



**Take urgent action to combat
climate change and its impacts**





EU internal action

Overview and challenges

Through the [European Green Deal](#), the EU is progressing on SDG 13 and has made strong commitments to address the climate crisis domestically and internationally. It has set itself the objective of achieving climate neutrality by 2050 and reducing net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 55 % by 2030 compared to 1990.

The EU and its Member States have met their international climate commitment under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): to achieve, by 2020, a 20 % reduction in GHG emissions compared to 1990 levels. Total GHG emissions, excluding land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) and including international aviation, fell by 32 %.

The EU is supporting its Member States in adapting to the impacts of extreme weather and becoming climate-resilient through the updated [Climate Adaptation Strategy](#). All Member States now have a national adaptation strategy or plan. The EU is also working to predict and measure the impact of climate disasters more accurately.

The EU and its Member States, acting jointly, submitted their updated [Nationally Determined Contributions \(NDCs\)](#) to the UNFCCC in December 2020, setting out a binding target of a net domestic reduction of at least 55 % in GHG

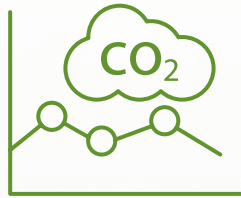
emissions by 2030 compared to 1990. Member States are required to develop 10-year [national energy and climate plans](#). Each country must submit a progress report every 2 years. Member States are also required to submit national long term strategies looking forward to 2050.

EU funds and instruments increasingly support the green and just transition, as seen in the [Sustainable Finance Action Plan](#), [EU taxonomy](#), [Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation](#), Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, European Green Bond Standard and Benchmark Regulations among others.

Progress is being made on international climate finance, and although the global collective goal of mobilising USD 100 billion a year for partner countries has not been met by the donor countries as a whole, the EU and its Member States remain the world's largest provider of climate finance, with total EU contributions reaching [EUR 23.04 billion in 2021](#).

Key initiatives

To deliver on the 2030 target and the climate neutrality target, in July 2021, the European Commission tabled the [Fit for 55 Package \(FF55\)](#) of legislative proposals. This package reflects the increased ambition in horizontal and sectorial legislation, particularly for industry, transport, buildings, land use, and the internal energy market. It includes dedicated measures aimed at ensuring the sufficient availability of alternative fuel



2030 targets and trends at EU level

Target and policy reference

By 2030, reduce net greenhouse gas emissions at EU level by at least 55 % compared to 1990

[European Green Deal](#)

[European Climate Law](#)

Contribution of the sectors covered by the EU emissions trading system (ETS) of 62 % in 2030 compared to 2005

Emission reductions of 42 % in 2030 compared to 2005 for the sectors of buildings and road transport

Set in the [ETS Directive](#)

Overall ambition of the Effort Sharing Regulation (ESR) is increased by 11 percentage points from -29 % to -40 % (compared to 2005)

Set in the [Effort Sharing Regulation](#)

Net removals by the land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector of 310 million tonnes CO₂ equivalent in 2030

Member-State-level binding targets for 2030

A budget for 2026-2029

Set in the [LULUCF Regulation](#)

55 % CO₂ emission reduction target (i.e. 100 % zero emission vehicles) for new cars and 50 % for new vans by 2030 compared to 2021

100 % CO₂ emission reduction target for both new cars and vans by 2035

Trends

The EU and its Member States have met their international climate commitment under the UNFCCC to achieve, by 2020, a 20 % reduction in GHG emissions compared to 1990 levels. By 2020, total GHG emissions, excluding land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) and including international aviation, fell by 32 % since 1990. For all main sectors and gases, except buildings, emissions are expected to remain below pre-pandemic levels, continuing the overall downward trend of the past 30 years. Overall, EU emissions in 2021, including LULUCF and international aviation, were 29.7 % lower than 1990 levels, broadly consistent with the trajectory to achieve the EU 55 % reduction target by 2030. However, the speed of reduction needs to increase significantly.

By 2021, the EU ETS had driven emissions from stationary installations down by 34.6 %* against 2005 levels. In parallel, Member States have raised over EUR 100 billion in auction revenues since 2013, available for further climate action and energy transformation.

In 2021, EU ETS emissions increased slightly compared with 2020, reflecting both the economic recovery from COVID-19 and the developing energy crisis. While 2021 emissions remained on a downward trend compared with 2019 pre-pandemic levels, more action is needed in ETS sectors to meet the 2030 climate target.

* Update reflecting the departure of the UK from the EU and the ETS.

Since 2013, EU-wide emissions in the effort sharing sectors have been below the annual limit. Emissions covered by the Effort Sharing Decision were 16.3 % lower in 2020 than in 2005; the EU overachieved its 2020 target by 6 percentage points. All Member States met their effort sharing obligations in all years between 2013 and 2019.

In the EU, LULUCF emits less GHG into the atmosphere than the CO₂ it removes through biogenic processes, but recent years have seen a decline in this natural carbon sink. For 2013 to 2020, Member States committed to accounting for additional action in LULUCF, in reported GHG emissions and CO₂ removals, to assess the target under the Kyoto Protocol.

GHG net removals by LULUCF has been increasing by 10,15 % from 1990 to 2021, based on the final 2021 GHG inventory. A strong positive initial trend in 1990-2006 (68,3 %) was reversed between 2006 and 2021. The net removals were 230,0 Mt CO₂-equivalent in 2021, well below the target proposed.

Average CO₂ emissions per km from new passenger cars registered in the EU fell by 9.4 % between 2015 and 2020. Since 2021, data are collected according to a new procedure and figures are not comparable to the period 2015-2020. In 2021, average CO₂ emissions per km from new passenger cars stood at 116.3 g/km. The share of zero-emission vehicles in newly registered passenger cars rose from 0.4 % in 2015 to 5.3 % in 2020, even though the share differs considerably across the EU Member States.

More details on indicators and trends for SDG 13 can be found in the statistical and analytical annex and Eurostat's monitoring report on progress towards the SDGs.

infrastructure – notably electric recharging infrastructure – as well as the increased use of sustainable fuels in aviation and maritime transport, in addition to support measures for the green just transition, through the new [Social Climate Fund](#) and enhanced [Modernisation Fund](#) and [Innovation Fund](#).

A new [Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism](#) (CBAM) will put a carbon price on imports of a selection of products to create a level playing field that incentivises producers in non-EU countries to green their production processes.

Alongside mitigation actions, the importance of adaptation measures cannot be overstated. The [EU's 2021 Adaptation Strategy](#) has begun delivering results and achieving important milestones in a broad range of policy fields such as, for example, the adoption of new guidance on how to climate-proof future infrastructure projects. The research and innovation initiative 'Mission on Adaptation' is making good progress; 118 regions and local authorities have signed the associated Charter to date and 12 calls for funding have been launched. The [EU Action Plan for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) includes adaptation measures at both the EU and international level, linking these to disaster risk-reduction and management strategies. Additionally, the [EU Civil Protection Mechanism](#) provides assistance for Member States dealing with emergencies following a natural disaster.

Selected enablers

In 2020, the EU adopted the European Green Deal Investment Plan (EGDIP). The plan will mobilise EUR 1 trillion in sustainable investments before 2030. A selection of financing mechanisms are outlined below.

At least 30% of the current [Multiannual Financial Framework](#) will be spent on climate objectives. Other spending programmes also have climate spending targets of at least 30%. These include [Horizon Europe](#) (35%), the [Cohesion Fund](#) (37%), the [European Regional Development Fund \(ERDF\)](#) (30%), the [Connecting Europe Facility](#) (60%), and the [LIFE programme](#) (61%).

The [Innovation Fund](#) funds the rollout of innovative low carbon technologies. It is financed by the EU ETS and will provide over EUR 38 billion in the coming decade. [The Modernisation Fund](#) (EUR 51 billion) and [Social Climate Fund](#) (EUR 72.2 billion) assist Member States with investment in energy systems, energy efficiency and clean mobility among others.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU launched its [NextGeneration EU](#). Through the [Recovery and Resilience Facility](#), consisting of EUR 338 billion in grants and EUR 385.5 billion in loans, at least 37% of the resources in the national recovery and resilience plans must be allocated to climate action and the green transition. The national recovery and

resilience plans have allocated 40% of this planned expenditure to achieve the EU climate objectives.

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund will provide more than EUR 94 billion for climate action, a substantial increase from the EUR 56 billion invested in the 2014-2020 programming period.

The [Just Transition Fund](#) has an EU contribution of EUR 19.2 billion for investments by 2027 for carbon-intensive regions to alleviate the socio-economic impact of the green transition.

[InvestEU](#) will spend 30% of its EUR 372 billion budget on climate objectives. Furthermore, 60% of the investments under the Sustainable Infrastructure Window will be spent on climate and environment.

The [Horizon Europe programme](#) will allocate at least 35% of its EUR 95.5 billion budget to climate action and the green transition through the Climate, Energy, and Mobility work programme.

The [Horizon mission for adaptation to climate change](#) supports EU regions, cities, and local authorities in building resilience against the impacts of climate change. By 2030, at least 150 European regions and communities will be climate-resilient.

The Horizon Europe Health Cluster aims to promote healthy societies in Europe. In this regard, the CATALYSE programme aims to catalyse climate action in Europe and to protect public health through the provision of new knowledge, data and tools. It is in the process of developing an indicator framework, quantifying health co-benefits, developing forecasting tools and strategies, and providing evidence and training on the most effective strategies.

EIT Climate-KIC, a Knowledge and Innovation Community supported by European Institute of Innovation and Technology since 2010, has a common ambition to create a prosperous, inclusive, climate-resilient society with a circular, zero-carbon economy, where the long-term impact is to achieve deep decarbonisation and strengthen climate resilience through innovation. EIT Climate-KIC takes urgent actions to combat climate change and its impacts primarily through integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning as well as by strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and national disasters.

Another example is the project for 'Pilot implementation of the national plan for integrated wildland fire management' in Portugal, supported by the Technical Support Instrument under the call for 2021. The afforested lands provide goods and services for local villages and communities and foster prosperity. The aim of the national plan is to protect people and their property from severe rural wildland fires, developing at-risk territories and ensuring proper care for ecosystems.



Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholders are at the heart of climate action and the EU is committed to providing them with channels for input and dialogue. Since young people will be acutely affected by climate change, it is vital that their voices are heard. For that reason, the EU is engaged in active dialogue with young people and exploring new forums where young people youth can engage directly with policymakers.

The [European Climate Pact](#) gives people in the EU a platform for designing new climate initiatives, amplifying activities, sharing knowledge, and showcasing solutions. Over 4 million pledges have been made by EU citizens to shape a climate-friendly society.

The [Global Covenant of Mayors](#) for Climate and Energy fosters the engagement of cities and local governments in climate action, leading to a fairer, climate-neutral Europe. In 2022, there were over 10 000 signatories to the Covenant committed to reducing GHG emissions by 55 % by 2030.

Multi-level approach

SDG delivery requires ambitious action at all levels. Some examples of good practices in implementing SDG 13 are given below.

In Finland, a network was launched in 2008 bringing together municipalities, regions, businesses, members of the public and experts to find ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Coordinated by the Finnish Environment Institute, the [Towards Carbon Neutral Municipalities](#) network facilitates knowledge exchange regarding good practices in climate change mitigation, supports the municipalities in their climate action and creates demand for climate-friendly products and services.

The city of Vienna in Austria uses participatory budgeting to accelerate climate action and strengthen democracy. The Vienna Climate Teams put out public calls ideas for climate action. 1100 ideas have been submitted and checked by city experts, who selected 238 for a co-creation workshop where members of the public and experts clustered ideas into 102 projects. A representative jury of members of the public selected 19 winning projects. These will be financed by the city and implemented within 2 years. In 2022 and 2023, the project covers six districts with a budget of EUR 13 million.

EU external action

Global trends

Insufficient progress has been made on reducing greenhouse gas emissions to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. According to the 2022 UN SDG Report, based on current national commitments, by 2030 [global emissions](#) could have increased by almost 14 % compared to 2010. Over the last two decades, the number of low- and middle-income countries exposed to climate extremes increased from 76 % to 98 %.

Internal/external coherence including policy coherence for development

Climate action is a central part of the EU external policy toolbox and strongly linked with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Climate diplomacy remains a core component of EU foreign and security policy and is increasingly important for the EU's international engagement. The EU participates actively in the UNFCCC processes in support of SDGs 13 and 7.

To support the transition of partner countries to a climate-resilient, net-zero emissions economy, the EU organises climate

dialogues and regional and bilateral cooperation activities, including high-level dialogues on climate change with the US, Canada, India, Japan, South Korea and others. A major vehicle for climate diplomacy is the EU Climate Dialogue (EUCDs) project. The objective of such dialogues is to project the European Green Deal priorities abroad and to make EU knowledge and experience available to major economies outside Europe in order to facilitate action by them to implement the Paris Agreement.

As part of its efforts to implement the external aspects of the European Green Deal, the EU seeks green alliances with key partners who share the EU's ambitions and the objective of climate neutrality by 2050. The alliances involve a commitment to cooperate on climate action through facilitating the green transition by reducing emissions, phasing out fossil fuel energy, deploying low-carbon technologies, and supporting mitigation and adaptation efforts. The EU has signed Green Alliances with Japan and Norway and a Green Partnership with Morocco.

The EU and several partner countries established 'The Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate' to foster global action to promote trade policies that can help address climate change through local and global initiatives. The Coalition aims to build partnerships between trade and climate communities to identify ways in which trade policy can help address climate change. It will promote trade and investment in goods, services and technologies that help mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The EU supports science-based decision-making by offering information and by basing decisions on the latest available science. In this regard, the EU's scientific lighthouses such as [Copernicus](#) and the [European Marine Observation and Data Network](#) provide data and information on an open access basis to inform climate services (e.g. remote sensing, smart weather stations and artificial intelligence). These instruments are powerful tools for monitoring implementation of the Paris Agreement objectives and NDCs. This is particularly important for partner countries, where monitoring tools and early warning systems are often insufficient.

Commitments and accounting under the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC cover greenhouse gases in the country where they are emitted. There is increasing focus on the impacts of consumption and production on greenhouse gas emissions. Further research is required to understand the overall dynamics of the impact of imported and exported goods and services on global emissions. Current estimates of technology-adjusted consumption-based emissions for the EU suggest that these follow a similar trend to the production-based emissions accounted for under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement. Eurostat is also working on statistics on GHG emissions associated with EU trade in goods and services.



While it provides technical assistance and support to partner countries to decarbonise their economies, the EU is ready to explore possibilities for dialogue and cooperation with low- and middle- income countries regarding implementation of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, having regard to policy coherence for development. The EU is committed to ensuring that trade contributes to sustainable development and combatting climate change. All modern EU trade and investment agreements include trade and sustainable development (TSD) chapters, including provisions on the implementation of global climate commitments.

EU and Member States external financial support for SDG implementation and results

There are two main sources of information to track support for SDG 13. As with other SDGs, EU support for SDG 13 can be estimated where this specific SDG field is marked in projects reported to the OECD-DAC. In addition, the OECD climate mitigation and adaptation markers, which are the basis for climate finance reporting to the UNFCCC and under the EU Governance Regulation, can be used to identify measures that contribute to fighting climate change and SDG 13. The assessments made in preparing this Review indicate that there is scope for greater consistency between these complementary and related reporting tracks.



In 2021, EU institutions reported to OECD commitments amounting to EUR 5.8 billion in projects contributing to SDG 13. A substantial proportion of the EU contribution was from projects targeting SDG 13 as the main objective. These projects also contribute to several other interlinked SDGs such as SDGs 5, 7, 8, 9 and 11. EU support for SDG 13 also includes a significant number of projects targeting SDG 13 as a significant objective, clearly underlining the cross-cutting nature of SDG 13. This SDG has been mostly commonly associated with interventions where the main SDG was SDG 1, 8, 16 or 17. When taking into account also other official flows, private funds mobilized through public intervention and support to international public goods, the Total Official Support to Sustainable Development (TOSSD) of the EU to SDG 13 amounted to EUR 11.8 billion in 2021. In terms of selected results of assistance ⁽³²⁾, EU support contributed to 95.8 million tons of CO₂ emissions averted in the period 2018-2021.

Collectively, the EU and Member States that reported on SDGs to the OECD in 2021, contributed EUR 16.2 billion to SDG 13. EU and Member State flows to SDG 13 predominantly focused on projects in Africa (35%), Asia (25%), America and the Caribbean (14%) and other countries in Europe (14%). There is also a global component (12%). A significant share

of this contribution to SDG 13 has been provided through global thematic funds such as the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund or the Clean Technology Fund. Considering the five main global climate funds, EU and Member States contributions to global funds related to SDG 13 is estimated at EUR 15.7 billion. ⁽³³⁾

As for the reporting on climate finance for developing countries, this is based on annual reporting by EU Member States under the EU Governance Regulation. This reporting complies with the relevant reporting requirements under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and uses the OECD-DAC mitigation and adaptation markers (the 'Rio Markers'). Under this reporting system, in 2021 the EU and the 27 Member States reported a cumulative total of EUR 23.04 billion committed from public sources to support developing countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

EU Member States are important donors to global funds supporting the fight against climate change. The EU Member States account for approximately 60% of global contributions to the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the largest global fund focusing on climate. EU Member States' contributions to the GCF account for USD 9.4 billion out of a total donor

⁽³²⁾ For the methodology and results, please see the description under SDG 2.

⁽³³⁾ The calculations consider total EU and Member State historical contributions to the following funds: Adaptation Fund, Clean technology Fund, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and Strategic Climate Fund (SCF).

contribution of USD 15.8 billion. EU Member States have also made sizeable contributions to the Strategic Climate Fund and the Clean Technology Fund (CTF). Significant contributions have also been made to the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) established under the UNFCCC. EU commitments on adaptation have translated into a EUR 100 million contribution to the Adaptation Fund (with EUR 80 million earmarked for sub-Saharan Africa), making the EU and its Member States the biggest contributor to the fund, with more than EUR 350 million committed.

Main policy orientations and initiatives for external engagement

The EU continues to be at the forefront of international efforts to promote sustainable and inclusive development, in line with the external dimension of the European Green Deal, with climate change a central theme. The European Green Deal is Europe's blueprint for implementing a sustainable recovery model to 'build back better' globally, together with the European Consensus on Development and the NDICI-Global Europe Regulation 2021-2027. Reflecting this ambition, the EU set itself the target of dedicating 30% of the NDICI-Global Europe financial envelope to climate spending for 2021-2027. This target will be exceeded after the announcement by the Commission President, in her 2021 State of the Union address, of an additional effort of EUR 4 billion, taking the figure to 35%. The EU's new Global Gateway strategy is expected to make a major contribution to the green transition. Being particularly geared towards climate mitigation, it represents a major economic opportunity for low and middle-income countries.

The EU remains an active voice in the international arena in promoting the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the transition to low-carbon and climate-resilient economies. The EU is also committed to international cooperation and supporting partner countries' own policies and plans for climate action including those related to climate adaptation (in line with the 2021 EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change) or with a focus on climate mitigation towards decarbonisation and energy transition. By working closely with international organisations such as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the EU plays an important role in the advocacy and design of concrete measures such as the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) aimed at reaching science-based global emission reduction goals consistent with the Paris Agreement.

Climate change and the environment are being integrated by the EU into all its policies and interventions. Continuous support is provided for implementation and upgrading of NDCs and national adaptation plans globally, and for commitment to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) 2015-2030. In 2021, the Commission

supported international climate governance, sustainable energy transition, the global pledge on reducing methane emissions, phasing out of coal and the just transition as well other environmental actions. This included direct support for 60 countries, for the design and implementation of their NDCs. Ongoing initiatives in the fields of renewable energy, resource efficiency, circular economy, sustainable urban development and health resilience also supported the implementation of SDGs 3, 7, 11, 13 and 17.

Several Team Europe initiatives (TEIs) address climate change as a priority. The TEI on [climate change adaptation and resilience in Africa](#), part of the Global Gateway Africa-EU Investment Package, is a leading example in this field with the EU and selected Member States joining efforts by bringing together existing and new programmes, including current contributions to global climate funds, under African leadership. Other relevant TEIs include the [DeSIRA programme](#) which addresses the development of smart and climate-resilient agriculture in Africa, Latin America, and Asia; and projects on water, energy and climate in Central Asia; the Africa-EU Green Energy initiative and the EU-Pacific Green-Blue Alliance, which also contributes to the objectives of Global Gateway.

The EU's overall policy frameworks for its neighbouring regions are enshrined in the Economic and Investment Plans (EIPs). The EIP for the Western Balkans aims to spur the long-term economic recovery of the region and speed up economic convergence with the EU. It is accompanied by guidelines for implementing the Green Agenda in line with the EU Green Deal. Close to EUR 30 billion in funding is expected to be mobilised through grants, guarantees and preferential loans to the region. Similarly, the EIP for the Eastern Partnership aims to mobilise potential investments of up to EUR 17 billion across all policy sectors through the EFSD+ and other financial instruments, with green transition playing a central role.

In 2021, the EU and the US launched the [Global Methane Pledge](#) in an effort to slash methane emissions by 30% by 2030 compared to 2020 levels. So far, 150 countries have joined the pledge, and more than 50 countries have developed national methane action plans or are in the process of doing so. The EU action plan focusing on energy, agriculture and waste, contributes to various SDGs, such as 2, 7 and 12. The EU also supports the establishment and operationalization of the International Methane Emission Observatory (IMEO) in collaboration with various international agencies.

In its [Communication on the EU's Humanitarian Action](#) of 2021, the Commission highlighted that climate change also has a humanitarian impact. By 2050, over 200 million people could need humanitarian assistance every year due to climate-related disasters. As climate and weather-related crises are increasing in both frequency and severity, the EU humanitarian budget allocated for disasters caused by natural hazards has steadily grown over the years. To this end, climate and



environmental resilience are one of the priorities for the dedicated budget line for preparedness in the EU humanitarian aid budget for 2021-2024. At the same time, the minimum environmental requirements and recommendations for EU-funded humanitarian aid operations will be applied from 2023. These will contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing emissions from EU-funded humanitarian aid.

Examples of EU actions (with a focus on Global Gateway and Team Europe initiatives)

In relation to SDG 13, the EU and its Member States are actively supporting climate finance initiatives benefiting partner countries. By way of illustration, the joint V20/G7 initiative of a [Global Shield against Climate Risks](#) offers financial and social protection to the most vulnerable countries dealing with climate-related loss and damage. Including strengthened coordination within the global climate and disaster risk finance and insurance (CDRFI) architecture, this initiative was launched at COP27, with Germany already pledging EUR 170 million. The InsuResilience Global Partnership is an international alliance that promotes the scale-up of climate and disaster risk finance and insurance solutions (total EUR 1 billion contributed by all donors, with the majority provided by EU Member States). Similarly, the multi-country risk pool [African Risk Capacity](#), supported by several Member States and the European Commission, enables African Union Member States to take out insurance policies for droughts and tropical cyclones.

The EU also funds the [African Adaptation Initiative](#), an African Union-mandated initiative in which African partners are taking the lead as key facilitators for Africa's action on adaptation and in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage on the continent. Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related risks and natural disasters aims to reduce inequality within and between the most vulnerable countries to the adverse impacts of climate change, while reducing the expected large-scale migration.

The intensity and frequency of natural hazards and disasters is expected to increase due to climate change. To address this, the Intra-ACP Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Programme

(EUR 100 million) provides a coordinated response by non-state and state actors to reduce the impact of natural hazards and disasters and increase the overall resilience in 79 African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries. To track change, the [Global Monitoring for Environment & Security \(GMES\) & Africa](#), an EU-African Union joint initiative, aims to strengthen and further develop infrastructure for more coherent Earth observation data by adapting Copernicus Earth Observation Programme data and services to African needs.

To strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of partner countries, the EU and its Member States have proposed several initiatives that contribute to the Global Gateway and the priorities set out in its dedicated regional investment packages. A Territorial Team Europe Initiative '[Green Deal and Resilience in the Septentrion](#)' in Cameroon aims to reduce the long-term risk of security and territorial crises and prevent the effects of climate change and the degradation of natural resources. To improve the climate ambition and resilience and recovery in coastal regions, the Green-Blue Alliance in the Pacific, a TEI launched in 2022, supports mitigation and adaptation efforts in 15 Pacific Island countries and 3 French Overseas Territories, by mainstreaming and enhancing climate ambition and disaster risk management, and developing a stewardship model reconciling biodiversity, environmental protection, and restoration with sustainable development. In the field of energy, the TEI on green energy transition in Bangladesh, contributing to Global Gateway investment priorities, aims to support the building of a power system for maximum coverage of the country's energy demand through renewable energy. It does this by promoting public and private investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.

The Commission also supports climate and environmental resilience as one of the priorities for preparedness in EU humanitarian aid in, for example, Bangladesh, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Region (linking it to disaster preparedness), Madagascar (nexus with food and nutrition), Central America and Mexico (disaster and conflict preparedness), Cuba (drought management), and the Caribbean (disaster emergency management with the World Food Programme).

Action by the EU and its Member States is mutually reinforcing and coordinated to ensure complementarity and impact

in support of the SDGs. In addition to acting together with the EU through joint programming and Team Europe initiatives, EU Member States carry out their own projects in support of the 2030 Agenda including SDG 13. Some of these are described below.

On the margins of PreCop26, Italy hosted the Youth4Climate: Driving Ambition event, which then evolved into the Youth4Climate initiative, an annual event to empower youth activities. Co-led by Italy and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), this virtual platform for knowledge-sharing and training promotes climate action through the identification and support of concrete and advanced solutions led by young people.

France has been supporting Mexico's national effort to reduce gas emissions by 50 % by 2050 by providing climate loans for forest preservation and ecological territorial development,

climate change economics and the adaptation of agriculture to climate change, and by supporting Mexico's energy transition, focusing on water governance and water and power infrastructure renovation and rehabilitation.

Under the Sahel climate programme, Belgium is helping to restore about 10 000 h of land to fertility through investments in better rainwater storage and tree planting. The aim is to support sustainable local solutions and protect existing ecosystems, including the Great Green Wall project. By combating desertification, local communities can continue to ensure their food security in the longer term.

In 2019, at the UN Climate Action Summit, Greece launched the initiative 'Addressing climate change impacts on cultural and natural heritage' to raise awareness and strengthen cultural and natural resilience to climate risks.

Looking ahead

Domestically, the EU will continue to deliver on the European Green Deal and work towards SDG 13 by implementing packages of climate and environment measures. These will aim, in particular to speed up renewable energy infrastructure deployment and other sustainable solutions in industry, transport and buildings and to promote sustainable agriculture and land use through carbon removal certification – a regulatory framework to reward land managers for carbon sequestration, in full respect of ecological principles ('carbon farming').

The implementation of the [Energy Union and Climate Action Governance Regulation](#) has established a flexible but transparent and cooperative system between the EU and its Member States. In the coming 2 years, Member States will submit their updated [national energy and climate plans](#) to reflect new legislation and geopolitical developments. Their adoption will be a major step towards implementing the energy and climate transition, while also ensuring movement towards the objectives of the [European Green Deal](#) and the [REPowerEU Plan](#), including supporting local communities and households in this transition.

On the external side, the EU will work on further promoting a coordinated approach to investment in climate action in partner countries. It will continue to take resolute action to accelerate the implementation of SDG 13 globally, including through the roll-out of a range of multiannual indicative programmes with partner countries where climate action is a shared priority. A tangible contribution to SDG 13 (and other interlinked SDGs) will be the deployment of Global Gateway at regional and national level through Team Europe initiatives, such as the one on climate change adaptation and resilience in Africa

as part of the Africa-Europe Investment Package. Under the external dimension of the European Green Deal, the EU is also negotiating a Green Partnership with South Korea.

Similarly, the Green-Blue Alliance in the Pacific is another Team Europe initiative launched in 2022 that will support Global Gateway investment priorities at regional level. The EU is also committed to working with other developed countries to urgently implement the 'Climate Finance Delivery Plan: Meeting the USD 100 Billion Goal' by 2023. The EU has committed to the Glasgow goal of at least doubling the collective provision of climate finance for adaptation by 2025 from 2019 levels. The EU will also work on averting, minimising, and addressing loss and damage as a result of climate change, and on achieving the Glasgow goal on finance for adaptation. The EU aims to deploy a range of Global Gateway priority flagship projects on urban transport infrastructure as a contribution to SDGs 13, 11 and other interlinked SDGs, including on electric mobility and sustainable transport.

Speeding up the green transition is necessary to tackle the climate crisis and to strengthen global economies and geopolitical security. Climate action remains at the core of global politics and recent shocks to energy systems prove the need for resilience against international pressures. The food and energy crisis sparked by Russian aggression in Ukraine has increased the need for renewable sources of energy and resilience against global shocks to the energy markets. The EU remains committed to achieving SDG 13 on climate action within the EU and is supporting partner countries with their implementation goals through development cooperation.