water fitness check concluded in 2019 revealed several implementation weaknesses, among them a lack of information affecting several countries. The DG will complete this knowledge gap, *inter alia* based on the River Basin and Floods Risk Management Plans from Member States. Supporting the European Parliament and the Council to adopt the revised **Drinking Water** Directive and the new EU rules on **Water Reuse** (both based on pending proposals prepared by DG ENV), will be another priority. These measures were designed to improve water quality and efficiency and will, once implemented, deliver significant benefits for the environment and citizens' health. The revision of the watchlist of **priority substances** in surface water will address pollutants of emerging concern and contribute to developing an early warning mechanism that will be key for the zero pollution ambition.

Despite the progress made under the Industrial Emissions Directive, **industrial emissions** remain a significant source of pollution across sectors, to be tackled as a priority under the EGD. Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference documents will continue to be adopted and implemented, to enable further progress, and an evaluation will take stock of achievements

⁷ Detail of the actions foreseen to implement existing legislation is provided in the tables in annex, under Specific Objective 3

and areas for improvement. A revision of the Directive and of the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register will follow⁸.

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

Within the Commission, the integration of environmental considerations into other EU policies will be pursued through the **internal coordination** processes in place, in line with the Commission's call to work better together. Policy integration will be fundamental for the successful development of transformative strategies such as, in 2020, the biodiversity framework, Farm to Fork, the new Industry and SME strategies and the Climate law.

As the tool to monitor progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in the EU, the **European Semester** process has become a key tool for environmental integration in the Member States. DG ENV will step up its contribution, to strengthen the environmental recommendations in the 2020 Semester reports, notably in order to encourage Member States to prioritise investments in circular economy, biodiversity, clean water and air, notably in the context of their recovery plans. In the context of the just transition ambition, **fiscal reforms** and the Commission proposals on own resources will be a further opportunity to encourage the shift towards environmental taxes that take the social impacts fully into account.

Public and private investments are fundamental to achieving ambitious environmental objectives.

Working with the Member States and with other Commission services to implement existing **EU spending programmes** will continue to be a priority, as will be greening the financial support under the **Recovery and Resilience** fund, in line with the "do no harm" principle. In particular, linked to the European Semester, DG ENV will propose relevant investment areas, projects and reforms for inclusion in the Recovery and Resilience Plans to be prepared by Member States. The new **Multiannual Financial Framework** 2021-2027, including and beyond the new **LIFE Regulation**, will be essential in determining the level of funding for environmental priorities and the future of the ecological transition. Mainstreaming into external funds will be equally relevant to support the green agenda globally. Preparations will start to ensure that environment action is mainstreamed into the **new programmes**, once these are finally adopted and implementation starts. This will

⁸ Detail of these deliverables is provided the performance tables in annex, under the category of "Other important outputs"

inter alia include establishing sound governance mechanisms and developing guidance on sustainability proofing and environmental tracking.

Contributing to develop country-specific recommendations to align the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Strategic Plans to the EGD ambitions will be a priority in 2020. The recommendations will include the main environmental priorities on which Member States should focus when planning their CAP interventions. This exercise will be steered to deliver particularly on the commitments of the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies and will go on in parallel to the structured dialogue with Member States for the design of the CAP Strategic Plans.

Work will also continue on **sustainable finance**, with FISMA, CLIMA and other core DGs. In 2020, the focus will be on a renewed strategy and developing further criteria to complete the taxonomy of green investments. The aim will be that the same set of criteria helps to mobilise both public and private investments, including EU funds.

Specific Objective 5-Governance

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

A sound governance framework and close collaboration with a broad range of stakeholders are key to achieving full implementation of environmental policies and legislation in Member States.

In 2020, an **8th Environment Action Programme** (8EAP) will be developed, in close coordination with DG CLIMA and other concerned services, to ensure that all agents join forces towards the implementation of the EGD and its environmental goals. An evaluation of **environmental information** rules will be launched in parallel, to modernise data gathering, improve access for citizens and enable faster comparability of environmental performance across Member States. As a first step, public and stakeholders' views will be gathered through targeted and open consultations.

As announced in the EGD, DG ENV will propose an update of the rules on **access to justice** in environmental matters, broadening their application in line with the requirements of the Aarhus Convention. Better access to justice will enable citizens and their organisations to help enforcing environmental law locally.

Enforcement work by the DG will also continue. In addition to the management of infringement cases and new investigations, in 2020 the DG will check the transposition of the updated waste legislation by Member States, due in July 2020. Several initiatives to support compliance will be launched across sectors and collaboration will continue with the established networks of judges, prosecutors and inspectors. Steered by the DG, the Environmental Governance and **Compliance Assurance Forum** will implement a multiannual programme supporting the delivery of environmental political priorities. In the

context of the **COVID-19** pandemic, the DG will give priority to implementation deficiencies that have a particularly negative impact on human health.

Environmental action is particularly important in urban settings where more than 75% of EU citizens live. Cities have an important role in tackling environmental challenges and in helping to improve implementation of EU rules on the ground. The **Green City Accord** devised by the DG will mobilise cities to achieve greener, cleaner and healthier environments, with a focus on air, noise, water, nature and biodiversity, circular economy and waste. The benchmarking tool deployed in 2019 will be promoted, to enable cities to assess their own environmental performance. Further efforts will also go into increasing outreach, in particular through the **European Green Capital and Leaf** awards.

For all of the priorities mentioned, DG ENV will communicate as widely as possible to the general public via media, including social media, and to relevant stakeholders via webinars or targeted events. The results of the **CitizEnv** process will serve as an input to the 8th Environment Action Programme, giving European citizens an additional access to the policy decision-making process.

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

With a strong domestic environment *acquis* and a set of ambitious strategies under the EGD, pressures on the environment emanating from third countries come increasingly into focus. In 2020, despite the difficulties of reaching out in the **global COVID-19 crisis**, DG ENV will strive to strengthen bilateral policy advocacy and other forms of exchanges in the framework of Green Deal diplomacy, and continue its work to strengthen global environment governance, in particular in areas where there are gaps. Wherever possible, international meetings and conferences will be held in virtual format and be used to showcase EU environment policies and promote a green global recovery from the COVID 19 pandemic.

The DG will continue to engage at the multilateral level and in particular prepare the EU's contribution to the fifth session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA5), focusing *inter alia* on advancing the discussions on a **Global Plastics Agreement** to better manage plastics throughout their lifecycle and avoid marine litter (see also specific objective 1). It will actively promote the consolidation of the recently launched G20 Resource Efficiency Dialogue and participate in relevant G7/G20 meetings.

With regards to bilateral and regional cooperation, all possible means will be deployed to surmount the obvious challenges posed by the pandemic. As an example, while **circular economy missions**, intended to be focused on **Africa** in 2020, will be postponed, technical level contacts and webinars continue, to identify concrete deliverables for subsequent missions. Engagement with African governments and businesses will be achieved in the

context of the 5th EU-African Union Summit and through a dedicated session on circular economy at the EU-Africa Business Summit, in line with the ambitions of the EU strategy with Africa. To ensure minimum disruption of diplomatic relations with **strategic partners**, high-level dialogues on the broader environment agenda are conducted through video-conferencing, paving the way for technical exchanges and project-based cooperation. This will include Dialogues with ASEAN, Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea and others. The **EU-India Summit**, in July, will be the occasion to sign a Joint Declaration on Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy, and possibilities to partner with regional circular economy initiatives in Africa and Latin America are being explored. The series of **virtual EU-China Summit** and leaders' meetings is expected to deliver clear, joint commitments on environment, particularly on biodiversity. In the **enlargement** area, in addition to supporting enlargement negotiations, the DG will work with DG NEAR and other concerned services to finalise the **Green Agenda for the Western Balkans**. Preparations will continue for Ministerial meetings of the **Eastern Partnership** and of the **Union for the Mediterranean**.

Full integration of environmental priorities in EU external relations and in enlargement, neighbourhood and development funding will be very relevant and require working in close collaboration with the European External Action Service and DGs DEVCO, NEAR and FPI.

PART 2. Modernising the administration: main outputs for the year

President von der Leyen, in her political guidelines, announced that the Commission would take the necessary steps to modernise its administration and ensure that the institution has the appropriate resources to deliver the best results for Europeans. DG ENV's approach to this corporate goal is defined in the DG Strategic Plan 2020-2024. With its human, financial, knowledge and IT resources, the DG aims to deliver on the environmental priorities of the European Green Deal (EGD), while maximising its contribution to other political ambitions.

This part of the management plan 2020, the first under the DG multiannual strategy, presents the activities that the DG intends to carry out during the year, in pursuing the five objectives (on human resources, financial and anti-fraud management, digital transformation and environmental management) set out in the strategic plan.

DG ENV has established an internal control system tailored to its particular characteristics and circumstances. An internal control framework⁹ 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. The effective functioning of the service's internal control system will be assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the year and be subject to a specific annual assessment covering all internal control principles.

A. Human resource management

DG ENV has a very charged policy agenda for 2020, including both new far-reaching policy initiatives as well as an important number of legal commitments and deadlines to meet. Delivering in time will require a very **effective workforce**. Managing efficiently the available human resources while maintaining and increasing the skills and motivation of staff will be very relevant. In view of the continued staff reductions that the DG has suffered in the past years¹⁰, the challenge ahead will be very demanding. **Work-life balance** and well-being will be at the center of concerns, and the new ways of working learned during the **COVID-19** lock-down will be maintained, where they have demonstrated increased efficiency and less burden for staff. **Internal communication** activities will be very relevant and help to maintain a sense of shared objectives and collective ownership of the achievements of the DG.

⁹ [Communication C\(2017\)2373 - Revision of the Internal Control Framework](#)

¹⁰ Since 2015, in spite of the increase of activities, the human resources of DG ENV have decreased by 15% for officials and TA and 17% for credits (other staff), including the externalisation of the management of the LIFE Programme to EASME.

With this in mind, the DG is developing a **local HR Strategy**, building on workforce and workload assessments and aiming to align resources with the **policy priorities**. An internal Committee composed by the Director General, the Deputy Director General, the Director of Resources and the Business Correspondent will, for as long as is necessary, meet on a weekly basis to discuss crucial matters such as **resources allocation and resilience**.

Ageing is one of the specific issues that the DG needs to address¹¹. As an important number of senior colleagues with broad expertise approach their retirement, measures have to be put in place to keep their in-depth knowledge and ensure it is transmitted to other colleagues across the DG. This will be approached in collaboration with the DG knowledge team.

In the field of **equal opportunities**, DG ENV has already exceeded the targets set for female representation in middle management positions for the period 2016-2020. Women represent 43% of the management (13 out of 30 occupied posts). In the case of Middle Managers (Heads of Unit), the 50% female representation was attained in June 2019. The DG will however continue paying special attention to keep the balance in 2020.

Objective: DG ENV 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 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
To reach the target of first female appointments on middle management positions	1 appointment	By end of Q2 2020
Development of a local HR Strategy	HR Strategy and action plan	By end of Q2 2020
Programme of internal online communication actions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online events such as coffee breaks with Senior Management • Targeted information on policy achievements 	Number of events / policy campaigns implemented	Regular pipeline of events during lock down/recovery Policy achievements regularly highlighted through internal communication means, including direct messaging and the DG's intranet/collaborative sites

¹¹ During the last mandate, average age has increased from 45.2 to 47.2 years (1/06/2019).

B. Sound financial management

As outlined in its Strategic plan, DG ENV aims at **sound and efficient management** of its financial resources, maintaining effective internal control, risk management and accounting systems.

In the context of the **Covid-19 crisis**, additional efforts are required to mitigate potential negative effects on budget implementation and assurance controls, and specific risks related to budget performance and compliance need to be tackled. Options to further support LIFE beneficiaries are being examined (e.g. increase in prefinancing, extended deadlines for submission of offers, information support to prepare proposals). Mitigating action has been undertaken to minimise the impact of the crisis on the pace of budget implementation and on payment delays. Similarly, alternative arrangements have been in place for carrying out ex-post controls, which are an essential base for assurance building.

Preparatory work will start for the implementation of the new **LIFE programme**, for which a significant 55% envelope increase has been proposed in the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027. This includes following the adoption of the new Regulation by the co-legislators and preparing the sub-sequent implementing act for Commission adoption. The externalisation process and the delegation arrangements with a new executive agency (which will implement the bulk of the programme) will also be established, in close collaboration with DG CLIMA. Ensuring a smooth transfer of staff and files from the current executive agency to the future European Climate, Environment and Infrastructure Executive Agency will be key.

Work with the European Court of Auditors (ECA) will continue to be very intensive. This concerns both the audits of financial transactions for the annual budget discharge as well as the policy “performance audits”. Particularly relevant will be the audits on Biodiversity on Farmland, Wild Pollinators and Marine Environment, planned to be published in 2020. Further audit tasks will be carried out also with the Internal Audit Service (IAS).

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 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
Effective controls: Legal and regular transactions	Risk at payment	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
	Estimated risk at closure	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
Efficient controls	Budget execution and time-to-pay	remains > 99 % of payment appropriations and remains > 95 % of payments (in value) on time

Economical controls	Overall estimated cost of controls	remains < 2% of funds managed
Safeguarding of assets	Number of security incidents confirmed by the CSIRC	0
Safeguarding of assets	Number of personal data breaches with risk to the rights and freedoms of the data subjects	0

C. Fraud risk management

In 2020, the DG will finalise and start implementing its new Anti-fraud Strategy covering the period 2020-2024. Key fraud risks identified in the strategy, such as overpricing by service providers, leakage of internal information to external stakeholders and applicants to financial procedures, conflict of interest in evaluation procedures for awarding contracts and risks related to Intellectual Property Rights, will be assessed in annual risk assessments. In order to build a capacity of anti-fraud skills, dedicated local training for DG ENV staff on these key risks, as well as further promotion of the final anti-fraud strategy is foreseen. Regular reporting on implementation of the OLAF recommendations and communication with OLAF concerning potential fraud cases will be ensured.

Objective: The risk of fraud is minimised through the application of effective anti-fraud measures and the implementation of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy (CASF)¹² aimed at the prevention, detection and correction¹³ of fraud

Main outputs in 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
Anti-Fraud Strategy 2020-2024	Approval of the Anti-Fraud Strategy by senior management	2020 Q4
Assessment of significant fraud risks, for further improvement in understanding of fraud patterns	Minutes of the annual risk management assessment	Continuous
Capacity building of anti-fraud skills for effective detection of potential fraud	Trainings offered to DG ENV staff, with focus on specific key fraud risks identified in the anti-fraud strategy	At least one training per year within DG ENV. Promotion of specialised trainings by OLAF or other DGs on anti-fraud, for DG ENV staff to join
Regular reporting to OLAF on implementation of its recommendations	Reports transmitted to OLAF	At least one report per year

¹² Communication from the Commission "Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy: enhanced action to protect the EU budget", COM(2019) 176 of 29 April 2019 – 'the CAFS Communication' – and the accompanying action plan, SWD(2019) 170 – 'the CAFS Action Plan'.

¹³ Correction of fraud is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.

Systematic communication to OLAF on potential fraud cases stemming from LIFE legacy grant agreements or other financial files	Preparation of notifications	Continuous, frequency depends on the emergence specific fraud cases
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D. Digital transformation and information management

DG ENV's approach to the digital transformation is defined in its Strategic plan 2020-2024. Building on the achievements of the Environmental Knowledge Community (EKC) and on the local Knowledge management strategy, the DG approach also aims to respond to the corporate call for developing local data governance frameworks.

In 2020, the DG will finalise the definition of its 2020-2024 strategy on Data, information and knowledge governance, and the accompanying action plan. Actions under this governance framework will include the creation of a comprehensive DG data platform, with an Indicators catalogue and the development of Green Dataspaces.

In line with the relevant Commission strategies and guidelines, the DG aims at managing its data, information and knowledge in a more open and effective manner. New platforms for data management, integration and communication will be designed and submitted as part of the Commission Modernisation Plan. The IT solution landscape will be the target of continuous improvement to align with the principles of the digital strategy. In particular, the security plans of all the systems will be reviewed following the ITSRM2 methodology.

Technologies to work collaboratively are increasingly integrated in the DG daily work. Connected is used for the DG "Country Knowledge" repository and Confluence wiki for the EKC and ongoing work on data, information and management. A SharePoint Collaborative Platform has been launched to enable collaboration on documents broadly and the DG has become a pilot for M365 (through the Zero Pollution project).

The EKC will continue fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among its partners (DGs ENV, AGRI, CLIMA, RTD, JRC, ESTAT and the EEA). This includes hosting regular meetings and coordinating specific knowledge projects. In 2020, the DG will deliver best practices on citizens science for environmental monitoring and the third foresight report on emerging environmental issues will be published. The EKC projects 'Within the Limit of our Planet' and 'Integrated Natural Capital and Ecosystems Accounting' will deliver important results. Also relevant in 2020 will be the reflection and planning of future EKC projects to support the knowledge needs of the European Green Deal.

As regards records management, the objectives defined in the DG strategic plan will continue to be pursued, in line with the user needs and taking account of the corporate eDomec, personal data protection and information security rules. Progress will be made under the Data Protection Action Plan, taking the necessary steps to raise awareness and ensure full compliance with the Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. In 2020, data protection information will be included in the DG welcome pack for newcomers and further

training and email campaigns will be organised. The Data Protection Coordinator will be consulted on relevant activities and contracts, to ensure they comply with the applicable rules.

Objective: DG ENV 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 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
Creation of the ENV data platform	Availability of first version of the EVN data platform, supporting at least 2 data outputs as proof of concept	Q4 2020
Security Plans available and aligned with ITSRM2	Security plans for all IT systems of DG ENV in GovIS	Q4 2020
Coordinate knowledge sharing and collaboration with the partners of the Environment Knowledge Community (EKC).	Regular meetings and activities of the EKC (at Sherpa, Director and DG level).	Throughout 2020
EKC deliverable: Publication of the Guidelines on Citizen Science for Environmental Monitoring	Publication of the guidelines	Q3 2020
Increase staff awareness on data protection	Data protection information included in the welcome pack	Q4 2020
	Number of general data protection awareness communication sent to staff	1
	Number of general data protection events organised	1
	Percentage of DG ENV data controllers having followed training	100%

E. Sound environmental management

DG ENV will continue implementing the local “EMAS action plan” adopted in 2019. Raising awareness and providing staff with adequate equipment to reduce their footprint at work are at the core of this plan. Teleworking and videoconferences will be encouraged as a way to reduce commuting emissions. Separate waste collection will be facilitated and remaining small printers will be removed from individual offices, to discourage printing and reduce paper used. Proactive outreach and effective surveillance will help to reduce unnecessary

electricity consumption. The main actions and targets foreseen in 2020 are listed below. However, due to the dramatic effects of the pandemic and the months of lock down, the trends observed in 2020 cannot be counted as results of these activities.

In view of the relevance attached by this Commission to sound environmental management, the DG will organise an additional EMAS workshop to further raise awareness and to enhance the plan with new ideas from staff.

Finally, in 2020, DG ENV will, in cooperation with DG CLIMA, support the Commission services in charge of procurement to integrate environmental requirements into corporate procurement activities. The elaboration of guidelines for the implementation of green public procurement (GPP) criteria in DG ENV's own procurement (studies and services) will also be envisaged.

Objective: DG ENV takes full account of its environmental impact in all its actions and actively promotes measures to reduce the related day-to-day impact of the administration and its work

Main results and outputs in 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
EMAS webinar organised to raise (June 2020)	Number of participants Number of proactive suggestions collected	High participation and at least 10 new suggestions from participants
Videoconference meetings are more and more encouraged. All the DG ENV meeting rooms have been renovated and equipped with last technologies in order to facilitate videoconferencing.	Trainings on how to use the new installations were organised for colleagues, including lunchtime videoconference with the participation of SCIC and DIGIT	Reduce emissions from DG ENV's missions by 8% per year.
Reduce the number of personal office printers to reduce unnecessary printouts.	Amount of paper used	Reduce the number of paper sheets used in DG ENV by 8% per year.
Raise awareness to switch lights off when leaving the offices. Switch off remaining office lights by the last person leaving the office. Switching off the main power hub for each office PC at source (unplugging from main electricity supply to avoid stand-by consumption)	Reduction of electricity consumption	Reduce consumption of electricity in BU-5 and BU-9 (DG ENV offices) by 8% per year
Elaboration of guidance on the use of GPP in the procurement of studies and services	Draft guidelines established	2020

F. Examples of initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities






In view of the high political priority of environment policies within the EGD and the limited resources available, DG ENV will strive to further simplify its internal functioning and implement local measures leading to **synergies and efficiency** gains, notably in the IT and document management domain, but also on public procurement, logistics and human resources.

Linked to the **COVID-19 lock down**, the DG has leapfrogged its transition to full electronic (paperless) workflows and e-signature in Ares for its internal procedures, including the workflows in financial transactions that do not need blue ink. This change will be maintained, internal procedures will be aligned and information and training provided for staff that still need it. Videoconference and other forms of online meetings, which have successfully enabled business continuity in confinement, will continue to be promoted and *inter alia* help staff to manage time more efficiently. Furthermore, making use of new IT software enabling working remotely in teams have been tested and will soon become a corporate solution.

As regards the **LIFE programme**, new and ongoing measures will aim at streamlining procedures for the management and implementation of the new programme in the coming MFF period, in cooperation with DGs CLIMA and ENER. These will include multi-annual financing decisions allowing for greater flexibility and less administrative burden, simplification of the budget nomenclature to reduce the number of LIFE budget lines, additional simplification in LIFE grants (like the use of lump-sums and simplified costs options) and the promotion of Integrated Projects which, thanks to complementary funding from EU/National/Local funds, can create synergies with other EU policies.

A collaborative, more dynamic management of the available **human resources** will be promoted, based *inter alia* on colleagues providing support to different units, depending on the relative workloads. Internal calls for expression of interest will be launched to encourage policy and financial staff to get involved in developments outside their assignment units, to reinforce teams working on priorities on a temporary basis. Each individual exercise will be launched by a management decision, implemented in full transparency and recorded in the job description of the colleagues concerned.

ANNEX: Policy performance tables

General objective: A European Green Deal		
<i>Specific objective 1: The EU economy is more circular and uses natural resources and products more sustainably</i>		<i>Related to spending programme LIFE</i>
Main outputs in 2020:		
New policy initiatives		
Output	Indicator	Target
 A new Circular Economy Action Plan For a cleaner and more competitive Europe (PLAN/2019/6244)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q1 (Adopted, 11/03/2020)
 EU approach to support and accelerate the transition to the Circular Economy globally	Staff Working Document accompanying the Circular Economy Action Plan	2020 Q1 (11/03/2020)
Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction		
Output	Indicator	Target
 Revision of EU Batteries legislation - Proposal for a Directive on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators (repealing Directive 2006/66/EC) (PLAN/2019/5391)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q4
Evaluations and fitness checks		
Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the Environmental Technology Verification Pilot programme (PLAN/2017/871)	Finalisation of the evaluation and publication of Staff Working Document	2020 Q3
 Evaluation of the End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) Directive (PLAN/2018/3471)	Finalisation of the evaluation and publication of Staff Working Document	2020 Q3
 Evaluation of the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive (PLAN/2018/3000)	Finalisation of the evaluation	2020 Q4
Public consultations		
Output	Indicator	Target
Revision of the Waste shipments Regulation (PLAN/2019/5394)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q2 (Launched 07/05/2020)
Proposal for a Regulation on substantiating environmental claims using the Product/Organisation Environmental Footprint methods (PLAN/2020/7435)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3

Sustainable Products Policy Legislative Initiative (PLAN/2020/7714)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q4
Revision of Directive 94/62/EC on Packaging and Packaging Waste to reinforce the essential requirements for packaging to be placed on the EU market	Public consultation launched	2020 Q4
External communication actions		
Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Circular economy 2.0 promotional activities	Number of people reached and number of interactions on Social Media accounts of DG ENV	+ 100 000 and + 4 000
	Coverage in key media outlets	At least 10
Other important outputs		
Output	Indicator	Target
Setting up the: Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource efficiency (PLAN/2020/8260)	Adoption of decision by the Commission	2020 Q3
Circular Economy Stakeholders Conference	Event organised	2020 Q4
2020 European Business awards for the Environment	Awarded	2020 Q4
Decisions on EU Ecolabel criteria for several products and services, including electronic displays (2016/ENV/067), hard covering products, certain paper products, textiles and footwear (PLAN/2020/6379, 6380, 7716)	Adoption of three decisions by the Commission	2020 Q4
EMAS reference documents - including best environmental management practice, environmental performance indicators and benchmarks of excellence for Fabricated Metal Products and telecom/ICT services (PLAN/2018/3534, 3533,) Updated EMAS user's guide (PLAN/2020/8047)	Adoption of two reference documents by the Commission Adoption of the updated guidance by the Commission	2020 Q3-Q4 2020 Q4
25 th EMAS anniversary conference and EU Ecolabel showroom	Event co-organised with the German Presidency of the UE	2020 Q3
Green Public Procurement criteria for imaging equipment, consumables and print services (PLAN/2020/7713)	Publication of criteria (Staff Working Documents)	2020 Q3
Restriction of Hazardous Substances in waste - Implementation of Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS) - management	Adoption of exemptions by the Commission	2020 Q3-Q4

of exemptions (PLAN/2018/3640, 3641, 3642, 3644, 3645)		
<p>Implementation of Waste Framework legislation (WFD Directive EU/2008/98) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rules to calculate average loss rates for sorted waste (PLAN/2018/3612) - Decision on reporting format for the reuse of products (PLAN/2018/3623) - Common methodology to report on products reuse (PLAN/2018/3676) - Guidelines for Extended Producer Responsibility criteria on the costs of cleaning up litter (PLAN/2020/6697) - Guidelines on minimum requirements for extended producer responsibility schemes (re Article 8a of the WFD (PLAN/2020/6789) - Commission Notice on the separate collection of hazardous fractions of household waste (PLAN/2020/7685) 	Adoption of measures by the Commission	2020 Q3-Q4
EU position at the triple Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basle Conventions on Transboundary movements of hazardous wastes, on International trade in hazardous chemicals and pesticides, and on Persistent Organic Pollutants (PLAN/2020/7029, 8482 and 8483)	Adoption of proposals by the Commission and the Council	2020 Q3-Q4
<p>Implementation of Single Use Plastic legislation (SUP Directive EU/2019/904):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing Regulation on the marking of certain single-use plastic products (PLAN/2020/7076) - Calculation and verification of the targets for the separate collection of plastic beverage bottles (PLAN/2020/7078) - Reporting of data on the separate collection of single-use plastic bottles (PLAN/2020/7079) - Guidelines on the products subject to the Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment (PLAN/2020/6696) 	Adoption of measures by the Commission	2020 Q3-Q4
Update of the Waste Shipment	Adoption of two decisions by the	2020 Q3 and Q4

Regulation to take account of decisions taken under the Basel Convention (PLAN/2020/7154)	Commission	
Update of the European List of ship recycling facilities (PLAN/2018/3667)	Adoption of the updated list by the Commission	2020 Q3


General objective: A European Green Deal

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


Related to spending programme **LIFE**

Main outputs in 2020:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
 EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Bringing nature back into our lives (PLAN/2019/6264)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q2 (Adopted 20/05/2020)

Evaluations and fitness checks

Output	Indicator	Target
 Fitness Check of the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) and the EU Timber Regulations (PLAN/2019/6094)	Public consultation launched Finalisation of the evaluation	2020 Q4

Public consultations

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (PLAN/2017/1319)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3
Legislative proposal for the legally binding EU nature restoration targets (PLAN/2020/8491)	Public consultation launched, in combination with the above consultation	2020 Q3
Evaluation of the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (PLAN/2019/6139)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3
Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive 86/278/EEC (PLAN/2020/7406)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3
EU Forest Strategy (in collaboration with DG AGRI)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q4
Revision of the EU Soil Strategy	Public consultation launched	2020 Q4
Review of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (Directive 2008/56/EC) – back to back evaluation and possible amendment	Public consultation launched	2020 Q4

Minimising the risk of deforestation and forest degradation associated with products placed on the EU market (PLAN/2019/6251)	Public Consultation launched	2020 Q4
External communication actions¹⁴		
Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
EU Green Week on Biodiversity	Number of participants at the high level event conference	200 (because of COVID limitations)
Biodiversity strategy promotional activities	Number of impressions on Twitter	At least 1 million
Global Biodiversity Coalition	Number of participants	At least 100
Other important outputs		
Output	Indicator	Target
International Conference on forests – “Forests for biodiversity and climate”	Event organised	2020 Q1 (Organised, 4-5/02/2020)
Natura 2000 Implementation Guidance document on Wind Energy Developments and EU Nature legislation (PLAN/2020/7849) Guidance on the assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites (PLAN/2020/8476)	Adoption by the Commission (two guidance documents)	2020 Q3 and Q4
Update of the lists of Natura 2000 sites according to Member States proposals (PLAN/2020/7712)	Proposed updates adopted by the Commission	2020 Q4
Natura 2000 Day and Awards	Award candidate projects selected and Natura 2000 ceremony organised	21 May
Report on the State of Nature in the European Union (PLAN/2020/8188)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2020 Q4
Guidance on the compliance measures for users from the Nagoya protocol on fair use of genetic resources (PLAN/2020/7286)	Adoption of guidance by the Commission	2020 Q3
Implementation of the EU Timber Regulation and the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) : - Biennial report on the EU Timber Regulation for the period 2017-2019 (PLAN/2020/7930) - Synthesis report of the FLEGT	Adoption of two Commission reports:	2020 Q3-Q4

¹⁴ Events requiring physical presence may be either rescheduled or transformed into online events

licensing scheme for the year 2018 (PLAN/2020/7628)		
Strengthening the EU regime governing intra-EU trade and re-export of ivory : Commission Regulation aligning EU rules to recent decisions taken under CITES (PLAN/2018/3345) and Revised Commission guidance document on Closing gaps in the EU regime on ivory trade (PLAN/2020/6500)	Publication of guidance (Staff Working Document) Adoption of implementing Regulation by the Commission Adoption of the revised guidance by the Commission	2020 Q4
Regulatory updates required for the implementation of the CITES Convention and the and the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations: Commission Implementing Regulation suspending imports into the EU of certain endangered animal and plant species from specific source countries (PLAN/2020/6559) and Commission Regulation revising the Annexes to Council Regulation 338/97 (PLAN/2017/1009)	Adoption of two decisions by the Commission	2020 Q4
Implementation of the Nitrates directive – management of derogations requested by Denmark (PLAN/2020/6305) and The Netherlands (PLAN/2020/7718)	Adoption of two decisions by the Commission	2020 Q2-Q3 (Adopted 20/05/2020 for Netherlands and 17/07/2020 for Denmark)
Setting up of the Knowledge Center for Biodiversity	Setting up of the Centre at Green Week	2020 Q3
Mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services (MAES)	Publication of a “Summary for policy-makers”	2020 Q4
Marine Strategy Framework Directive implementation report (Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC, Article 20) (PLAN/2018/3912)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2020 Q2 (Adopted 25/06/2020)
EU negotiating position at the OSPAR Ministerial Meeting (PLAN/2020/6926)	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2020 Q2 (Adopted 07/05/2020)


General objective: A European Green Deal

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


Related to spending programme **LIFE**

Main outputs in 2020:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
 Chemicals strategy for sustainability (PLAN/2020/6491) Accompanied by Staff Working Documents on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use and contamination of PFAS in the EU (PLAN/2020/7567) - Review of certain provisions of the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restrictions of Chemicals (PLAN/2020/7758) 	Adoption of a Communication by the Commission Two Staff Working Documents)	2020 Q3
Drinking Water – revision of EU Directive	Communication on the Council position by the Commission Adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2020 Q2 2020 Q3
Minimum requirements for water reuse – new EU Regulation	Communication on the Council position by the Commission Adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2020 Q2 (Adopted 15/04/2020) 2020 Q4

Evaluations and fitness checks

Output	Indicator	Target
 Evaluation of the Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions (IED) (PLAN/2018/3301)	Finalisation of the evaluation and publication of conclusions (Staff Working Document)	2020 Q3

Public consultations

Output	Indicator	Target
Review of the EU Recommendation on the definition of nanomaterial (PLAN/2020/7881)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3
Commission proposal for the revision of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (PLAN/2020/6608)	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3
EU Action Plan towards a Zero Pollution Ambition for air, water and soil	Public consultation launched	2020 Q4

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
<p>Implementation of the REACH Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulation clarifying registrants' obligations concerning dossier updates under art 132 (PLAN/2018/3503) - Decisions on substances evaluation / compliance check (PLAN/2018/2668) - Amendment of REACH Annexes regarding Endocrine Disruptors under REACH (PLAN/2019/5822) - Regulation amending the REACH Annex on test methods (PLAN/2018/3630) 	Adoption of decisions by the Commission	2020 Q3-Q4
<p>Classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures – adaptation to technical progress (PLAN/2020/7285)</p>	Adoption of two decisions by the Commission	2020 Q2 and Q3 (One decision adopted 19/05/2020)
Progress report on the assessment and management of combined exposures to multiple chemicals and associated risks (PLAN/2020/8252)	Staff Working Document published	2020 Q3
<p>Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) implementation</p> <p>Summary report on the application of Regulation (EC) No 850/2004 during the periods 2010-2012 (PLAN/2017/2188) and 2013-2015 (PLAN/2020/8477)</p>	Adoption of two reports by the Commission	2020 Q3 2020 Q4
Amendment of Annex I to the POPs Regulation as regards a limit value for PCP (PLAN/2020/8480) and as regards the entry on PFOA (PLAN/2020/8387)	Adoption of two amendment by the Commission	2020 Q4
Update of the third European Union Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention (PLAN/2019/6262)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q4
<p>Export and import of hazardous chemicals - Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Implementation:</p> <p>Union import decisions for certain chemicals, pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 649/2012 concerning the export and import of hazardous chemicals (PLAN/2020/6748)</p>	Adoption of decision by the Commission	2020 Q3
Amendment of annex I and V of the	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q4

PIC Regulation 649/2012 (PLAN/2020/8481)		
Clean Air Outlook report (PLAN/2020/8778)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q4
Reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants – Implementation report (PLAN/2019/6133)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2020 Q3
Methods for the assessment and management of environmental noise under Directive 2002/49/EC (PLAN/2018/3499)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q3
Revision of the watch list of substances in water , pursuant to the Quality Standards Directive 2008/105/EC (PLAN/2020/7153)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q3
Implementation of the urban waste water treatment Directive (PLAN/2020/6387)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2020 Q3
Assessment of remaining Member States River Basin and Flood Risk Management Plans	Publication of Staff Working Document	2020 Q4
Commission report on the reviews set-out in Article 19(1) of Regulation 2017/852 on mercury (PLAN/2018/2606)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2020 Q3

Best Available Techniques to reduce Industrial pollution –Surface Treatment Using Organic Solvents	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q2 (Adopted 22/06/2020)
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General objective: A European Green Deal

<i>Specific objective 4: Environmental concerns are integrated, and biodiversity standards mainstreamed, across EU policies, investments and finance, through existing consultation mechanisms and a proactive approach to coordination</i>	<i>Related to spending programme(s) LIFE</i>
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Main outputs in 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
Close participation in the European Semester Process	Number of environmental recommendations in country reports	Increase (with regards to previous exercises)
LIFE Multiannual Work Programme for 2021-2024 (PLAN/2019/6137)	Adoption by Commission Decision	2020 Q4
Financing decision and work programme for the pilot projects and preparatory actions in the field of environment (PLAN/2020/7702)	Adoption of decision by the Commission	2020 Q3
Implementing decision on the financing of the Union contributions to certain international and	Adoption of decision by the Commission	2020 Q2 (Adopted 17/06/2020)

multilateral environment agreements for 2019 and 2020 (PLAN/2020/7251)		
Cohesion Policy - Appraisal and follow-up of major projects submitted for co-financing by the ESIF and CEF under the 2014-2020 programming period.	Projects assessed (through interservices consultations)	100% consultations with a proactive reply
Appraisal and follow-up of the modifications of Rural Development Plans (CAP) under the 2014-2020 programming period.	Modifications assessed (through interservices consultations)	100% consultations with a proactive reply
Guidance and definition of a strategic approach to mainstreaming under the next programming period	Internal Commission guidance delivered	2020 Q4
Sustainable finance: contribution to establishing an EU classification system for green investments	Criteria for environmental objectives integrated in the taxonomy	2020 Q4 and beyond
Compliance promotion and co-operation with relevant professional networks	Bilateral dialogues and cooperation with IMPEL and other networks on specific issues	2020 Q1-Q4 (and beyond)


General objective: A European Green Deal

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

Related to spending programme LIFE

Main outputs in 2020:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Access to Justice in environmental matters: Amendment to the Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006 on the application of the provisions of the Aarhus Convention (PLAN/2019/6242)	Adoption of legislative proposal and Communication by the Commission	2020 Q3
Communication on improving access to justice in environmental matters in the EU and its Member States (PLAN/2020/7389)	Adoption of legislative proposal and Communication by the Commission	2020 Q3
 8th Environmental Action Programme to 2030 (PLAN/2019/5395)	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2020 Q4

Public consultations

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial	Public consultation launched	2020 Q3

Information in the European Community (PLAN/2020/8050)		
Enforcement actions		
Output	Indicator	Target
Conformity check – transposition of the revised Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive	Assessment of Member States reports	28 assessments
External communication actions		
Output/ Result	Indicator	Target
Direct reach of DG ENV social media channels	Number of followers in Instagram	10 000
	Number of followers in Facebook	280 000
	Number of followers in Twitter	100 000
DG ENV website performance	Number of visits	3 million
Output	Indicator	Target
Guidelines providing a common understanding of the term ' environmental damage ' as defined in Article 2 of Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability (PLAN/2020/7326)	Adoption by the Commission	2020 Q4
Compliance promotion and enforcement and co-operation with relevant professional networks	Bilateral dialogues and cooperation with IMPEL and other networks on specific issues	2020 Q1-Q4 (and beyond)
Environmental Impact Assessment - Stakeholders Conference on its: 35 years anniversary	Event organised	2020 Q4
Guidelines on Citizen Science for Environmental Monitoring (PLAN/2020/7540)	Publication of Guidelines (Staff Working Document)	2020 Q3
Science News Alert (Science for Environment Policy)	Publication of Science News	Publication of 20 news alerts and 3 future briefs
FORENV – The EU Foresight System for the Environment,	Publication of a report on Emerging innovations in the Green economy of the Future, with 10 priority issues	2020 Q4
EU Green Cities Awards: - European Green Capital Award - European Green Leaf Award	Awarded	2020 Q2
Green City Accord	Project launched	2020 Q4?

General objective: A European Green Deal

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

Related to spending programme
Global Public Goods and Challenges¹⁵

Main outputs in 2020:

Output	Indicator	Target
Sustainable Development Goals: Effective promotion of the environmental goals in the world	Visible participation in 2020 HLPF, including organisation of side event/s Participation in G7 and G20 dialogues	2020 Q3
High-level Environment dialogues with key EU trade and strategic partners on environmental issues	Participation in high-level dialogues	2020 Q1 to Q4 (and beyond) 10 dialogues estimated
Enhanced integration of environmental considerations into trade policy	Environment covered in trade agreements including during implementation	2020 Q1 to Q4 (and beyond)
Progress in the environment chapter of accession negotiations with Serbia/Montenegro	Closing the chapter on environment	2020 Q4
Annual programming of environment relevant projects under the Global Public Goods and Challenges programme (GPGC) , including cross sub delegation in support of International Environmental Governance (IEG)	Adoption by the Commission of annual action programme with EUR 11 million for IEG	2020 Q4

¹⁵ Thematic programme on Global Public Goods and Challenges from the Development Cooperation Instrument