



European  
Commission

# Management Plan 2023

Directorate General ENVIRONMENT

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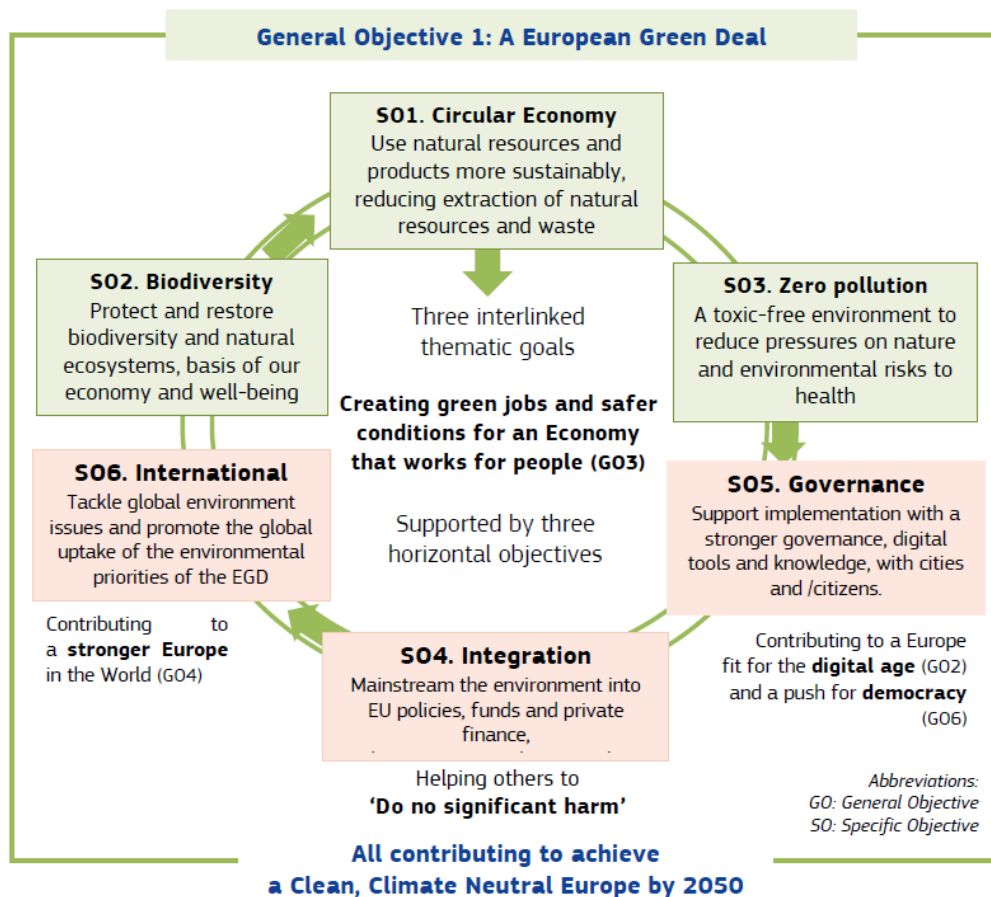
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## Introduction

The **Directorate-General for Environment** leads the development and delivery of the European Commission's environment policy, protecting, preserving and improving the environment for present and future generations and promoting sustainable development.



Its **key mission** is to design and implement transformative policies towards a fair green transition and to enable EU citizens to live well, within the planet's ecological limits, based on an innovative, circular economy, where biodiversity and ecosystems, which are the basis of our economy and well-being, are protected and restored, and pollution and environment-related health risks are eliminated. In the context of the multiple crises facing the EU, these actions contribute to a balanced and sustainable way of life where growth and societal resilience are decoupled from resource use and its impacts.

DG Environment's Strategic Plan 2020-24 frames six specific objectives in relation to the Commission's general objectives, as illustrated below by making a central contribution to 1, **A European Green Deal**, and with very strong links to 3, **An economy that works for people** and 4, **Stronger Europe in the world**. Improving environmental governance and data management will also contribute to general objectives 6, **A push for democracy**, and 2, **A Europe fit for the digital age**.



In pursuing its mission and objectives, DG Environment aims to build up the **EU's strategic autonomy**, protecting it from future shocks, while securing the EU's **long-term future** and ensuring **inter-generational solidarity**. This means focusing on stability and resilience building, ensuring that new initiatives make also economic sense, and boosting **environmental fairness**, avoiding emergency measures that negatively impact poorer households or undermine the green transition of the European economy.

Against this backdrop, DG Environment will continue pursuing its circular economy objectives to strengthen Europe's **energy independence**, tackling environmental degradation through the **zero pollution** objectives and demonstrating EU's global leadership in **halting biodiversity loss**, as a pre-condition for tackling global **food security challenges**. Under the European Green Deal, the DG has already delivered an important number of proposals that will work in this direction, once adopted by the co-legislators. In 2023, a strong focus will be required on interinstitutional negotiations to turn pending proposals into EU law, so that the expected benefits for European citizens can be realised.

Several **new initiatives** will also be put forward in 2023. Under the **circular economy**, the aim will be to complete the regulatory framework underpinning the green transition and ensuring **optimal use of critical raw materials**. A proposal to revise the **End-of-Life Vehicles** Directive will be presented as part of the new Commission measures on **critical raw materials**. The Waste Framework Directive will also be revised with a focus on **reducing textile and food waste** . The **Zero Pollution ambition** will be complemented with proposals to reduce **microplastics** and **mercury** pollution. A targeted revision of the legislation on the **registration, evaluation and authorisation of chemicals (REACH)**  will also be delivered.

In 2022, heatwaves, forests fires, droughts and floods have dramatically demonstrated the effects of climate change in Europe and the world. The 2023 Commission Work Programme underlined that **nature is our best ally** in climate mitigation and adaptation. DG Environment will work on a new proposal on **EU forest observation**, with a focus on using state-of-the-art technologies to facilitate forest monitoring without increasing the burden on foresters and Member States. A new proposal on **Soil Health**  will aim to ensure the capacity of soils to deliver essential ecosystem services, including food production. Work on **integrated nutrients management** and fighting the decline in **pollinators** will also contribute to boost resilience and food security. The successful outcome of the **United Nations Biodiversity conference** in Montreal, **COP15**, provides new impetus to step up the EU's ambition in halting biodiversity loss, at domestic and global level.


Work will continue on the **integration of environmental considerations** across EU funding programmes and policies as well as to further develop the **knowledge base**, reinforce environmental **governance** and ensure the use of **digital technologies** in support of policy making, implementation and monitoring. At international level, the DG will

actively implement multilateral agreements and continue its engagement in ongoing multilateral negotiations, notably for a **Global Plastics Agreement**. With global freshwater resources under severe pressure, it will also focus on strengthening **water resilience**. The **UN Water Conference** will be a high-level opportunity to influence global agenda setting for water for the next decade and beyond.

DG Environment's **external communication** will be delivered under a new multiannual plan with individual actions designed to underpin long- and medium-term political objectives under the European Green Deal, while also making a full contribution to the Commission's corporate campaigns. Particular attention will be paid to actions that can reinforce interlinkages between the different strands of the DG portfolio. The DG's work is helping significantly to meet the citizens' expectations expressed through the **Conference on the Future of Europe**. Under the new generation of **citizens' panels**, citizens will be invited to contribute to policy on food waste.

Finally, contributing to modernise **corporate administration** will remain an important management goal, as described in part 2 of this Management Plan, including particular attention to reducing energy consumption and environmental footprint.

## **PART 1. Delivering on the Commission's priorities: main outputs for 2023**

The narrative below presents the main outputs DG Environment plans in 2023 to attain its specific objectives and deliver on the Commission's ambitions. Further outputs are defined in the performance tables in annex. Initiatives that are part of the 2023 Commission work programme are marked with the following icon  .

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

The European Green Deal identifies the **transition to a circular economy** as the EU's principal approach to maximise resource efficiency, optimise the use of products and assets and minimise waste, thereby helping deliver on its climate, biodiversity and zero pollution ambitions. The Covid-19 pandemic, Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the present economic and energy crises have put the spotlight on the potential of this transition to **overcome Europe's dependencies** and generate sustainable growth. Work will continue to broaden understanding and external communication of the ways in which circular systems keep resources and key materials longer in the economy, boosting **resilience** and **strategic autonomy**, with circular business models **generating local jobs** and enabling access to products and services for vulnerable groups.

DG Environment already delivered several proposals that will contribute to these objectives. 2023 will see an increased focus on supporting the co-legislators to **turn the proposals into law** and **preparing for their implementation**. A good example is the proposed **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation**, which will replace the Ecodesign Directive, applying it to a far wider range of products and using wider circularity criteria. In parallel to the legislative process, the DG will work to ensure that the right priorities can be quickly set once the Regulation enters into force. Ecodesign requirements will **generate jobs** in the repair, refurbishment and remanufacturing sectors.

The expected adoption by the co-legislators of the revised **Regulation on Shipments of Waste** should boost waste recycling and ensure that EU exports of waste do not damage the environment or public health in third countries. Preparations will start for the development of several implementing measures, notably for a system to monitor shipments of waste from the EU to third countries.

Work on the **value chains that have a very high carbon and environmental footprint** is also essential to realise the green transition while increasing material and energy autonomy. The new **Batteries Regulation** will drive more sustainable battery design, increasing content of secondary raw materials, improving durability and performance and generating higher collection and recycling rates. Following the political agreement reached in December 2022, the DG commenced the development of almost

fifty delegated and implementing acts to give effect to the new measures. DG Environment will actively engage in the interinstitutional negotiations on the **Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation** (PPWR) which aims to reduce packaging waste generation and make all packaging re-usable or recyclable by 2030 by reinforcing circular packaging design requirements and to maximise re-use and capture of materials for closed loop recycling, by making harmonised deposit-refund systems mandatory for beverage bottles and cans.

In 2023, the DG will also deliver a limited number of **new initiatives**. This will include, as part of the EU's action on critical raw materials, a revision of the **End-of-life vehicles Directive** (and of the corresponding Directive on Type Approval) proposing circular design and production of vehicles, increased recovery of materials, traceability of vehicles for recovery and reuse, and financing of such activities through extended producer responsibility. This will not only strengthen the EU's strategic autonomy but also put the automotive sector on a circular path and adapt it to the transition to electrification. New measures will also be proposed to reduce the unintentional release of **microplastics** into the environment, while intentionally added micro-plastics will be banned under chemicals legislation. The **Green Claims** proposal, initially planned for 2022, will require further work in 2023, to effectively empower consumers and **fight greenwashing**.



A targeted revision of the **Waste Framework Directive** will be delivered to prevent **textile waste** generation and scale up EU textile recycling capacity. In collaboration with DG Health and Food Security, the revision will also aim at setting **food waste reduction targets**, contributing to address the security, affordability and **sustainability of the food sector**, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Commission's priorities for 2023.

To check that **waste legislation remains fit for purpose**, several acts will be evaluated <sup>(1)</sup>, while support to Member States to improve implementation will continue to be provided. To promote **compliance**, the DG will establish an **Early Warning Report** on Waste, identifying Member States at risk of not meeting the EU's 2025 recycling targets for municipal and packaging waste. **Enforcement** action will also continue, focused on the timely and correct **transposition of waste legislation**, in particular the Waste Framework and Landfill Directives, as well as the Single Use Plastics Directive. Systemic problems (i.e., illegal and substandard landfills across the EU) and the lack of waste management plans) will continue to be tackled, taking account of the findings of the Early Warning Report. The DG will also monitor the efforts deployed to attain waste targets and consider further enforcement action, where necessary.

In the **international arena**, DG Environment will support the activities of the Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) launched in 2021.

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<sup>(1)</sup> See evaluation outputs in annex, under Specific Objective 1



Representing the EU, the DG will promote measures to improve the management of plastic waste, e-waste and batteries and a better regulation of their international trade under the **Basel Convention** and will participate in OECD discussions on a regime applying to shipments of e-waste between OECD countries. The negotiations on a future **international agreement on plastics** will also draw from the EU experience on the management of plastic waste. Overall, the circular economy will remain a top priority across the DG international activities (see Specific objective 6).

Throughout 2023 the DG will engage with stakeholders through the **European Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform**. The annual **European Circular Economy Stakeholder Conference** will take place in February, with the Platform discussion forum, and its #CircularTalks taking place on a regular basis. Ahead of this event, a revised **Circular Economy monitoring framework** will be delivered, and the related website updated in collaboration with Eurostat.

Circular economy measures contribute importantly to the Commission's response to the citizens that, at the **Conference on the Future of Europe**, called on the EU to enhance the use and management of materials "in order to become more circular, more autonomous, and less dependent", combat "planned obsolescence", provide "information on how to re-use and repair products", increase recycling and prevent the waste generation across sectors, notably packaging waste.

**External communication** will aim over time to build up a positive image of Circular Economy as a key enabler of the transition to sustainability, shift attention towards design and waste prevention, and strengthen its links with other policy areas such as climate change, zero pollution and nature degradation. A dedicated **awareness-raising campaign** to support and promote **EU Textiles Strategy** will be launched under the slogan ReSet the Trend - #ReFashionNow. It will invite consumers, in particular young ones, to become "role models" and play their part in a transformation of the textiles sector and in making "fast fashion out of fashion".


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

The implementation of the **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030** will continue to guide DG Environment's work on protecting and restoring nature, including through communication activities aimed at ensuring that nature is recognised as an essential part of the solution to societal challenges. The biodiversity **governance framework** will enter the assessment phase, whilst work on the **monitoring framework** will accelerate with a view to complete the dashboard of biodiversity indicators and lay ground for the 2024 review of progress. Intensive work will continue, to reach a swift and ambitious agreement between the co-legislators on the **Nature Restoration Regulation** Targeted communication actions will relay progress in the interinstitutional process at key junctures. Efforts to boost financing



for biodiversity and ensure adequate levels of biodiversity spending from the EU budget will be pursued, based on the new **biodiversity tracking methodology**. Ensuring that nature is recognised by citizens, businesses and public bodies as an essential part of the solution to societal challenges, and that healthy nature is essential for keeping climate change under control, will be key to enable future progress. The revised **pollinators initiative** will also contribute to address pressing citizen concerns about pollinator decline and pesticide use.

The ambitious **Global Biodiversity Framework** (GBF) agreed at the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022 will require follow-up at domestic and international level. The GBF commitments will be translated in the DG policy dialogues, as well as in technical and financial support to third countries. Work to establish a strong **global business and biodiversity movement** will also carry on, building on the EU Business and Biodiversity Platform. Access and benefit sharing will require further attention in the context of digital sequence information. DG Environment will also ensure the follow up to the Conferences of Parties of the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. As regards wildlife trade, work will focus on the implementation of the revised EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking. Finally, in October 2023, the DG will contribute to the EU presence at the 14<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the **Convention on Migratory Species**, to take protection measures for tens of species, to review the conservation status of migratory species and decide on the Convention's budget.

**Soil and forest ecosystems** are crucial to address the climate and biodiversity crises, allowing to increase the resilience of ecosystems and society. In 2023, the DG will deliver a proposal for a **Soil Health Law**  to achieve healthy soils by 2050. A legislative proposal will also be presented on **Forest Monitoring**, to support Member States in providing better data on the state of EU forests and facilitate their sustainable management. Both proposals will increase data and knowledge for robust policy making and ultimately increase the EU's resilience and contribute to climate change adaptation and disaster prevention. Further work to implement the **Soil and Forest Strategies** will continue, also as part of broader efforts to strengthen the links in public discourse between biodiversity and climate change. Implementing the new **Deforestation Regulation** will be a priority to minimise consumption of products coming from supply chains associated with deforestation or forest degradation. **International work on forests and deforestation-free supply chains** will be stepped up, including through bilateral outreach to the countries most impacted by the new requirements of the deforestation Regulation.

Building on the first edition in 2022, DG Environment will continue working with the European External Action Service and the relevant Commission services to raise public awareness around the nature and climate change crises. The **#ForOurPlanet** campaign engages Delegations worldwide and EC Representations and combines local events with global digital communications. Actions implemented within the EU will notably aim to support momentum behind the 3 billion trees pledge.

Phosphorus and nitrogen are **essential nutrients** for biomass and food production; however, they are not managed sustainably. On the one hand, they are causing significant pollution, while on the other hand they are precious elements – and for phosphorus also limited and already in the **critical raw material** list. In the current context of high energy and mineral fertilisers prices, it is ever more important to be efficient and sustainable in the use of nutrients and fertilisation. In early 2023, an **Integrated Nutrient Management Action Plan** will provide the policy framework for a more efficient and sustainable use of nutrients across the cycle. This will benefit farmers, citizens and the environment, providing a roadmap for how to achieve the target to reduce nutrient losses from fertilisers by 50%, as set out in the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies. In the same context, the Commission will step up efforts to implement the **Nitrates Directive**, a key pillar of EU water policy and crucial to reduce nutrient pollution at source. An evaluation of this Directive will also be launched.

Proactive implementation of the Habitats and Birds directives will also continue. An updated **list of Natura 2000 sites** across the EU will contribute to the 2030 target to reach 30% of protected areas on land at sea, one third of which strictly protected. Guidance will be developed to help Member States to manage the **Natura 2000 network** and **compliance promotion** tools, such as bilateral Nature dialogues with Member States, will be combined with continued **enforcement action** for key obligations. Action will focus on completing the Natura2000 network (especially the marine sites) and establishing conservation objectives and measures for the protected areas. The focus will notably be on protecting and conserving species and habitats in decline, including those in forest areas and in the marine environment, as well as on implementing key obligations resulting from the Invasive Alien Species Regulation and the European Union Timber Regulation.

**European seas and ocean** continue to be under severe threat from human activities. The **Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)** required Member States to achieve good environmental status by 2020, but the 2021 report reveals that this was not achieved. Throughout 2023, the DG will analyse Member States marine strategies, based on reporting obligations due in 2022 while pursuing the Directive's evaluation. It will also check that Member States' national maritime spatial plans are consistent with the objectives of the Biodiversity Strategy. An action plan to **conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems** will be delivered jointly with DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries to help bridge objectives under the fisheries and marine environment EU policies. Efforts will mostly focus on protecting the seabed and sensitive species from the impacts of unsustainable fishing practices.

DG Environment also supports and represents the EU in the **Regional Sea Conventions**. In particular, three years after the adoption of the **Our Baltic Declaration**, a stock-taking will be launched together with DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries to assess and report, in 2023, on progress made in ensuring EU interests are safeguarded and aligned with EU law on the marine environment. Finally, DG Environment will continue the work launched under the **International Maritime Organisation** (IMO) to address the impacts on the marine

environment from ships equipped with scrubbers, notably through new regulations restricting the discharges from exhaust gas cleaning systems.

**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

Despite the progress made in recent years, Europeans are still paying a high price for pollution, in terms of taxes, health and human lives. The European Green Deal aims to reduce pollution to non-harmful levels by 2050. This requires taking further action in two directions: firstly, to prevent pollution and, secondly when pollution does occur, to ensure that those who created it pay for cleaning up, in line with the Polluter Pays Principle.

Several actions announced in the EU Chemicals Strategy will be proposed in 2023, to upgrade EU legislation and meet the health and environmental challenges related to chemicals. This will also bring together the zero pollution ambition with the transition to a circular economy and the challenges posed by climate neutrality

The targeted revision of the **REACH Regulation** – concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals - will help authorities identify the most harmful substances by improving the information they receive. It will also take a more preventive approach to risk management to better protect consumers and professional users from these most harmful chemicals, except where they are deemed essential for society. Options to ensure that hazardous chemicals banned in the EU are not produced for export will also be explored.

To enable the European Green Deal commitment under the **One Substance One Assessment** approach, two further initiatives will be delivered: a proposal to improve access, availability, **sharing and reuse of data on chemicals**; and a second proposal to reallocate the **scientific support** the Commission receives on chemicals to four major European Agencies. These proposals will contribute to simplify the chemicals regulatory framework, increase transparency and achieve efficiency gains.

At the **international level**, 2023 will see important developments under the **UN Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)** with the expected adoption of a future framework on chemicals and waste management and the set-up of a **Science to Policy Panel**. At the **Triple Conferences of the Parties** for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions the Commission, will negotiate the listing of five new substances. The listing of chemicals will significantly increase protection of human health and the environment globally and will improve the level playing field for the EU chemical industry.

In 2023 and 2024, in parallel with the interinstitutional negotiations on the revised Regulation on the **Classification, Labelling and Packaging** of substances and mixtures,

the DG will support the Commission proposal to add new hazard classes in the **UN globally Harmonized System** (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

A proposal to revise the **Mercury Regulation** will also be presented, to restrict the manufacturing, use and trade of further mercury-added products, including dental amalgam and certain mercury-containing lamps. This will reaffirm the **global EU leadership** in tackling the environmental impacts of chemicals and **reduce its external pollution footprint**. Building on this, the Commission will represent the EU at the 5<sup>th</sup> conference of the Parties to the **Minamata Convention** with the objective of agreeing on additional bans of mercury-added products at global level.

Important progress will also be made under the **Zero Pollution Action plan**. The proposal on **Integrated Water Management** revising the list of water pollutants will be negotiated with the co-legislators, with a view to improving water quality for all uses, including by paying specific attention to emerging pollutants.

Inter-institutional negotiations will also be underway for the revision of the **Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive**, aimed at tackling remaining pollution sources, in particular micropollutants, while ensuring that the sector also contributes to energy security, climate neutrality as well as public health preparedness objectives. Indeed, during the Covid-19 pandemic, **waste water surveillance** proved to be effective in identifying Covid-19 hot-spots and variants. Building on this experience, the legislative revision includes requirements to ensure surveillance for viruses and other pathogens present in waste waters, hence supporting public health.

From January 2023 Member States will have to implement the 2020 **recast Drinking Water Directive**, which includes updated limit values for a set of pollutants and new requirements for contaminants of emerging concern such as endocrine disruptors and micro-plastics. Work will continue on the evaluation of the **Bathing Water Directive**, assessing whether it is still fit for protecting public health and improve water quality. The DG will also launch the analysis of the 3<sup>rd</sup> River Basin Management Plans, which Member States have to establish under the **Water Framework Directive** in order to achieve good status across all EU freshwaters by 2027 at the latest.

**Air pollution** is an important concern in the EU, as the number of premature deaths and other diseases attributable to air pollution remains high. In 2022, in line with the mandate from the European Green Deal, DG Environment delivered a proposal to revise the **Ambient Air Quality Directives** to put the EU on a trajectory towards alignment of its air quality standards with latest and future World Health Organization recommendations, and to strengthen provisions on monitoring, modelling and air quality plans to help local authorities achieve cleaner air. In 2023, the Commission will actively support the legislative process towards adoption of the revised legislation. The fourth EU **Clean Air Forum** will provide an important opportunity to take stock of progress with all stakeholders. It will be also an opportunity to recall key messages and actions taken via dedicated communication, including social media campaign.

In parallel, the DG will contribute to the introduction of stricter requirements to **tackle air pollution at source**, notably from agriculture, industry, transport, buildings and energy, including through the further development and implementation of a number of European Green Deal measures and strategies.

Finally, the DG will actively support the legislative adoption of the revised Industrial Emissions Directive and the Industrial Emissions Portal Regulation, aiming at significant **reductions of emissions from both industry and largest livestock farms**. This modernised legal framework will support farmers in their efforts and accompany the industrial transformation to sustainability needed for the EU to fulfil the 2030 and 2050 objectives of the European Green Deal.

Existing legislation will continue to be implemented, and **enforcement action** will continue to be pursued prioritising the most serious cases in terms of levels and extent. In the **water sector**, DG Environment will focus on the lack of compliance with key obligations of the Water Framework Directive and on the collection and treatment of urban wastewater; the non-respect of obligations on Nitrates Action Plans and the non-designation of nitrate vulnerable zones, systemic breaches or serious health risks resulting from non-compliance on drinking water. With regards to **air pollution**, the focus will be on air quality standards for key pollutants that continue to see persistent exceedances, monitoring of air quality and compliance with the NEC Directive. Where still missing, the lack of **noise** maps and action plans will be addressed. Enforcement action will also seek to ensure the correct transposition of the Directives related to the operation of **industrial installations**, as well as to tackle breaches by individual installations with a serious environmental or health impact.

**External communication** in the area of Zero Pollution will seek to build a public understanding that the benefits of acting on pollution outweigh the costs. The extent to which pollution is a health issue will be highlighted, together with the link between pollution and social equity. The integrated green deal approach, stressing the links and co-benefits of action on Zero Pollution, Circular Economy and Biodiversity Protection, will be a recurrent feature.

Throughout the year, the DG will engage with stakeholders through the **European Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform**; it will also kick-off the first #ZeroPollutionTalks, to continue building momentum around the depollution agenda. A broad communication action related to **water** will be prepared and coordinated with other planned communication activities, as well as other services, for enhanced reach and impact, to be implemented towards the end of the year or in early 2024.

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

**Environmental integration** means making sure that environmental concerns are fully considered in other policies, which is fundamental for the success of the green transition. While it is a requirement under the EC Treaty<sup>(2)</sup> since 1997, integration has been put in the spotlight by the EU's commitment to **do no significant harm** (DNSH).

In 2023, as the **energy transition** takes speed, the integration of environmental concerns into energy policies will require increasing attention to avoid significant harm while contributing to find solutions in a pragmatic manner. Climate change and environmental degradation are often two sides of the same coin. The DG will work to ensure that the climate and environmental policy frameworks strengthen synergies and limit trade-offs.

In a context in which **food security** cannot be taken for granted, the integration of water, biodiversity, soil and air pollution concerns into agriculture is of outmost importance and will help to ensure that the Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plans support the transition to **sustainable farming** in the EU. The integration of environmental sustainability across policy areas such as competition, taxation, employment and social policies will continue, reflecting the close links between the economic, social and environmental dimension of **sustainable development**. In view of the challenging socioeconomic context, the contribution of environmental policies to a **fair green transition** will be stepped up.

The **European Semester** has become a key instrument of environmental integration in Member States economic and employment policies, with the **Recovery and Resilience Facility** as the driver of the reform and investment agenda in many EU countries. In 2023, DG Environment contribution to the European Semester country reports will aim at supporting three enablers (1) addressing the **investment gap**, (2) phasing-out of **Environmentally Harmful Subsidies** and (3) **shifting taxes from labour to pollution** in line with the Polluter Pays Principle. From a thematic point of view, it will focus on seven core systems: energy; mobility; agri-food; built environment; industry; finance and labour. Special attention will be paid to environmental fairness and the reforms needed to face the current geopolitical and socio-economic challenges.

In 2023, the programming of environmental and other **green reforms and investments for the 2021-27 financial period** will be largely completed. Assisting relevant DGs and Member States throughout their implementation will become a key task. This will require

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(<sup>2</sup>) “Environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Union's policies and activities, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.”, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Article 11 (ex Article 6 of the EC Treaty).



constant collaboration, notably with DGs Regional and Urban Policy, Economic and Financial Affairs, Mobility and Transport, Energy and Reform, as well as with SG-RECOVER. The DG will work closely with Member States within relevant Experts Groups.

In addition to positive incentives, **environmentally harmful subsidies** need to be phased out without delay. The 8<sup>th</sup> Environment Action Programme required the Commission to set out a methodology to help Member States identify harmful subsidies beyond fossil fuel subsidies. In 2023, DG Environment will work on this methodology, in consultation with Member States.

The **Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment** directives will remain crucial instruments for the integration of environmental considerations into Member States programmes and projects; they will play an even more important role in the context of the energy crisis and the efforts to increase European strategic autonomy. Further guidance will be prepared in 2023 to ensure a common understanding and application of these directives. In addition, DG Environment will continue to support the streamlining of **permitting for critical projects** while making sure that the key safeguards under the EU acquis are observed. **Enforcement action** will focus on the correct transposition of the Directives.

Full integration of environmental priorities in **EU external, enlargement, neighbourhood and development funding** will continue in close collaboration with the relevant services. Following the successful prioritization of the Green Deal across the programming exercise, the focus will shift to the implementation of the programmes, new projects under the Cooperation Agreements with the United Nations Environment Programme, and support to global environmental governance through the Global Europe instrument.

The **LIFE programme** will continue supporting environmental policy objectives, since 2022 with a new international scope. The association agreements signed with Iceland, Ukraine and Moldova will be implemented as from 2023. Further association agreements will be negotiated with Türkiye, Albania, Andorra, Israel, North Macedonia and the Faroe Islands.

Work will continue as well on **sustainable finance**, with DG Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, other core DGs and the European Environmental Agency. Criteria for the identification of economic activities contributing to the remaining four environment objectives (other than climate) will be developed, thereby completing the EU Taxonomy. Contributing to promote the EU approach to sustainable finance in its environmental dimensions will remain of strategic importance, as key **global partners** are developing their own taxonomy rules.

Finally, DG Environment will continue to raise awareness on EU funding support, promoting the use of the Vademecum *Find your EU Funding for the Environment* and proposing online workshops. To support both Member States and potential project promoters/stakeholders to build a project pipeline on environmental priorities, and to ensure the operationalisation of the DNSH principle, the DG will continue to deploy GreenASSIST, the *Green Advisory Service for Sustainable Investments Support* initiative funded by the LIFE programme, with the



support of CINEA. The goal is to increase the pipeline of projects supporting environmental policies and to green other projects through complementarities/synergies with other available EU technical assistance tools.

DG Environment's new **communication strategy** puts particular emphasis on communicating in partnership with other services on opportunities of shared interest. The aim is to increase the joint impact and, when relevant, cocreate and share resources for better efficiencies.

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

In 2023, DG Environment will further work to promote **effective environmental governance** and secure observance of the environmental rule of law.

Environmental governance rights strengthen the power of citizens and their organisations to enforce environmental laws, as an indispensable complement to the public enforcement efforts. In 2021, the EU reinforced its rules on **access to justice in environmental matters** <sup>(3)</sup>. As of April 2023, the **scope of persons who can request a review** of a decision made by EU institutions will be broadened. DG Environment will facilitate citizens' use of the new rights by publishing guidelines applicable for all EU institutions. It will also continue working with DG Competition on the internal review of State aid decisions.

The legislative procedure on a new **Environmental Crime Directive**, developed by DG Environment and DG Justice and Consumers in 2021 is ongoing, and continued efforts will be required to reach final adoption in 2023. Implementation of the new rules will strengthen environmental protection through criminal law, in particular against the most severe breaches of EU environmental rules. The **Environmental Liability Directive** is also relevant for environmental governance. Its evaluation, launched in 2022, will *inter alia* respond to calls by the European Parliament and the European Court of Auditors to reinforce the **Polluter Pays Principle** (PPP) as well as the need to make it easier for NGOs to act on behalf of collective interests when claiming damages made to the environment. A fitness check of the application of the PPP will be carried out in parallel.

Support to Member States to improve environmental governance will continue through the **Environmental Compliance and Governance Forum**, for instance by providing national judges with up-to-date environmental information. **Enforcement action** will address cases involving manifest obstacles for citizens and their organisations to exercise the rights

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<sup>(3)</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/1767 amending Regulation (EC) No 1367/2006 on the application of the provisions of the Aarhus Convention to Community institutions and bodies.

granted by EU environmental legislation in front of national courts. The new [environmental infringements interactive map](#) will be regularly updated to provide information on pending cases and latest decisions, thus contributing to the visibility of Commission enforcement efforts, and raising citizens' awareness of EU action to protect them.

The number of new and revised legislation adopted that Member States need to transpose and implement as a result of the European Green Deal is high. DG Environment will put place an implementation **radar screen** to monitor how key legal acts are being transposed and implemented, to ensure that the state of readiness in Member States is assessed in due time and the needs for financial and technical support are identified. This will also allow to prepare enforcement action.

Measuring progress is essential to guide policy making and implementation. The **monitoring framework for the 8th Environment Action Programme** (EAP), adopted in July 2022, will become the basis for annual progress reports towards the EU's 2030 and 2050 environmental objectives, from December 2023 onwards. More detailed monitoring of progress in the key policy areas of DG Environment (circular economy, zero pollution, and biodiversity) will feed into the 8th EAP progress reports.

**Digitalisation** will also be key to ensure the EU deals with data in a relevant and efficient manner, allowing for sound fast decision-making. Standardisation and interoperable data services, across the EU and beyond, can enable timely access to relevant information while reducing administrative burden. In 2023, DG Environment will launch an impact assessment to upgrade EU rules and data infrastructure for the environment. Simplification and modernisation of reporting provisions and tools will be a key aim in all legislative revisions and new proposals. Alternative technologies for close environmental monitoring on the ground will be explored.

Close cooperation with the European Environment Agency, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat will contribute to developing a strong **knowledge base**, anchoring the priorities of DG Environment and the Green Deal in their work programmes. In its role as co-chair of cluster 6 of **Horizon Europe** (Food, natural resources, bioeconomy, agriculture and environment), the DG will co-create the Strategic Plan 2025-2027 and continue co-creating future work programmes, partnerships and specific **missions**, notably on Cities, Soil and Ocean. DG Environment is co-responsible for the allocation of the budget (EUR 8.9 billion over 7 years). While environmental policies are cross-cutting, thematic strategies are directly supported with at least EUR 326 million for biodiversity; EUR 327 million for circular economy and EUR 141 million for zero pollution from Cluster 6, work programme 2023-2024. In addition, the DG will continue to co-develop the feedback-to-policy mechanism to disseminate R&I outcomes so that they feed into policy development. The DG's "Science for Environment Policy" news alert service will contribute to this dissemination. The DG will also continue applying a **foresight** approach to risks and opportunities for the environment through specific projects (FORENV) as well as contribute to the yearly corporate foresight report and the Horizon Europe Foresight Network.

Environmental action is particularly important in **urban settings** where more than 70% of EU citizens live. Cities have an important role in tackling environmental challenges and in implementing EU policy and rules at local level. Many cities are also susceptible to changing weather conditions and extreme events such as severe flooding, water scarcity and heatwaves. The **Green City Accord** (GCA) will continue mobilising cities to achieve cleaner, greener, healthier and more resilient environments, with a focus on air, noise, water, nature and biodiversity, circular economy and waste. It will support the local delivery of the European Green Deal and notably, the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the Circular Economy Action Plan and Biodiversity Strategy. GCA cities that have demonstrated commitment and progress to environmental sustainability will have the opportunity to compete for the **European Green Capital and Green Leaf awards**.

Finally, 2023 will be marked by a new **drive to streamline external communication efforts**, and a rigorous effort to ensure that they **support the main political priorities** of the next few years. Support for communication actions will be conditional on strategic relevance and will be deployed through dissemination plans designed to maximise impact with the pre-identified target audience. Implementation will build on three pillars: social media, outreach to traditional media, and greater use of corporate channels, along with more systematic cooperation with related services. A new partnership with **Euronews** on a monthly televised magazine will drive further professionalisation and enhance reach with general audiences. Deploying a “road show” format, the series will aim to showcase how the European Green Deal is delivering positive change on the ground across the different strands of the environment policy portfolio as well as other relevant dimensions managed by other Commission services. **Green Week** will be held from 3 to 11 June, combining a 2-day high level conference in Brussels with 100s of locally organised, but jointly branded, partner events across the EU.

**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

As a result of the energy and digital transition, the demand for water and raw materials is globally increasing, while Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine has additionally tensed raw materials markets. In this context, strong interaction with third countries is necessary to ensure that progress made domestically under the European Green Deal is not offset by pressures on the environment emanating from third countries. At the same time, the moral imperative for the EU to take action to reduce its **global environmental footprint** and be a leader for global environmental progress is increasingly recognised and is driving action for example in relation to waste exports and the global deforestation footprint (see Specific Objectives 1 and 2). DG Environment’s external engagement will contribute to fulfilling the EU’s aspiration to be a responsible **green global leader** and

concentrate on addressing the triple climate, biodiversity and pollution crises in an integrated manner.

DG Environment will continue to foster strong environmental policies at the multilateral level, building on the outcomes of the 2022 United Nations Environment Assembly. In early 2023, the **Commission and UNEP will hold a High-Level Meeting** to agree cooperation and joint activities on global environmental priorities. The DG will support the Commission to achieve operational outcomes in line with the Green Deal ambitions. Continuing to strengthen the environmental profile of the **G7/G20** will constitute another priority.

**Water** will receive a special focus as a key component to many of the crises and challenges the world is facing. Ahead of the **United Nations Water Conference in March 2023**, the DG will contribute to a strong EU leadership at the event and create momentum for accelerating global actions across many areas of the Green Deal.

The DG will also step up its work with the European External Action Service, the DG International Partnerships and other services towards a strengthened and expanded approach to **environmental security**. It will aim at achieving better recognition of the root causes of conflict, disasters and displacement linked to environmental degradation such as droughts and water shortage as well as depletion of and illicit trade in key natural resources.

The political priorities outlined in the European Green Deal will also be the focus of **bilateral and regional cooperation**. Another thematic focus will be on strengthening the **trade-environment interface** and ensuring that the highest standards of environmental protection are upheld in **EU Free Trade Agreements**, where the DG will contribute to the effective negotiation and implementation of the relevant trade and sustainable development chapters.

Enhanced assistance and support in environmental matters will be provided to **Ukraine** in view of the environmental damage caused by the Russian war of aggression, but also future reconstruction, recovery and accession to the EU stemming from its candidate status. Enhanced cooperation and support will also be provided to **Moldova** and **Georgia** in relation to their candidate and potential candidate status. More broadly, cooperation will continue with all countries of the **Eastern Partnership (EaP)** through the new architecture of the EaP initiative.

In the **enlargement** area, focus will be on helping Albania and North Macedonia adopt obligations stemming from Chapter 27 (Environment and Climate Action) of the accession negotiations. In addition, work will continue with other candidate and potential candidate countries on their approximation to the EU's environmental acquis and the implementation of the **green agenda for the Western Balkans** in cooperation with DG Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations and other concerned services.

In line with the Commission's political priorities, the DG will enhance its presence in **Africa**, engaging on a more structured cooperation with the African Union (AU) and with Africa's major economies and launching green initiatives in cooperation with DG for International Partnerships and European External Action Service. At continental level, active engagement will continue in the context of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the African Circular Economy Alliance.

Engagement will continue to be pursued with strategic partners through **Green Deal Diplomacy** initiatives and high-level dialogues on the broader environment agenda. This will include the development of potential additional Green Alliances and Partnerships with key partners. This will include dialogues with **key countries and regions**, in particular G20 and strategic partner countries. In 2023, the DG will step up its dialogue and technical cooperation with the **United States** engaging with the Department of State, Environmental Protection Agency and through the Trade and Technology Council. It will contribute to the conclusion of Green Alliances with **Canada** and **Norway** and will follow-up on existing **EU-India** agreements, directly engaging with the country on priority areas. Cooperation will be strengthened with Latin America and Caribbean countries, towards a successful **EU-CELAC** (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States) summit in 2023. The engagement with **Brazil** will continue on deforestation and the protection of the Amazon basin as well as on circular economy issues and water. The DG will continue to closely engage with **China** on environment, water and circular economy. Relations with the **Republic of Korea** will continue to be pursued with a view of progressing toward the conclusion of a Green Partnership and with **Japan** will focus on implementing the Green Alliance concluded in 2021. With regards to the Southern Neighbourhood countries, work will include deepening relations with key countries in the region – notably with **Morocco** on the implementation of the Green Partnership - as well as through the **Union for the Mediterranean**.

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

## **PART 2. Modernising the administration: main outputs for 2023**

The internal control framework <sup>(4)</sup> supports sound management and decision-making. It notably ensures that risks to the achievement of objectives are taken into account and reduced to acceptable levels through cost-effective controls.

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

### **A. Human resource management**

DG Environment shoulders a substantial responsibility for the implementation of the European Green Deal and the legislative developments required to put Europe on the green transition path. The pressure to deliver was recognized by the Commission with several decisions to reinforce the staff levels. The DG will continue to communicate its staffing needs regularly to the central services, to ensure a coherent corporate approach and full awareness of its staff needs.

In 2023, the DG will maintain its commitment to an effective human resources management, optimising its capacity to deliver on priorities and at the same time keeping the wellbeing of its staff at the core of its HR policy. The following areas will be under focus: wellbeing and work-life balance; a collaborative and modern workplace; high levels of staff engagement and timely recruitment of experts in line with updated information on DG needs. A new specialized AD6 competition launched in 2022 to benefit DG Environment is expected to finalise by autumn 2023.

The DG will continue to offer useful support and tailor-made programmes in the field of learning and development to help staff to develop skills and knowledge that contribute not only to the DG's work but also to personal development. Promoting mobility intra and outside the DG will allow staff to renew motivation and move to areas where they can best display their talents. **Internal communication** activities will be geared towards creating a sense of shared objectives and collective ownership of the achievements of the DG.

In the field of **equal opportunities**, DG Environment exceeded the target set for female representation in middle management positions. The Commission adopted targets for first female appointments to middle management during 2020-2022. DG Environment's target for this period was one new appointment and this target was met already in 2021.

Specific outputs are defined in the performance tables in annex.

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<sup>(4)</sup> [Communication C\(2017\)2373 - Revision of the Internal Control Framework](#)

## B. Sound financial management

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

The **LIFE Programme 2021-27** benefited from a significant increase in the Multiannual Financial Framework of 55% when compared to the previous programming period, and additional increases have been voted in Parliament for the budget of 2021 and 2022. DG Environment ensures close collaboration with and supervision of the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)**, which implements around 85% of LIFE 2021-27, as well as the legacy of the previous LIFE programme.

The remaining funds (ca. 150 MEUR per year) are administered directly by DG Environment, mostly through **direct management**, with also a few actions implemented in indirect management mode. The type of expenditure is varied: payments concern procurement, contributions to the European Environment Agency and the European Chemicals Agency, grants and contribution agreements with international organisations. The **risk of payment-related errors is considered very low**, in view of the nature of payments, the ex-ante controls in place and the historical error rates.

In 2023, the implementation of LIFE will be at cruising speed and DG Environment will dedicate a lot of attention to prepare several legislative proposals accompanied by **legislative financial statements** that will present the budget impact of the proposed actions. Particularly relevant will be the proposals to be presented under the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability. These will require a thorough quantification of financial needs, notably in terms of potential additional resources for EU decentralised agencies, and significant coordination between operational and horizontal units as well as across services.

DG Environment control systems are primarily audited by the **Internal Audit Service**, which for 2023 plans to audit the implementation of LIFE and the governance of Horizon Europe (DG Environment is part of the research family). The **European Court of Auditors** (ECA) also performs checks of financial transactions and of the accounts for the annual budget discharge.

Further outputs are defined in the performance tables in annex.

## C. Fraud risk management

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

1. Launch an exercise for the identification and assessment of fraud risks, in the context of the annual DG Risk Review.



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

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

## D. Digital transformation and information management

The digital transition is a key ambition of this Commission, confirmed as a cornerstone of the post-Covid recovery plan. The Commission is determined to lead by example and evolve into a digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven administration.

In 2023, DG Environment will continue implementing the relevant Commission strategies and guidelines, with a focus on integrating **corporate requirements** with the existing data, information and knowledge governance.

In 2023, regular meetings will take place at technical, and potentially also at management level to discuss **strategic aspects**, new initiatives and related actions. These meetings will also look at solutions for information that is currently ungoverned, how to handle new data flows and how to maximise the potential and reach of existing information management tools (i.e., increase user-friendliness and accessibility).

To streamline its information system landscape and ensure harmonisation and efficiency in delivering maintenance efforts, in 2023 the DG will increase the usage of **DECLARE** and of the DG Data platform.

Throughout the year, the DG will continuously review and update its **GovIS** entries, to enable progress tracking, compliance reporting or spotting opportunities for reuse by others. Any new investment will be reported via the governance channels and done in full compliance with the corporate rules and the Digital Strategy. The DG will liaise with the

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

appropriate teams, notably in terms of architecture, security or data management, in view of making the most of corporate tools and advise.

**Compliance** with the corporate IT security rules and standards will be monitored both at the level of the DG and its processes as well as for each information system. **Cyberawareness** campaigns will be promoted, and specific sessions will also be proposed to senior management and information systems system owners.

To ensure that, once adopted by the co-legislators, the revised **Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR)** can be swiftly implemented, an implementing act for the **future EU-wide system for electronic data interchange (EDI)** will be developed. It will provide technical requirements to design and deliver interoperable digital solutions for authorities and the private sector in the Member States, and for trans-EU border shipments for non-EU States. It will also describe how to achieve interoperability between the WSR EDI and other networks such as Electronic Freight Transport Information (eFTI) platforms and the EU Customs Single Window.

To optimise data use in support of the implementation of the environmental *acquis* and to minimise administrative burden, DG Environment will continue exploring how to bring relevant public data into the **Green Deal Data Space**, including potentially through the review of the **INSPIRE** and the **Public Access** Directives<sup>(6)</sup>. In the context of the **GreenData4All** initiative, the overall objective will be to revise the legislative framework to unlock the full benefits of data sharing for data-driven innovation and evidence-based decisions. This work will build on recent and emerging data legislation (Data Governance Act, Data Act, Open Data Directive – Implementing Regulation on High Value Datasets) to be ‘Fit for Future’ (simpler to apply and comply with, more digital, and without unnecessary burdens). The impact assessment for this initiative will be launched in 2023<sup>(7)</sup>.

In addition, DG Environment will support two key actions to develop the European Common Green Deal data space:

- **Coordination and support action (CSA)** to create a sustainable data governance scheme as well as a blueprint connecting existing national, regional and local data ecosystems and enabling public and private stakeholders to access relevant data. This CSA, which is a commitment under the first call of **DIGITAL**, started in the second half of 2022 and will last between 12 and 18 months.
- **Digital Product Passport (DPP)**: also under the DIGITAL Programme, the Commission is providing funding for a gradual deployment, as of 2023, of digital product passports in several key value chains. The project started also 2022 with a duration 24 months.

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<sup>(6)</sup> Directive 2007/02/EC on an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe and Directive 2003/4/EC on Public Access to Environmental Information

<sup>(7)</sup> See related policy output under Specific Objective 5, category Public Consultations

As regards **records management**, the objectives defined in the DG Strategic Plan will continue to be pursued, in line with user needs and taking account of the corporate eDomec, personal data protection and information security rules. Furthermore, the DG will continue raising awareness about the need to protect Sensitive-Non-Classified information by the use of appropriate markings. Particular attention will be given to the correct use of the sensitive personal data flag for documents registered in Ares.

Further steps will be taken to raise awareness and ensure full compliance with the **Personal Data Protection** Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. In 2023, existing procedures will be further analysed and implemented to ensure that the DG Data Protection Coordinator is consulted to ensure that procurement and other relevant activities comply with the applicable rules.

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

Further outputs are defined in the performance tables in annex.

## **E. Sound environmental management**

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

In 2022, DG Environment reached almost all the proposed objectives for energy savings, paper consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> caused by missions travel and staff commuting. An increased of certain missions was however noticed, due to particular needs to rebuild trust and reinforce relationships with external partners.

In 2023, the DG will further exploit the environmental management possibilities offered by the **dynamic collaborative space**. To achieve a greener working place, actions will focus on three main working strands: 1) waste reduction and recycling, 2) a fully paperless office, and 3) promoting the use of tap water. With regards to missions, the DG will continue opting for virtual meetings, wherever appropriate.

To help reduce the Commission's digital footprint, DG Environment will also aim to reduce even more the number of documents exchanged internally by e-mail, by promoting document sharing on the **SIFC platform** (new SharePoint).

The corporate work on greening the Commission's procurement, launched in 2020, was finalised in 2022 and provided an updated Public Procurement Vademecum that includes **sustainability aspects**. DG Environment actively promotes greening its procurement by

including sustainability aspects in its procurement procedures, while also looking to increase the number of procedures using green award criteria.

In line with the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), event organisers and partners are encouraged to use environmentally friendly materials before and during the event, respecting the paperless and plastic-free guidance (see also the EMAS outputs defined in the performance tables in annex).

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


As a result of the European Green Deal, the number of new and updated environmental Directives and Regulations that member States will need to transpose and implement (following the adoption of proposals by the co-legislators) is exceptionally high.

In 2023, DG Environment will create an **implementation radar screen** to proactively monitor how key legal acts are being transposed and implemented by Member State. This will facilitate internal coordination among the technical and legal units involved in preparatory work, including assessing the state of readiness in Member States, and helping to identify needs for financial and technical support.

By also supporting Member States, the tool will help to make enforcement action more targeted and allow DG.ENV to identify and focus on key priorities and issues. Moreover, the radar screen may even reduce the future need for enforcement action, thereby also preventing a significant workload increase; the latter depends on whether and to what extent Member States will increase their implementation efforts. The efficiency of this initiative will need to be assessed over several years.

## ANNEX: Performance tables

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

<b>General objective: A European Green Deal</b>		
<b>Specific objective 1: Circular Economy: The EU economy is more circular and uses natural resources and products more sustainably</b>		
<i>Related to spending programme(s): LIFE; Horizon Europe</i>		
<b>Main outputs in 2023:</b>		
<b>New policy initiatives</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Revision of the Circular Economy Monitoring Framework	Adoption of revised framework by the Commission	2023 Q1
Measures to reduce the release of microplastics in the environment	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q1
 Review of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste and repealing certain Directives	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q2
<b>Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for a revision of the Regulation on End-Of-Life Vehicles	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q2
<b>Evaluations and fitness checks</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of Directive 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)	Conclusion and publication of Staff Working Document	2023 Q3
Evaluation of Regulation (EU) No 1257/2013 on ship recycling	Conclusion and publication of Staff Working Document	2023 Q3
<b>Public consultations</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Ecodesign for Sustainable Products priorities	Launch public consultation	2023 Q1
Commission implementing measures addressing the environmental impact of imaging equipment including consumables	Launch public consultation	2023 Q3
<b>External communication actions</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target

Output	Indicator	Target
<b>Awareness-raising campaign in support to EU Textiles Strategy:</b>		
Visits to the campaign website	Number of visits t	Min. 10.000 web visits
Media products and toolkit	Media coverage of the campaign	- Min. 32 000 average views for 6 Op-Eds - Impressions per article: 2000 - Min. 10 third parties per target MSs using the toolkit
Participants to the launch event	Number of attendees and percentage of satisfaction rate for overall event	- Min. 70 participants - 80% Satisfaction rate for overall event (content & logistics)
Impressions on social media	Number of users reached	Min. 4 million users reached on all platforms
Collaboration with influencers	Audience reached and engaged through influencers	- Min. 300.000 users reached via influencers - Min. 3% engagement rate on influencer post
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Contribute to the negotiations of the Revision of <b>Packaging and Packaging Waste</b> Directive and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
<b>Implementation of the EU Ecolabel scheme:</b>  Amendment of criteria for several products (tourist accommodation and indoor cleaning services as regards rescaled energy efficiency classes for certain appliances; detergents and indoor cleaning services; absorbent hygiene products and reusable menstrual cups	Adoption of amended criteria by the Commission	2023 Q2

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission <b>guidelines for criteria on the costs of cleaning up litter</b> in accordance with Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment	Adoption of guidance by the Commission	2023 Q1
<b>EMAS:</b> Commission Implementing Decision on the recognition of the requirements of the Ecoprofit environmental management system as complying with the corresponding requirements of the eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)  Report of the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council in accordance with Article 47 of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 containing information on the actions and measures taken under the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme	Adoption by the Commission of an implementing decision and an implementation report	2023 Q2
Update of the European List of <b>Ship Recycling</b> facilities	Adoption of implementing decision by the Commission	2023 Q2
Delegated Act – technical specifications on risk management (under the Regulation on minimum requirements for <b>water reuse</b> )	Adoption of the Delegated Act by the Commission	2023 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(s): LIFE; Horizon Europe*

**Main outputs in 2023:**

**New policy initiatives**

Output	Indicator	Target
<b>Integrated Nutrient Management</b> Action Plan	Adoption of Communication by the Commission	2023 Q1



Output	Indicator	Target
Revised EU <b>pollinators</b> initiative	Adoption of Communication by the Commission	2023 Q1
Commission Communication in response to the European Citizens' Initiative " <b>Save bees and farmers!</b> Towards a bee-friendly agriculture for a healthy environment"	Adoption of Communication by the Commission	2023 Q2 (5 April latest)
 <b>Soil Health Law:</b> Proposal for a Directive on protecting, sustainably managing and restoring EU soils	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q2
Legislative proposal for an EU Framework for <b>Forest Monitoring</b>	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q2
<b>Evaluations and fitness checks</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the <b>protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates</b> from agricultural sources	Presentation of the evaluation conclusions in a Staff Working Document	2023 Q4
<b>External communication actions</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Communication campaign (mostly on social media) in support of Nature Restoration Law co-decision procedure	Engagement and engagement rate	To be set at a later stage of project definition
Targeted press relations in support of Nature Restoration Law legislative procedure, aimed at challenging prevailing narratives around food security	Number of articles published in target countries Sentiment analysis	To be set at a later stage of project definition
Communication campaign (mostly on social media) in support of 3 billion Trees, under the #ForOurPlanet umbrella	Recall: Number of people who can recall having seen 3BT	To be set at a later stage of project definition
Communication campaign (social, press and website) to promote the Soil Health Law proposal	Gross reach	To be set at a later stage of project definition
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target

Output	Indicator	Target
Contribute to the negotiations of the <b>Nature Restoration Law</b> and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
<b>Natura 2000</b> - Update of the lists of Sites of Community Importance	Adoption of update decisions by the Commission (up to 9 decisions expected)	2023 Q4
<b>Protection of species of wild fauna and flora</b> by regulating trade therein (implementation of the <b>CITES</b> Convention through Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97)  Commission Implementing Regulation prohibiting the introduction into the Union of specimens of certain species of wild fauna and flora  Revision of the Annexes to Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97, to in- or exclude species in line with changes to the Appendices of the CITES Convention	Adoption of two Regulations by the Commission	2023 Q3 and Q4
Implementation of Regulation (EC) 1007/2009 on the <b>Trade in Seal Products</b> (for the period from 1st January 2019 to 31 December 2022)	Adoption of report by the Commission	2023 Q4
<b>Sustainable Forest management</b>  Guidelines for Defining, Mapping and Strictly Protecting EU Primary and Old-Growth Forests  Voluntary guidelines on biodiversity-friendly afforestation, reforestation and tree planting.  Voluntary guidelines on Sustainable Forest Management	Three Staff Working Documents (SWD) published	Two SWD in 2023 Q1 and one SWD in 2023 Q3

Output	Indicator	Target
<b>Forest international policy</b> 18th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF18) 59th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Sessions of the Associated Committees 27th session of the FAO Committee on Forestry	Meetings preparation and participation accomplished	2023 Q2 2023 Q4 Date for the FAO events to be defined by the relevant bodies
Assessment Report under Article 12 of the <b>Marine Strategy Framework Directive</b> (reporting and assessment of Member States' monitoring programmes)	Adoption of Communication by the Commission	2023 Q1
Proposal for a Council Decisions in relation to <b>Barcelona Convention Ministerial COP23</b>	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q3
Commission Implementing Regulation amending the technical formats for reporting on the management of <b>Invasive Alien Species</b>	Adoption of the implementing Regulation by the Commission	2023 Q2

**General objective: A European Green Deal**

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

*Related to spending programme(s): LIFE; Horizon Europe*



**Main outputs in 2023:**

**New policy initiatives**

Output	Indicator	Target
Revision of Regulation 2017/852 on <b>Mercury</b>	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q1

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

Output	Indicator	Target
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Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on <b>attribution of scientific and technical work on chemicals to the EU agencies</b>	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q2
 Proposal for a Regulation on <b>streamlining chemicals-related data flows</b> , increasing data interoperability, dissemination and re-use across legislation, etc	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q4
 Revision of the Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 concerning the <b>Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH)</b>	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q4
<b>External communication actions</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Awareness raising communication campaign on water resilience	Recall: Number of people who can recall a campaign message	To be specified at design stage
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Contribute to the negotiations of the <b>Integrated Water Management – revised list of surface and groundwater pollutants</b> and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
Contribute to the negotiations of the <b>Revision of the Ambient Air Quality Directives</b> and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
Contribute to the negotiations of the <b>Revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive</b> and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
Contribute to the negotiations of the <b>Revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive</b> and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)

Output	Indicator	Target
Contribute to the negotiations of the <b>Revision of the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR)</b> and to its adoption through the ordinary legislative procedure.	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
<b>Implementation of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)</b>  Delegated Regulations amending Annex I on the entries of: PFOS; PBDEs; HBCDD and to include an entry on perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), its salts and PFHxS-related compounds –  Proposal for Council Decision to establish the position to be taken on behalf of the Union at COP-11 of the Stockholm convention on POPs	Adoption of four Delegated Regulations by the Commission  Adoption of proposal by the Commission	Two acts in 2023 Q1 and two acts in 2023 Q4  2023 Q1
<b>Import / Export of Chemicals</b>  Proposal for a Council Decision to establish the position to be taken on behalf of the Union at COP-11 to the Rotterdam Convention on prior informed consent  Commission Delegated Regulation amending Annex I+V to Regulation (EU) No 649/2012 concerning the export and import of hazardous chemicals	Adoption of proposal by the Commission  Delegated Regulation adopted by the Commission	2023 Q1  2023 Q2
Staff working document on the assessment of <b>essential uses of chemicals</b>	Publication of Staff Working document	2023 Q2
Report on the <b>statistics on the use of animals for scientific purposes</b> in the Member States of the European Union	Adoption of report by the Commission	2023 Q4

Output	Indicator	Target
<p><b>Minamata Convention on Mercury</b></p> <p>Proposal for a Council Decision establishing EU position at COP5 of the Minamata Convention on waste thresholds</p> <p>Proposal for a Council Decision establishing EU position at COP5 of the Minamata Convention on restrictions on mercury-added products</p>	Adoption of proposals by the Commission	2023 Q3
Commission Recommendation for a COUNCIL DECISION authorising the opening of negotiations on revision of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (the Gothenburg Protocol) under the UNECE Convention on Long-Range <b>Transboundary Air Pollution</b>	Adoption of proposal by the Commission	2023 Q2
Commission Implementing Decision establishing the <b>Best Available Techniques</b> (BAT) conclusions, under Directive 2010/75/EU on Industrial Emissions, for slaughter houses and animal by-products.	Adoption of implementing decision by the Commission	2023 Q4

**General objective: A European Green Deal**

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

*Related to spending programme(s): LIFE*

**Main outputs in 2023:**

**Evaluations and fitness checks**

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the <b>LIFE Programme 2014-2020</b>	Evaluation conclusion and publication of Staff Working Document	2023 Q3

**Other important outputs**

Output	Indicator	Target
Contribution to the European <b>Semester Process</b>	Environmental recommendations integrated in country reports	Throughout the year

Output	Indicator	Target
Assessment of Member States Recovery and Resilience Plans	Contribution in the context of interservices consultation	Throughout the year
Appraisal and follow-up of major projects submitted for co-financing notably under ESIF (Cohesion policy) and the Connect Europe Facility (CEF)	Contribution delivered in the context of interservices consultation	Throughout the year
Appraisal and follow-up of the Just Transition Plans.	Contribution delivered in the context of interservices consultation	Throughout the year
Appraisal and follow-up of the modifications of Rural Development Programmes and Contribution to the development of Member States' Strategic Plans under the Common Agricultural Policy	Contribution delivered in the context of interservices consultation	Throughout the year
Appraisal and follow-up on the implementation of multi-annual indicative programmes under the EU external funding instruments	Contribution delivered in the context of interservices consultation	Throughout the year

**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(s): LIFE*

**Main outputs in 2023:**

**Evaluations and fitness checks**

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of the <b>Environmental Liability Directive</b>	Evaluation conclusion and publication of Staff Working Document	2023 Q2

**Public consultations**

Output	Indicator	Target
Fitness check of how the <b>Polluter Pays Principle</b> is applied to the environment (PPP)	Launch public consultation	2023 Q1



Output	Indicator	Target
<b>GreenData4All:</b> legislative proposal revising the INSPIRE Directive, and the Directive on Public Access to Environmental Information	Launch public consultation	2023 Q2
<b>External communication actions</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
<b>Green Week</b> 2023 (3-11 June)	Percentage of attendees reporting increased knowledge about EU environmental policies	Over 80%
<b>Euronews magazine</b> (up to 12 episodes produced and aired in 2023)	Audience engagement	To be defined
<b>Other important outputs</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target
Revised <b>Environmental Crime Directive</b> with DG Justice and Consumers)	Participation in the interinstitutional negotiations towards adoption of the legislation by the co-legislators	2023 (dates to be defined by the co-legislators)
<b>Aarhus Convention</b> Commission decision on <b>eligibility criteria</b> under the Aarhus Regulation as regards requests for the <b>internal review of administrative acts</b>  Update and codification of Commission Notice on <b>Access to Justice</b> in Environmental matters (2017/C 275/01)	Adoption of decision by the Commission  Adoption of decision by the Commission	2023 Q1  2023 Q3
Annual <b>INSPIRE Conference</b> on geospatial data sharing	Organisation of the event	2023 Q4
8th <b>Environment Action Programme</b> - Mid-term review	Publication in collaboration with the EEA	2023 Q4
Analysis supporting the Strategic Plan of <b>Horizon Europe</b> for the period 2025-7	Publication of the analysis document	2023 Q2
<b>Strategic Foresight</b>  5th FORENV Cycle (EU Foresight System for the Environment)  Contribution to the Commission's foresight work	Publication of a report covering environmental emerging issues (topics to be defined)  Integration of environmental issues into the Commission's annual foresight report	2023 Q4 for the FORENV report.  Contributions to the Commission's foresight work throughout the year

Output	Indicator	Target
<b>Science for Environment Policy News Alert Service</b> Communicating scientific results in News Alert Articles and thematic Future Briefs	Regular publication of Science News Alerts	Publication of about 20 news alerts and 1-3 future briefs (spread throughout the year)
<b>EU Green Cities Awards:</b> European Green Capital Award European Green Leaf Award	Titles awarded Award ceremonies organised	2023 Q3 2023 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(s): LIFE*

**Main outputs in 2023:**

**Other important outputs**

Output	Indicator	Target
Worldwide promotion of sustainable development and <b>EGD environmental objectives</b>	Participation in 2022 United Nationals Environmental Programme High Level Political Forum (UNEP-HLPF) and Annual Subcommittee meeting	2023 Q1 2023 Q4
Participation in negotiations towards a <b>Global Agreement on Plastics</b>	Participation in the 2nd and 3rd Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee	2023 Q2 2023 Q4
Strengthening environmental cooperation with key <b>Strategic Partners</b>	High-level dialogues and meetings organised with USA, China, Mexico and Brazil  Green alliance concluded with Canada  Organisation of the Forum on Environment, Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Water held with South Africa	Dialogues throughout 2023  Green Alliance before end 2023  South Africa Forum 2023, date to be fixed

Output	Indicator	Target
Strengthening environmental cooperation with <b>neighbourhood countries and regions</b> inter alia through contribution to the negotiation and implementation of several Association/Partnerships agreements as well as participation in regional fora	Progress in countries' approximation with EU environmental acquis (Azerbaijan, Armenia) Implementation of the Green Partnership with Morocco Engagement in the Union for the Mediterranean agenda	Throughout 2023 and beyond
Progress in the environment chapter of <b>accession negotiations</b> with Serbia, Montenegro and Turkey	Input into Chapter 27 negotiations provided and participation in meetings	Throughout 2023
Contributing to the negotiation and implementation of EU <b>Free Trade Agreements</b> (FTAs) with the focus on Trade and Sustainable Development Chapters (TSD)	Conclusion of the ongoing TSD chapter negotiations in India and Indonesia	Before end 2023

## Modernising the administration (annex to part 2)

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

### Main outputs in 2023:

Output	Indicator	Target
Team events organised at all levels (unit, Directorate, DG level)	Staff participation in team events	At least 40% of all staff participated in at least one team event in 2023
Learning & Development courses targeting specific needs of the DG	Satisfaction with the specific courses offered to DG staff	Satisfaction rate with L&D offers above 70%
Management appointments closely monitored to ensure gender balance	Overall balanced gender appointments	50% of female managers in the DG
Specific competition in the field of environment (EPSO/AD/401)	Number of laureates in the reserve list	45 laureates

**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 2023:**

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 timely payments	Execution remains > 99 % and close to 100% both for commitments and payment appropriations, while payments remain > 97 % of payments (in value) on time
Effective controls: safeguarding of assets	Number of security incidents confirmed by the CSIRC	0
Effective controls: safeguarding of assets	Number of personal data breaches with risk to the rights and freedoms of the data subjects	0
Economy of controls	Overall estimated cost of controls	remains < 2%] of funds managed

**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>8</sup> aimed at the prevention, detection and correction <sup>9</sup> of fraud.

**Main outputs in 2023:**

Output	Indicator	Target
Assessment of any identified significant fraud risks, for further improvement in understanding of fraud patterns	Minutes of the annual risk management assessment Internal note on fraud risk assessment	2023 Q4

<sup>8</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>9</sup> Correction of fraud is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.

Output	Indicator	Target
Strong Cooperation with CINEA to fight against fraud and irregularities	Meetings between DG Environment and CINEA with a focus on fraud related matters and anti-fraud actions, as well as addressing irregularities (DG Environment facilitation of enforced recoveries)	Throughout the year
Supervision of potential fraudulent cases and cooperation in tackling them jointly (DG Environment, OLAF, European Public Prosecutor's Office and CINEA)	Meetings with OLAF and with the EPPO	Throughout the year
Training and information on anti-fraud matters	Workshop	1 in 2023
Reporting to OLAF on the state of play of implementation of both financial and non-financial recommendations	Written contributions	1 in 2023

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

**Main outputs in 2023:**

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for the DG Environment key data assets	Percentage of implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for DG Environment key data assets	85%
Keeping up to date the ENV data catalogue under the platform "Declare"	Regular meetings among the business and technical staff to keep the DG Data catalogue up to date	Meetings with each policy unit
Implementation of new guidelines for optimal usage of data, information and knowledge management in the DG	DG Environment data community survey on optimal usage of new data guidelines. Key stakeholders having followed data related training.	Throughout 2023 10 key stakeholders
Implementation of the DG DIKM Action plan	Tasks accomplished and monitoring progress	Throughout 2023
Waste Shipment Regulation (WSR): Implementing Act for the future EU-wide system for electronic data interchange (EDI)	Available	End 2023

Output	Indicator	Target
Ensuring IT security follow-up in all our systems	Percentage of DG information systems having an approved security plan less than 2-years old	100%
	IT priority controls are attested and compliant	100%
Increase staff awareness on cybersecurity	Cybersecurity awareness communication sent to staff <sup>(10)</sup>	1
	Percentage of senior management having followed cybersecurity training	100
	Percentage of system owners having followed cybersecurity training	100
Assessment of Information Systems with a view to identify potential for decommissioning	Percentage of DG information systems with a preservation assessment	70% (100% at the end of the mandate)
Increase staff awareness on data protection	Data protection awareness communication sent to staff	1
	General data protection events organised	1
	Percentage of DG Environment data controllers having followed training	100

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

**Main outputs in 2023:**

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

Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline, as appropriate)
<b>Priority action to support the Greening the Commission Communication and action plan</b>		

<sup>(10)</sup> In addition to corporate communication and their usual promotion in our internal channels.

Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline, as appropriate)
<b>Priority action to support the Greening the Commission Communication and action plan</b>		
Participation in corporate energy saving actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- end of year energy saving action</li> <li>- summer energy saving action</li> <li>- optimisation of comfort hours and/or comfort temperature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- end of year energy saving 1 week building close.</li> <li>- dock station turn off every evening.</li> <li>- close of heating/ventilation after 17h</li> </ul>
<b>Other recommended actions</b>		
<p>Staff awareness actions to <b>reduce energy use</b> in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or awareness actions about DG/service's total energy consumption in collaboration with OIB/OIL where appropriate.</p> <p>Staff awareness actions to <b>reduce water use</b> (for example ensuring that staff use the technical services hotline to report leaks) in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or awareness raising actions about DG/service's water consumption in collaboration with OIB/OIL where appropriate.</p> <p><b>Paperless working methods</b> at DG level (such as paperless working: e-signatories, financial circuits, collaborative working tools) and staff awareness actions to reduce office paper use in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or raise awareness about DG/service's office paper use in collaboration with OIB/OIL where appropriate.</p>	Energy consumption Water consumption	3 actions in relation with Energy consumption Energy consumption Water consumption
	Number of new actions introduced in relation to paperless working methods	1 action
	Number or % of staff informed/participated related to Energy consumption Water consumption Paperless working methods	70 % of staff to participate in 'greening DG ENV workshop'
	Energy consumption per DG/service building (MWh/person per year) Water consumption per DG/service building (m <sup>3</sup> /person) Paper consumption per DG/service (prints/person)	Reduce energy consumption (30%) <sup>(11)</sup> Reduce water consumption (30%) <sup>(12)</sup> Reduce paper consumption (40%)
<b>II. Reducing CO<sub>2</sub>, equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> and other atmospheric emissions</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
<b>Priority action to support the Greening the Commission Communication and action plan</b>		

<sup>11</sup> Overall reduction of energy consumption for DG/service (all buildings) from 2019 to 2023 (%).

<sup>12</sup> Overall reduction of water consumption for the DG/service (all buildings) during 2019-2023 (%).

Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
Analysis of DG/service's missions' trends / patterns (based on corporate EC-staff's and experts' professional trips (missions), optimise and gradually reduce CO2 emissions (e.g., by reducing the number of participants in the same mission, promoting more sustainable travelling options, promoting videoconferencing/ virtual events as an alternative).	Signed the EC <a href="#">DG/service Travel Pledge</a> CO2 (t) emissions from DG/service's missions CO2 (t) emissions from DG/service's expert meetings	Reduce DG/service's CO2 emissions from missions <sup>(13)</sup> with 35% Reduce emissions from expert participating in meetings with 35%
<b>Other recommended actions</b>		
Staff awareness actions on reducing GHG emissions (such as actions on sustainable commuting during EU Mobility week and VeloWalk corporate events) and/or raise staff awareness on sustainable commuting in collaboration with OIB or OIL (e.g., availability of bike parking facilities, lockers and showers, promote the reduction of parking spaces' use amongst staff).	Number or % of staff informed/participated	90% of staff informed/participated
	% of sustainable commuters <sup>(14)</sup> at DG/service	Increase 50% of sustainable commuters at DG level. Organisation of workshops on how to repair your bike
Staff awareness actions on digital pollution and gradual change of behaviours avoiding heavy emails, encouraging the use of ICT platforms, avoiding unnecessary storage of data.	Number of events organised	1 online training organised
<b>III. Reducing and management of waste</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
<b>Priority action to support the Greening the Commission Communication and action plan</b>		
Implementation of the <a href="#">EC Guidelines for sustainable meetings and events</a> , e.g. sustainable catering, reduce/eliminate single-use plastics, gadgets/gifts.	Number of green events	100%
<b>Other recommended actions</b>		
Staff awareness actions about waste reduction and sorting in the	Number or % of staff informed/participated	100 % of staff informed/participated

<sup>13</sup> Overall reduction of CO2 emissions from missions for the DG/service from 2019 to 2023 (%).

<sup>14</sup> Sustainable commuting usually refers to environmentally friendly travel modes, such as: public transport (bus, tram, subway, light rail), walking, cycling, and carpooling.



Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or staff awareness actions about DG/service's waste generation in collaboration with OIB/OIL where appropriate (for example, promote and label the waste sorting schemes in place).		Reduce waste generation
	Waste generation per DG/service building (kg/person)	Increase waste sorting
<b>IV. Promoting green public procurement (GPP)</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
<b>Priority action in line with the Greening the Commission Communication and action plan</b>		
Gradual introduction of GPP criteria in contracts and starting to monitor the process.	% of contracts with "green" provisions (relevant value in EUR)	Increase in the % of contracts with "green" provisions (relevant value in EUR)
<b>Other recommended actions</b>		
Staff awareness actions on the promotion of "green items" among EC office supplies' catalogue (for example, introduce a DG-specific office supplies' catalogue, including only 100% "green items).	Number of actions	Number of actions 2
	Number or % of staff informed/participated	50 staff participated in a training
	Number of GPP including "green" items	4 new GPP-related contracts with green criteria
<b>V. Supporting biodiversity</b>		
Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
Setting up local actions in line with site-specific biodiversity strategies where relevant (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), and related staff awareness actions.	Number of m <sup>2</sup> covered by the action	25m <sup>2</sup> covered by the action