



European Environment Agency

Single programming document 2023-2025

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List of abbreviations and acronyms

Acronym	Name
8th EAP	Eighth Environment Action Programme
BISE	Biodiversity Information System for Europe
C3S	Copernicus Climate Change Service
CA	Contract agent
CAMS	Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
Climate-ADAPT	European Climate Adaptation Platform
CLC+	Extended Corine Land Cover (CLC) product package
CLMS	Copernicus Land Monitoring Service
CLRTAP	Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
CMEMS	Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service
Copernicus	European programme for the establishment of a European capacity for Earth observation
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease
DG	European Commission Directorate-General
DG CLIMA	DG for Climate Action
DG DEFIS	DG for Defence Industry and Space
DG ENER	DG for Energy
DG ENV	DG for Environment
(DG) JRC	European Commission Joint Research Centre
DG NEAR	DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
DG REGIO	DG for Regional and Urban Policy
DG RTD	DG for Research and Innovation
DG SANTE	DG for Health and Food Safety
EAP	Environment Action Programme
ECB	European Central Bank
ECHA	European Chemicals Agency
EEA	European Environment Agency
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EG	Eionet group
EGD	European Green Deal
EIB	European Investment Bank
Eionet	European Environment Information and Observation Network
EKC	Environment Knowledge Community
EMAS	Eco-management and Audit Scheme
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
E-PRTR	European Pollutants Release and Transfer Register



ESAs	European Supervisory Authorities
ESMA	European Securities and Markets Authority
ETC	European Topic Centre
ETS	Emissions Trading System
EU	European Union
EUCRA	EU-wide climate risk assessment
FISE	Forest Information System for Europe
GEO	Group on Earth Observations
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems
GHG	Greenhouse gas
HBM4EU	Human Biomonitoring for Europe
Horizon 2020	International initiative to tackle pollution in the Mediterranean by 2020
ICT	Information and communications technology
Inspire	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
IT	Information technology
KPI	Key performance indicator
LRTAP	Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (UNECE Convention)
LULUCF	Land use, land use change and forestry
Natura 2000	Nature Conservation Programme
NEC	National Emission Reduction Contribution
NFP	National focal point
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PARC	Partnership for the Assessment of the Risks of Chemicals
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SLA	Service level agreement
SOER	<i>The European environment — state and outlook report</i>
SPD	Single programming document
TA	Temporary agent
UN	United Nations
UNEA	United Nations Environment Assembly
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WHO	World Health Organization
WISE	Water Information System for Europe



1 Mission statement

1.1 EEA mission statement

The mission of the EEA is defined as follows:

The EEA aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policymaking agents and the public.

1.2 EEA's legal mandate

The EEA is a decentralised agency of the European Union. The EEA/Eionet Regulation established the EEA as an independent EU body with its own legal personality and for an indefinite period. The Agency's founding regulation also established the European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet); and it includes the provision that the Agency is open to countries that are not members of the EU.

The Agency's main task is to provide sound, independent information on the environment. The Agency is a major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy and also for the general public.

The EEA's overall mandate, established in the EEA/Eionet Regulation is:

- to help the European Community and the EEA member countries make informed decisions about improving the environment, integrating environmental considerations into economic policies and moving towards sustainability; and
- to coordinate the European environment information and observation network (Eionet).

1.3 EEA's objective

The overall objective of the EEA is defined in Article 1(2) of the Agency's founding regulation: 'To achieve the aims of environmental protection and improvement laid down by the Treaty and by successive Community action programmes on the environment, as well as of sustainable development, the objective of the Agency and of the European Environment Information and Observation Network shall be to provide the Community and the Member States with:

- a) objective, reliable and comparable information at European level enabling them to take the requisite measures to protect the environment, to assess the results of such measures and to ensure that the public is properly informed about the state of the environment, and to that end;
- b) the necessary technical and scientific support.'

1.4 EEA's tasks

The tasks of the Agency are defined in Article 2 of the Agency's founding regulation:

'For the purposes of achieving the objective set out in Article 1, the tasks of the Agency shall be:

- to establish, in cooperation with the Member States, and coordinate the Network referred to in Article 4; in this context, the Agency shall be responsible for the collection, processing and analysis of data, in particular in the fields referred to in Article 3;
- to provide the Community and the Member States with the objective information necessary for framing and implementing sound and effective environmental policies; to



that end, in particular to provide the Commission with the information that it needs to be able to carry out successfully its tasks of identifying, preparing and evaluating measures and legislation in the field of the environment;

- to assist the monitoring of environmental measures through appropriate support for reporting requirements (including through involvement in the development of questionnaires, the processing of reports from Member States and the distribution of results), in accordance with its multiannual work programme and with the aim of coordinating reporting;
- to advise individual Member States, upon their request and where this is consistent with the Agency's annual work programme, on the development, establishment and expansion of their systems for the monitoring of environmental measures, provided such activities do not endanger the fulfilment of the other tasks established by this Article; such advice may also include peer reviews by experts at the specific request of Member States;
- to record, collate and assess data on the state of the environment, to draw up expert reports on the quality, sensitivity and pressures on the environment within the territory of the Community, to provide uniform assessment criteria for environmental data to be applied in all Member States, to develop further and maintain a reference centre of information on the environment; the Commission shall use this information in its task of ensuring the implementation of Community legislation on the environment;
- to help ensure that environmental data at European level are comparable and, if necessary, to encourage by appropriate means improved harmonisation of methods of measurement;
- to promote the incorporation of European environmental information into international environment monitoring programmes such as those established by the United Nations and its specialised agencies;
- to publish a report on the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment every five years, supplemented by indicator reports focusing upon specific issues;
- to stimulate the development and application of environmental forecasting techniques so that adequate preventive measures can be taken in good time;
- to stimulate the development of methods of assessing the cost of damage to the environment and the costs of environmental preventive, protection and restoration policies;
- to stimulate the exchange of information on the best technologies available for preventing or reducing damage to the environment;
- to cooperate with the bodies and programmes referred to in Article 15;
- to ensure the broad dissemination of reliable and comparable environmental information, in particular on the state of the environment, to the general public and, to this end, to promote the use of new telematics technology for this purpose;
- to support the Commission in the process of exchange of information on the development of environmental assessment methodologies and best practice;
- to assist the Commission in the diffusion of information on the results of relevant environmental research and in a form which can best assist policy development.'



1.5 EEA's corporate values

The EEA's values are respect, professionalism, openness, positivity and trust. They were developed with staff in 2016. Attached to each value are associated behaviours in line with the EEA core competencies (see Table 1)

Table 1: EEA's corporate values and associated behaviours in line with the EEA core competencies

Values	Behaviours	Core competencies
Respect	Appreciating diversity Listening to each other Recognising each other's contribution	Working collaboratively Communicating effectively
Professionalism	Being reliable, credible and competent Embracing change Delivering on the competencies	Delivering quality results Making things happen Making effective decisions
Openness	Sharing Communicating honestly Transparency	Embracing change Solving problems
Positivity	Commitment to a better future Passionate about our environment Working towards a common good	Developing self and others Working collaboratively Solving problems
Trust	Showing respect Being professional Demonstrating openness Acting positively Being trustworthy	Working collaboratively Communicating effectively



2 General context

2.1 Policy developments

The EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030⁽¹⁾, ‘Delivering data and knowledge to achieve Europe’s environment and climate ambitions’, aims to support the key policy instruments related to the EU’s policy framework until 2030:

- the European Green Deal (EGD)⁽²⁾;
- the Eighth Environment Action Programme (8th EAP)⁽³⁾;
- the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The EGD provides a framework for ambitious actions and measures to position Europe firmly on a path towards sustainability and as a world leader in the implementation of the United Nations 2030 agenda for sustainable development and its SDGs, demonstrating that sustainability and prosperity can be achieved together. The success of the EGD will depend on the extent to which it stimulates significant changes in the Europe’s and its neighbours economies towards circularity and carbon neutrality, technological innovation, and environmental social circumstances and lifestyles.

The EGD communication acknowledges the work of the EEA in highlighting the extent and urgency of the challenges and sets out a roadmap of around 50 key policies and measures needed to address the challenges. It also sets out several long-term strategic objectives transforming the EU’s economy for a sustainable future:

- increasing the EU’s climate ambition for 2030 and 2050;
- supplying clean, affordable and secure energy;
- mobilising industry for a clean and circular economy;
- building and renovating in an energy- and resource-efficient way;
- a zero-pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment;
- preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity;
- ‘From farm to fork’: a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system;
- accelerating the shift to sustainable and smart mobility;
- a renewed sustainable finance strategy.

The 8th EAP aims to accelerate the transition to a climate-neutral, resource-efficient and regenerative economy, which gives back to the planet more than it takes. The 8th EAP has the following six priority objectives:

- 1) achieving the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target and climate neutrality by 2050;
- 2) enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change;
- 3) advancing towards a regenerative growth model, decoupling economic growth from resource use and environmental degradation, and accelerating the transition to a circular economy;

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/eea-eionet-strategy-2021-2030>

⁽²⁾ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/policy-documents/com-2019-640-final>

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/environment/strategy/environment-action-programme-2030_en



- 4) pursuing a zero-pollution ambition, including for air, water and soil, and protecting the health and well-being of Europeans;
- 5) protecting, preserving and restoring biodiversity, and enhancing natural capital (notably air, water and soil, and forest, freshwater, wetland and marine ecosystems);
- 6) reducing environmental and climate pressures related to production and consumption (particularly in the areas of energy, industrial development, buildings and infrastructure, mobility and the food system).

In order to measure and communicate whether we are on track to meeting these objectives, the 8th EAP monitoring framework is being established. The EEA and Eionet will support the Commission with the reporting on progress under the 8th EAP.

In the coming years, the EEA and Eionet will play a key role in supporting environment and climate actions under European policies and the EGD and in the implementing the 8th EAP and meeting Europe's global commitments. The European Commission and the European Parliament have acknowledged that the EEA and Eionet will need to be adequately resourced to respond to these new policy developments, which will also be based on EEA and Eionet using the latest scientific findings and quality-assured data (ref. Horizon Europe Programme).

Taking into consideration the current situation and evolving problems associated with the impacts of the Russian military aggression against Ukraine, pressures to decrease EU dependency on importing fossil fuels from Russia and the associated effects on inflation, food supply chains, migration and social stability across the EU, the EEA would continue its work on sustainability transitions. Activities around mapping, analysing and reflecting on these external factors and their linkages with environmental pressures and problems across the board would be considered in the context of EU policy processes and potential European Commission requests for specific EEA support. The Agency would consider providing support to its Ukrainian counterparts in capacity building and development activities in dedicated areas, using the experience and know-how gained from collaborating with the EU accession countries in the Western Balkans.

Table 2: The Commission's work programme for 2022 envisages the following Commission initiatives under the EGD during 2022

EGD policy objective	Commission initiatives	Type	Timeline
Zero pollution	Evaluation of the Sewage Sludge Directive 86/278/EEC	Non-legislative (evaluation)	Q2 2022
	Revision of EU ambient air quality legislation	Legislative proposal	Q3 2022
	Integrated water management — revised lists of surface water and groundwater pollutants	Legislative proposal	Q3 2022
	Integrated nutrient management action plan	Non-legislative (action plan)	Q4 2022
	Review of the legislation on mercury	Legislative proposal (following review)	Q4 2022



Biodiversity	Commission Implementing Regulation updating the list of invasive alien species of Union concern	Implementing law	Q1 2022
	Action plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems	Non-legislative (action plan)	Q2 2022
	Revision of the EU pollinators initiative	Non-legislative	Q3 2022
Climate measures	EU framework for harmonised measurement of transport and logistics emissions	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
	Review of the CO ₂ emission standards for heavy-duty vehicles	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
	Carbon removal certification	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
Circular economy	Initiative on the right to repair	Legislative proposal	Q3 2022
Cross-cutting	Environmental Implementation Review 2022	Non-legislative	Q3 2022

2.1.1 REFIT initiatives in 2022

Table 3: The Commission's work programme for 2022 envisages the following new REFIT initiatives under the EGD, of relevance for the EEA

Commission REFIT initiatives	Type	Timeline
Revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive	Legislative proposal	Q2 2022
Revision — Restriction of the use of hazardous substances in electronics	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
GreenData4All — Revision of the Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (Inspire) Directive and the Directive on public access to environmental information	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
Horizontal proposal for reallocation of EU technical and scientific work on chemicals to EU agencies	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
Revision of the Regulation on the making available and placing on the market of detergents	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
Revision of the End-of-life Vehicles Directive and the Directive on the type approval of motor vehicles	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022
Revision of the legislation on marketing of seeds and other plant and forest reproductive material	Legislative proposal	Q4 2022

2.2 Development of new tasks

2.2.1 Developments in 2022

Under the recently adopted **European Climate Law** (Regulation (EU) 2021/1119), which enshrines the EU's climate neutrality objective set out in the EGD, the EEA now hosts the secretariat of the newly established **European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change**. The



secretariat is composed of 10 temporary agents (TAs) and four contract agents (CAs). The EEA is also supporting the reporting on progress towards climate neutrality and the monitoring and evaluation of progress on adaptation under the regulation. The EEA's staff has been reinforced by two CA posts from 2022 onwards to provide such support.

Furthermore, in 2022 the EEA has continued to deliver the new tasks given to it in 2021 under the **8th EAP** legislation. This includes supporting new monitoring methods for real-world fuel consumption and emissions from light and heavy-duty vehicles.

Section 3.3, *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2022-2025*, provides an overview of the development in the EEA's human and financial resources to deliver the new tasks under these legislative acts.

2.2.2 Foreseen new tasks in 2023-2025

The Commission has through legislative acts given the EEA several new tasks commencing in 2023 and 2024. These legislative acts include finance fiches giving the EEA additional staff and resources to perform these new tasks. An overview of the initiatives is given below:

- The EU biodiversity strategy highlights the need to restore nature in the EU. To do this, the Commission has drafted a new law, called the **EU Nature Restoration Law**, as part of a plan for the restoration of nature in the EU. The plan will help improve the health of existing and new protected areas and bring diverse and resilient nature back to all landscapes and ecosystems. The legislation specifies seven TA and five CA posts to allow the EEA to perform its tasks.
- The Commission adopted in the summer of 2022 an implementing act on the reporting requirements relating to the **Seveso III Directive**. The act requests the EEA to redevelop, set up and maintain the two databases on Seveso establishments and major industrial accidents (i.e. eSPIRS and eMARS) currently operated by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). The Commission amended the EEA's draft 2023 budget, giving three TA and one CA post, to perform these tasks.
- In July 2021, a revision of the **Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) Regulation** was proposed as part of the 'Fit for 55 package', with the aim of simplifying the compliance rules setting the targets of the Member States, committing to the achievement of climate neutrality by 2035 in the land use, forestry and agriculture sector, and improving monitoring, reporting, tracking of progress and review. In the proposed revision of the legislation, the EEA is given the tasks of reviewing the LULUCF inventory data, providing geospatial data sets on LULUCF, and safeguarding consistency with carbon certification data and biodiversity reporting. To deliver the tasks, the regulation specifies eight TA and three CA posts for the EEA, allowing five of the agents to be recruited towards the end of 2023 and the others in 2024.
- The Commission has drafted a recast of the **European Pollutant Release and Transfer (E-PRTR) Regulation**, resulting in a substantially improved reporting mechanism and the consolidation of a streamlining exercise initiated in 2014 into the European Industrial Emissions Portal. The change in ambition includes additional reporting of contextual data (e.g. resource use), integration of additional data streams, a stronger public-facing tool to make the data available to the public and enhanced quality assurance. The regulation specifies two CA posts for the EEA, commencing in 2024.
- The Commission published the **Zero Pollution Package** in October 2022, including proposals for a revision of the List of Groundwater and Surface Water Pollutants, a proposal for a



revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, and a proposal on a revision of Air Quality Legislation. Regarding the proposal on air quality, additional tasks for EEA include the expansion of tasks around air quality reporting and assessment additional specific competences. The finance fiche accompanying the Zero Pollution Package specifies a total of five new TA posts and three CA posts to deliver all the above tasks, with the redeployment of one TA post internally in the EEA. These resources are also expected to cover EEA tasks under the anticipated Water Reuse Implementing Decision, which will be presented in 2023.

An overview of the additional resources is provided in Section 3.3, *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2022-2025*.

2.2.3 Grant, contribution and service level agreements

The EEA's work includes project financed actions that are not financed through the Agency's core funds, but through grant, contribution and service level agreements (externally assigned revenue). The EEA welcomes this work and the engagement with Directorates General across the Commission on a broader range of activities, which complement its work programme. It notes the benefits of service level agreements as a light administrative instrument allowing it to quickly respond to short-term needs.

In contrast, contribution agreements are being used to fund long term activities, for example the EEA's engagement with the Western Balkans under the Instrument of Pre Assessment, which has been ongoing since 2010, and Copernicus since 2011. Here the instrument has drawbacks of impeding knowledge retention, continuity disruptions, and a heavy administrative burden on core resources, particularly support functions. To alleviate this, the inclusion of these activities in the EEA's work programme and EU subvention should be considered.

Contribution agreements

The Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS) is a Copernicus service that has been operational since 2012 and is jointly implemented by the JRC, which oversees its global component, and by the EEA, in charge of the pan-European, local and reference data.

A new **Copernicus Contribution Agreement** was signed with the Directorate-General for Defence, Industry and Space (DG DEFIS) on 23 November 2021, allowing the EEA to continue to develop the CLMS and the cross-cutting coordination of Copernicus's access to in situ data. The implementation period of this new agreement runs to the end of 2028, with a total budget of EUR 135 million. The main challenges for this new implementation phase include giving continuity to the operational service, while ensuring a user-oriented service evolution that will give response to policy requirements, such as those addressed in the EGD, and fostering the uptake by and accessibility of products to the wide community of users e.g. authorities and scientific communities.

The current contribution agreement between the EEA and the Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) for cooperation with the **Western Balkan** countries on **Green Agenda** activities under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA 2020) has been extended to January 2023.

The Commission (DG CLIMA (Directorate-General for Climate Action), DG ENER (Directorate-General for Energy) and DG NEAR) has requested the EEA to take up a future role to support



reporting requirements under an adaptation of the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action in the **Energy Community**.

The EEA and DG NEAR have therefore agreed to enter into two contribution agreements, the scope covering both the continuation of the current Green Agenda activities and the new Energy Community tasks. One of the agreements will be funded under IPA for the Western Balkan countries, and the other under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) for the Energy Community countries of Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova. The agreements are expected to be signed in December, with implementation commencing in January 2023 and a duration of three years.

Service level agreements

In 2021 the EEA entered into three service level agreements (SLAs) with the Commission:

- a 3-year project with the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) for the 'Mainstreaming GEOSS data sharing and management principles in support of Europe's environment' (**EuroGEO**) under the Horizon 2020 programme;
- a 4-year agreement the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) to support health content developments and maintain the platform of the **European Climate and Health Observatory**;
- a three-year agreement with the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) to support the implementation of **regional and urban environmental indicators and analysis**, addressing regional and urban land use, and various aspects of air pollution in Europe, that commenced in January 2022.

In 2022, the EEA signed three SLAs with DG CLIMA:

- a 15-month agreement to support Member States to upgrade their greenhouse gas inventories to be fit for target compliance in 2025, in anticipation of the revision of the **LULUCF Regulation**, described above in Section 2.2.2;
- a 3-year agreement supporting the **EU Mission on adaptation to climate change** (Ref. EU Horizon Europe Programme) by designing and implementing a support system (as a new set of features and tools included in the European Climate Adaptation Platform — Climate-ADAPT) tailored to the specific needs of the mission;
- a 30-month agreement to support development of the first **EU-wide climate risk assessment** (EUCRA).

The EEA is concluding an SLA with **Eurostat**, commencing in January 2023, regarding cooperation on a variety of topics within an SLA, which could include the EEA making better use of Eurostat data and accounts, and producing new geo-spatial data sets based on CLMS products in support of EU ecosystem accounting and other reporting obligations of Eurostat (e.g. on SDGs). For this purpose, the whole CLMS portfolio will be analysed, with special emphasis on Corine Land Cover (CLC) and its successor CLC+ and high-resolution layers.

Lastly, in 2022 the EEA entered into an agreement with the United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP**) to deliver work developing the content for the **Global resources outlook 2023** under the auspices of the International Resource Panel.

Grants

In 2022 the EEA, with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the Commission, developed a coordinated agency contribution to the



Horizon Europe **Partnership for the Assessment of the Risks of Chemicals (PARC)**. PARC is the key expanded successor programme to the Human Biomonitoring for Europe (HBM4EU) Horizon 2020 project, which was completed in June 2022, and in which the EEA participated in as a partner. The PARC grant agreement commenced in May 2022 and has a 7-year duration (ref. EU Horizon Europe Programme).

More information on the project-financed actions, including resources and budgets, is provided in Annex 11 *Plan for grant, contribution and service level agreements*.

In line with the EEA Management Board's conclusions on the 2018 evaluation of the EEA and Eionet, and the recommendations of the Internal Audit Service on project-financed actions, the EEA will seek in its discussions with Commission services to avoid administrative complexity and optimise contractual arrangements.

2.3 Stakeholder and institutional changes

In December 2021, Member States endorsed a provisional political agreement between the Council presidency and the European Parliament regarding the 8th EAP. The 8th EAP translates the political commitments of the EGD into law and will help guide the EU's environmental and climate policymaking and implementation until 2030, with a long-term vision to 2050.

Within this context, both the European Commission and the **European Parliament** express ambitions for the EEA to deliver new tasks in several areas. Amendments to the EEA's budget and human resourcing are proposed; however, not all these proposals are successful in delivering additional resources, leading to some interinstitutional challenges in ensuring the required support.

Similarly, the Commission highlighted the synergies with the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon Europe and Horizon 2020) to ensure a systematic uptake, dissemination and use of research outputs by the EEA.

From the start of 2022, a new informal coordination mechanism (intergroup) has been put in place by the Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV), with DG CLIMA and EEA participation. The intergroup will serve to anticipate and address upcoming challenges, including those in relation to resourcing for new tasks and acting to ensure improved coherence across the Commission in relation to requests to the EEA.

The EEA-Eionet strategy underlines the role of data and understanding in the pivotal decade to come and sets out how the EEA and Eionet will work together with other knowledge providers at European level and within Eionet countries in support of Europe's environment and climate ambitions. The EEA is strengthening its cooperation with Eionet partners in countries by modernising the functioning of the network with a new Eionet group structure and new European topic centres (ETCs) from January 2022. The deployment of these changes will have impacts across the entire SPD 2023-2025 time-frame.



2.4 Responding to evolving requirements

In 2021, the EEA undertook a product type review that analysed and segmented audiences based on their needs for data and knowledge communications, to design the most impactful products. The audience segmentation responds to evolving requirements from stakeholders in relation to the products the EEA provides. The segmentation places special focus on policymakers, as the main audience and main stakeholders of the EEA (according to strategic objective no 1 of the EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030). The review also provides a framework for other audience categories, based on shared communication needs. EEA products commissioned in 2022 and published thereafter will fit within the new set of product types.

A process of modernising of Eionet tools is under way to enable the network to respond with greater efficiency and effectiveness to requirements emanating from the EEA-Eionet strategy and policy priorities in the coming years. The modernisation process will support the newly defined Eionet groups and ETCs and also responds to the evolution in work practices implemented during COVID-19, elements of which are expected to remain a part of the working landscape in the coming years.

Across the work of the EEA, there are specific topics where specific responses to evolving requirements are under way, such as:

- Following requests from DG ENV, the EEA has started two pilot projects to support the reporting on sewage sludge and reuse products in relation to the Sewage Sludge and Waste Framework Directives. The pilots are likely to be mainstreamed in the future because of the revision of the underlying EU law.
- The EEA has started discussing with DG CLIMA the EEA and ETC roles in the preparation of the first EU-wide climate risk assessment, which is planned to be published in 2023/2024. Scoping activities are under way in 2022.
- The noise reporting system is planned to be updated to respond to evolving requirements from the Inspire Directive.



3 Multiannual programming 2023-2025

3.1 Multiannual objectives

3.1.1 Strategic objectives to 2030

The EEA and Eionet established a joint long-term strategy for the period 2021-2030, 'Delivering data and knowledge to achieve Europe's environment and climate ambitions'. The EEA-Eionet strategy 2030 defines the following the long-term 10-year strategic objectives (SOs) to 2030:

- SO1: Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions

Produce evidence-based knowledge to support policy implementation and development of new initiatives to accelerate and scale up the transition to sustainability.

- SO2: Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges

Deliver targeted inputs to inform policy and public discussions, by organising and communicating knowledge on responses, including innovative solutions to societal challenges.

- SO3: Building stronger networks and partnerships

Strengthen our network through more active engagement at the country and regional levels and work with other leading organisations in order to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise.

- SO4: Making full use of the potential of data, technology and digitalisation

Embrace digitalisation, including new technologies, big data, artificial intelligence and Earth observation, that will complement and potentially replace established information sources to better support decision-making.

- SO5: Resourcing our shared ambitions

Develop structures, expertise and capacity across our network to meet evolving knowledge needs, securing and diversifying the resources needed to achieve our joint vision.

3.1.2 Multiannual strategic objectives to 2025

The Agency's work planning in this document spans the period 2023-2025, with a particular focus on 2023. The implementation of the EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030 forms the main driver for the 3-year strategic objectives to 2025, presented in Table 4. Given the multidisciplinary nature of the multiannual objectives, monitoring up to 2025 will to a large extent be qualitative.

Table 4: EEA multi-annual strategic objectives to 2025

SO	Multiannual strategic objective to 2025	Expected results by 2025
SO1	To support policy implementation and enhance monitoring progress towards sustainability.	Improved EEA-Eionet knowledge base (in particular, data, indicators and assessments) to support policy implementation and monitor progress towards sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aligned with strategic investments under the trajectory to SOER 2025 and EU policy priorities and processes relevant to sustainability (especially the 8th EAP, EGD and SDGs); and



SO	Multiannual strategic objective to 2025	Expected results by 2025
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> optimising the use of high-quality data, in particular from Copernicus sources.
SO2	To further enhance the EEA's communication and outreach approach, with a strategic focus on timeliness of inputs, audience targeting and innovation in solutions to societal challenges.	Targeted and gradual implementation of the new communication and outreach framework 'for impact'; established on the basis of, for example, stakeholder and EEA web presence analysis and product type review.
SO3	To enable building of stronger networks and partnerships across the EEA and Eionet.	<p>More active engagement and impact at country and regional levels through activities involving a diverse set of authorities, organisations and the public, enabled by processes to deliver a more flexible and innovative knowledge network, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a modernised EEA-Eionet framework, including adjusted core data flows and revised Eionet components (ETCs, EGs and NFPs), functions and practices; and a revised international engagement framework; A dynamic collaboration with research and innovation activities (Ref. EU Horizon Europe Programme) as appropriate.
SO4	To enable timely, relevant and up-to-date data to support our knowledge, data and information delivery through the digitalisation of EEA and Eionet and expanded use of new/innovative data sources (e.g. big data and artificial intelligence).	<p>Improved digitalisation of EEA-Eionet, resulting in increased use of new/potential data sources, technology and digitisation, with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhanced data services for EEA-Eionet stakeholders, including Reportnet; and increased cloudification of the EEA-Eionet ICT infrastructure.
SO5	To develop a shared vision, structures, expertise and capacity (internally and across our network) to enable the transition towards a stronger learning network organisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EEA learning and development framework adjusted to align with EEA-Eionet strategy objectives. Improved EEA-Eionet capacity building in line with EEA-Eionet strategy objectives. Further adjustments to the physical space in the EEA's Copenhagen offices to facilitate collaborative working and learning.
	To further enhance the synergies with the EU framework programme for research and innovation (Ref. EU Horizon Europe Programme, through Missions, Partnerships and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An enhanced key role for the EEA at the science-policy interface in providing information and knowledge to policymakers at both EU and Member State levels and to EU citizens.



SO	Multiannual strategic objective to 2025	Expected results by 2025
	Projects) and to seek partnerships with relevant research organisations; to ensure a systematic uptake, dissemination and use of research outputs by the EEA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close and effective collaboration with European Commission services on their responsibility for programming, coordinating, financing and disseminating European research efforts in the environment and climate domains. • Making sure that the relevant R&I results are communicated and used is essential as a key outcome of the investment made. EEA products and processes are key tools for this purpose. This includes the SOER but also other EEA-Eionet activities and reports. • An enhanced and effective EEA-DG RTD collaboration to complement the existing coordinations - including the activities of the knowledge centres coordinated by the JRC. • New pilot exercises undertaken with new approaches linking monitoring, policy and research that clearly aim to increase the efficiency and delivery of work plans (e.g. on One Health and chemicals, Biodiversity monitoring, Adaptation to Climate Change, Bioeconomy).

Notes: DG RTD, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation; EAP, Environment Action Programme; EGD, European Green Deal; EG, Eionet group; EKC, Environment Knowledge Community; ETC, European topic centre; ICT, information and communications technology; NFP, national focal point; R&I, research and innovation; SDG, Sustainable Development Goal; SOER, *The European environment – state and outlook* report.

3.1.3 Annual performance objectives for 2023

The Agency's performance framework is closely related to the key performance indicators (KPIs) for the Executive Director, which aim to quantitatively monitor the Agency's performance in relation to its operational work planning, and its financial and human resources management. The Agency's performance framework is structured around five performance objectives (Table 5).

Table 5: Annual performance objectives

Performance objective
1. Sustainable use of financial and human resources, and adequate and efficient internal control systems.
2. Timely and qualitative delivery of key products planned in the EEA work programme.
3. Development and distribution of EEA products aligned with user needs.
4. Sustainable interaction between the EEA and its network.



5. Sustainable human resource management.

Table 6 presents the EEA's multiannual KPIs to monitor these objectives.

Table 6: EEA multiannual key performance indicators

Performance objective	No	Key performance indicator (KPI)	KPI measurement	Baseline (2021)	Target
Input	1*	Staff occupancy rate	Realised staff resources in annual establishment plan	99.3%	Min. 95%
	2*	Budget execution — Outturn	Rate of annual outturn and carry forwards of EEA core budget	100%	Min. 98%
	3*	Budget execution — Cancellations	Cancellation rate of payment appropriations in year <i>N</i>	0.0%	Max. 2% of core budget
	4*	Budget execution — Execution	Payments executed within legal/contractual deadline (%)	99.2%	100%
	17*	Audit compliance	Rate (%) of recommendations from Court of Auditors implemented (with deadline in year <i>N</i>)	100%	-
Eionet	7*	Eionet — Data submission	Annual performance for Eionet core data flows	86%	90%
	12	Eionet — Network interactions	Eionet country participation rate in webinars and meetings (updated in 2022)	TBC	TBC
	13	Eionet — Network satisfaction	Average participant satisfaction rating (updated in 2022)	91% (TBC)	(TBC)
Output	5*	AWP delivery — Publications	Delivery rate of (%) as planned for year <i>N</i> (updated in 2021/22)	93.1%	Min. 90%
	6*	AWP delivery — Indicators	Indicators updated (%) as planned for year <i>N</i> (updated in 2021/22)	96%	Min. 90%
Uptake	8	Media visibility — EEA references	Articles with reference to EEA (no)	23,000	Stable/increase
	9	Media visibility — Social media	Followers on social media (no) of Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn combined	207,000	Stable/increase
	10	Web traffic	Registered sessions on EEA website (no)	9.8 M	Stable/increase
	11	Downloads	Registered use of map services (no) (measured as 'machine to machine' traffic)	660 M	Stable/increase
	17	EEA support to EU policy documents	Number of EU policy documents referencing EEA or products		Stable/increase
Staff well-being	14*	Staff satisfaction	Average favourable rate for common items for agencies (%)	63%	-
	15*	Learning	Average registered time for learning and development (days)	4	7
	16*	Absence	Annual average short-term sick leave (days)	5	Stable/decrease

Note: *, Mandatory KPIs of the Executive Director; AWP, annual work programme; M, million.



The monitoring of the 'output' and 'Eionet' KPIs will be based on the operational performance across the five EEA activities. Activity-level KPI targets are therefore included in the annual work programme section of this programming document, with the exception of the 'Eionet satisfaction' KPI, which will be evaluated on the basis of meeting satisfaction surveys.

Environmental management

Under the EGD, Europe's ambition to become the first climate-neutral continent will require engagement and action from all sectors of the economy and from EU bodies and institutions. The Commission has already announced its intention to become climate neutral as an institution by 2030. It has called on all the other institutions, bodies and agencies of the EU to work with it and come forward with similar ambitious measures. Within the Eco-management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) framework, the EEA has already taken many climate actions, such as procuring renewable energy and offsetting of emissions from travel of staff and visitors. The EEA raised its climate ambition and plans to outline steps to work towards climate neutrality in the coming years.

3.2 Multiannual programme

3.2.1 Multiannual activities

The EEA SPD is structured around five activities that correspond to the work areas set out in the EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030. The five work areas are:

1. biodiversity and ecosystems;
2. climate change mitigation and adaptation;
3. human health and the environment;
4. circular economy and resource use; and
5. sustainability trends, prospects and responses.



Europe's production sectors (including agriculture, forestry, fisheries and industry) and its consumption and production systems (energy, mobility, food and buildings) are addressed through interlinkages in the SPD activities. The SPD further defines actions in focus as areas envisaged to be highlighted in the implementation of activities within the time-frame of an SPD. Alongside the activities, horizontal tasks, such as communication, support for reporting obligations and management of platforms, are also described.

This section outlines the five activities followed by key elements of the horizontal work undertaken by the EEA. Horizontal sections provide information on aspects such as reporting obligations and platforms managed by the EEA and also communication, networks and partnerships, digitalisation and international cooperation. Particular attention will be paid to optimising the use of EEA-Eionet channels for the use, communication and dissemination of environmental knowledge produced by European research and innovation, via joint research/science/policy processes and projects.

Activity 1: Biodiversity and ecosystems

The EGD provides a call to action for systemic change and, together with the objectives of the 8th EAP, shapes the priority areas of work for activity 1 related to key initiatives under it. A key priority will be the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, which calls for better information and knowledge contributing to measuring ecosystem health and halting the loss of biodiversity



across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. More specifically, this area of work will provide direct support for defining targets, measures and a monitoring framework, as well as knowledge and guidance for the coherent designation and management of protected areas and the EU restoration plan. Furthermore, focus will be given to strengthen an eco-region approach and mainstream biodiversity across economic sectors, assessing ecosystem-based management practices, evaluating sustainability in the finance sector and developing monitoring and analysis tools.

The zero-pollution action plan will rely on data relating to the status and health of our water and terrestrial ecosystems, building upon key data collected under the environmental acquis. Moreover, this activity area will begin to integrate knowledge into a systems view across the agricultural, forestry and maritime sectors to be input into cross-cutting initiatives such as the farm to fork strategy and sectoral policies, e.g. the common agricultural policy and EU forest strategy. Synergies and trade-offs with climate change mitigation and adaptation will also be under focus, particularly around land and soil and nature-based solutions.

Monitoring will be achieved by collecting, checking, disseminating and assessing data and information from Eionet member and cooperating countries, Copernicus services and research projects. There will also be close cooperation with European Commission services and support for the development, implementation and evaluation of relevant environmental acquis and sector policies and accompanying measures in the context of Europe's broader sustainability objectives. The EEA will continue work to assess the drivers of, pressures on, impact on and state of the EU's natural capital. In addition, the EEA will begin to explore its role vis-à-vis solutions and responses that can provide benefits to biodiversity, ecosystems and climate.

The EEA's partnership with other Commission-organised bodies, e.g. the Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity and DG RTD, will facilitate the integration of and access to information systems, such as the Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE), the Water Information System for Europe (WISE) and the Forest Information System for Europe (FISE). The EEA will work to enhance partnerships and cooperation with member countries and international organisations to bring support to the priorities under the EGD and SDGs at EU level and to ocean governance. Linking to EEA strategic partnership with the UNEP/MAP (Mediterranean action plan) Barcelona Convention, attention will be given to further document and monitor the Mediterranean region, which is of core concern in the sustainability challenge facing Europe.

2023	Actions in focus in activity 1
Action 1	Supporting the implementation of the environmental directives
Action 2	Biodiversity and ecosystems — protection and restoration
Action 3	Sectors, systems and sustainability challenges impacting ecosystems



Activity 2: Climate change mitigation and adaptation

The Paris Agreement is the first-ever universal, legally binding global agreement on climate change. At the European level, climate action is at the heart of the EGD, with the ambition for Europe to become climate neutral by 2050. The European Climate Law, which entered into force in July 2021, enshrines this goal into law, together with the objective of a climate-resilient Europe. It also raises the EU's ambition to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% below 1990 levels by 2030. These climate objectives are to be achieved by substantially reducing greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors (energy, transport, agriculture, land use, buildings), enhancing carbon removals from forestry and land use and increasing Europe's adaptive capacity and strengthening climate resilience in line with the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change⁽⁴⁾. In addition to sectoral policies and measures, this transformation will also be supported by other actions and initiatives, such as those targeting sustainable finance, the circular economy and digitalisation. To achieve these climate objectives, in July 2021, the Commission tabled a comprehensive Fit for 55 package of interconnected proposals on pricing, targets, standards and support measures.

By collecting, checking, disseminating and assessing data and information from Eionet member and cooperating countries, Copernicus services and research projects, the EEA will monitor and report on Europe's progress towards climate neutrality and climate resilience, two key objectives of the EGD. The EEA will also develop assessments exploring opportunities and challenges of the transition of the EU's key systems (energy, mobility, building and food) towards climate neutrality and resilience, while also supporting the achievement of other objectives of the EGD. Through a closer relationship with its country network and other relevant stakeholders, such as other EU agencies, the EEA will support the development, implementation and evaluation of relevant policies and accompanying measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, in the context of Europe's broader sustainability objectives.

The EEA will continue to partner with other members of the Environment Knowledge Community(EKC)⁽⁵⁾ at a European level to develop knowledge. The EEA will enhance cooperation with appropriate knowledge providers in countries and international organisations to support climate change and mitigation policies. This includes new support to the Energy Community countries that will commence reporting on climate and energy in 2023, as described in an impending agreement on this work.

The European Climate Law also established the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, which will be supported by a secretariat provided by the EEA. The Advisory Board will establish its work programme independently and in consultation with the Management Board. This work programme will determine the specific tasks of the secretariat.

2023	Actions in focus in activity 2
Action 1	Monitoring and reporting on progress towards climate neutrality
Action 2	Monitoring and reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation
Action 3	Assessing solutions for the transition towards climate neutrality and resilience
Action 4	Supporting the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change

⁽⁴⁾ COM(2021) 82 final (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2021:82:FIN>).

⁽⁵⁾ The Environment Knowledge Community is an informal platform of five Commission Directorates-General (Environment, Climate Action, Research and Innovation, Joint Research Centre, Eurostat) and the EEA that was set up in 2015 with the objective of improving the generation and sharing of environmental knowledge for EU policies.



Activity 3: Human health and the environment

The EEA will assess the impacts on human health caused by environmental pollutants and Europe's changing climate.

A substantial number of EU instruments are in place to protect citizens from environmental risks to health, including legislation addressing air pollution, environmental noise, chemicals, water quality and the impacts of climate change. In parallel, measures to protect ecosystems and promote green infrastructure implicitly recognise the benefits to well-being that come from access to high-quality environments, particularly in urban areas.

By collecting, checking, disseminating and assessing data and information from Eionet member and cooperating countries, Copernicus services and research projects, the EEA will continue to evaluate progress towards policy objectives for the mitigation of health- and ecosystem-relevant pollutants including environmental noise, and the presence of pollutants in air, water and soil.

Key policy initiatives where the EEA will play a key role in assessing progress towards targets include the zero-pollution action plan and the chemicals strategy for sustainability, as well as the 8th EAP. Following the publication of the first indicator-based assessment under the zero-pollution monitoring framework planned for late 2022, the EEA will kick off the development of the second zero-pollution assessment due in 2024, in particular by exploring options to address some of the data and knowledge gaps and limitations already evident. Work in 2023 will also focus on supporting the planned framework of indicators to measure progress under the chemicals strategy for sustainability. In addition, the EEA will deliver ongoing support to countries and the European Commission for the implementation of EU legislation on air quality, air pollutant emissions, environmental noise, industry, etc. (see Table). Regarding the last, reporting on industry and the environment, the Commission adopted, in 2022, a package of proposals on revised rules on industrial emissions, improving data transparency, monitoring compliance with international agreements and public access to environmental information related to industrial installations. Additionally, a new responsibility for the EEA to manage reporting on industrial accidents involving chemical substances (i.e. Seveso Directive) was agreed in the summer of 2022. In line with that proposal, the EEA will support the Commission by managing the Industrial Emissions Portal, including the new elements on pollutant releases and transfers (i.e. E-PRTR), accidents involving chemicals (Seveso) and the revised Industrial Emissions Directive. This will involve a substantial transformation of the IT infrastructure — including a transfer to Reportnet 3 — and new routines to acquire, quality-check and disseminate data on this thematic area.

The impacts of various environmental stressors on health will be assessed, and the EEA will continue to disseminate policy-relevant information on the environmental burden of disease in Europe. In 2023, a particular focus is planned on children and environmental health and on the burden of disease associated with exposure to chemicals. The EEA will also continue to explore the benefits for well-being that high-quality natural environments deliver, including green and blue spaces in urban areas and nature reserves in rural areas, as well as the benefits that result from measures to reduce pollution. The role that socio-economic, demographic and behavioural factors play in influencing exposure, sensitivity and vulnerability to environmental risks is also a focus of activities, in order to understand and monitor environmental inequalities across Europe.

The EEA will continue to partner with other members of the EKC at a European level, including the EFSA and the ECHA, in order to develop relevant knowledge. We will also enhance



cooperation with other appropriate knowledge providers in countries and international organisations (e.g. WHO) to bring support for human health and environment policies.

2023	Actions in focus in activity 3
Action 1	Health-related environmental pressures
Action 2	Environmental impacts on human health and well-being

Activity 4: Circular economy and resource use

We will improve understanding of the environment and climate impacts caused by Europe's production and consumption of raw materials, products and services. This includes addressing resource efficiency and waste dimensions, as well as supporting the implementation and monitoring of circular economy actions across Europe, and the sharing of best practices.

Resource supply, and Europe's production and consumption systems, are among the key drivers causing the environment and climate pressures that our society faces. A range of current and future EU initiatives will address these drivers to help ensure that resources are supplied, used and recirculated in Europe's economy more sustainably, as is highlighted in the 2020 circular economy action plan.

The EEA supports these efforts by providing assessments of progress towards achieving a circular economy (monitoring and targets), understanding the environmental and climate impacts of key product value chains, the implementation of EU legislation on waste, and transforming Europe's industry to a low-carbon, low-emission and increasingly circular model. As a result of the Bellagio process — an international dialogue on the principles and necessary investments to help improve the monitoring of the circular economy, the EEA is investing in indicator-based assessments on the circular economy, reflecting moves towards a more target-based provision.

Collecting and assessing data and information from Eionet member and cooperating countries, and from research projects, as well as cooperating with other knowledge providers at European level through the EKC supports these assessments.

Furthermore, the EEA assesses material supply dimensions, through partnership with other key stakeholders including the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, the International Resource Panel, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

2023	Actions in focus in activity 4
Action 1	Circular economy and industrial transformation
Action 2	Supporting implementation of EU waste legislation
Action 3	Material flows and sustainable resource use

Activity 5: Sustainability trends, prospects and responses

To enhance the knowledge base across relevant EU policy priorities for sustainability, and in support of *The European environment — state and outlook report (SOER) 2025*, we will assess developments towards sustainability through systemic lenses, through enablers for transitions and with a particular focus on knowledge for action through engagement with stakeholders.



To achieve maximum impact, we will work closely with other knowledge providers and users at European level, and engage with the OECD, UNEP and other organisations.

The lenses to be assessed include links and dynamics across key systems of production-consumption, the resource nexus, European-global resource dependencies and socio-technological drivers of change, and synergies and trade-offs of relevance across EU policies.

Enablers include macro-economic factors such as production, consumption, market prices, sustainable finance, technological and social innovations, and governance approaches. Additional areas of focus will be policy coherence over time, forward-looking integrated systemic analysis and urban sustainability as an example of vertical and horizontal integration.

Foresight techniques will be used to inform future perspectives, solutions and transition pathways, and we will engage stakeholders to help identify the pathways and actions that can best realise the EU's long-term policy objectives.

2023	Actions in focus in activity 5
Action1	Monitor and assess sustainability in Europe through systemic lenses and across scales
Action 2	Analyse sustainability transition enablers: economics, finance, innovation, policies and governance across scales
Action 3	Develop co-created knowledge for action across scales, including foresight, with stakeholders

3.2.2 Legal frameworks supported by multiannual activities

Table 7: Legal frameworks supported by EEA activities

Legal framework	Connected activities
2030 agenda for sustainable development and its SDGs	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Air Quality Implementing Decision (2011/850/EU)	3
Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)	3
Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC)	1, 3
EU biodiversity strategy (COM(2011) 244 final)	1, 2
Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)	1
Circular economy action plan (COM(2020) 98 final)	1, 4
Clean air policy package (2013)	3
Climate Monitoring Mechanism Regulation ((EU) 525/2013) and implementing/delegated acts	2
Common agricultural policy (COM(2018) 393 final)	1
Common fisheries policy Regulation (1380/2013/EU)	1
Control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances — Seveso III Directive (2012/18/EU)	3
Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	1, 3



Effort Sharing Decision (406/2009/EC)	2
Effort Sharing Regulation ((EU) 2018/842)	2
Emission Trading System Directive (2003/87/EC)	2
Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU) and amending Directive (EU) 2018/2002	2
Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2018/844/EU)	2
Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	3
Environmental Quality Standards Directive (2013/39/EU)	1
EU strategy on adaptation to climate change (COM(2021) 82 final)	2, 5
EU industrial strategy (COM(2020) 102 final)	4, 5
European Climate Law (Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality)	2
European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) Regulation (166/2006/EC)	3
European strategy for low-emission mobility (COM(2016) 501 final)	3, 5
European strategy for plastics in a circular economy (COM(2018) 28 final)	4
F-gas Regulation ((EU) 517/2014 ^(a)) and proposed revision in COM(2022) 150 final	2
Floods Directive (2007/60/EC)	1, 2
EU forest strategy for 2030 (COM(2021) 572 final)	1, 2
Fourth Air Quality Daughter Directive (2004/107/EC)	3
Fuel Quality Directive (98/70/EC)	2
Green infrastructure strategy (COM(2013) 249 final)	1, 2
Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)	1
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	1
Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU) and its implementing decisions	3, 4
Inspire Directive (2007/2/EC)	1, 2, 3
Integrated maritime policy (Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011)	1
Invasive Alien Species Regulation ((EU) No 1143/2014)	1
Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC as amended) and supporting legislation addressing specific waste streams	4
Long-term strategy 'A clean planet for all — A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy' (COM(2018) 773 final)	2
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)	1, 2
Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU)	1
Medium Combustion Plants Directive (2015/2193/EU)	3
National Emission Reduction Commitments Directive (2016/2284/EU)	3
Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)	1
Ozone Regulation ((EC) 1005/2009 ^(b)) and proposed revision in COM(2022) 151 final	2
Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC as amended)	4
Pollinators initiative (COM(2018) 395 final)	1
Regulation (EU) 2017/852 on mercury	3
Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the governance of the energy union and climate action (and implementing and delegated acts)	2



Regulation (EU) 2018/841 on the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry in the 2030 climate and energy framework	2
Regulation (EU) 2019/1242 setting CO ₂ emission performance standards for new heavy-duty vehicles and Regulation (EU) 2018/956 on the monitoring and reporting of CO ₂ emissions from and fuel consumption of new heavy-duty vehicles	2
Regulation (EU) 2019/631 setting CO ₂ emission performance standards for new passenger cars and for new light commercial vehicles and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/392 on the monitoring and reporting of data relating to CO ₂ emissions from passenger cars and light commercial vehicles	2
Regulation 2020/741 on minimum requirements for water reuse (conditional on budget request)	1
Regulation (EU) 2020/852 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088	2
Regulation (EU) 2021/696 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme	1, 2, 3
Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC) and recast ((EU) 2018/2001)	1, 2
Renewed sustainable finance strategy and implementation of the action plan on financing sustainable growth	2, 4, 5
Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe (COM(2011) 571 final)	1, 4, 5
Seveso Directive (2012/18/EU) (conditional on budget request)	3
Sewage Sludge Directive (86/278/EEC)	3, 4
Soil health law to be proposed for 2023 (EU soil strategy for 2030: COM(2021) 699 final)	1
Sustainable finance initiative	2, 4, 5
EU soil strategy for 2030 'Reaping the benefits of healthy soils for people, food, nature and climate' (COM(2021) 699 final)	1, 2, 3
Updated 2018 bio-economy strategy (COM(2018) 673/2 and SWD(2018) 431/2)	1, 5
Urban agenda for the EU (Pact of Amsterdam 2016) and following the renewed Leipzig Charter of 2020	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)	1, 3, 4
Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)	4
Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	1, 2, 3

Notes:

(^a) The Commission has published a new [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on fluorinated greenhouse gases, amending Directive \(EU\) 2019/1937 and repealing Regulation \(EU\) No 517/2014 \(COM\(2022\) 150 final\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A0150%3AFIN) (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2022%3A0150%3AFIN>).

(^b) The Commission has published a new [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on substances that deplete the ozone layer and repealing Regulation \(EC\) No 1005/2009 \(COM\(2022\) 151 final\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022PC0151&qid=1651591797984) (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022PC0151&qid=1651591797984>).

3.2.3 EU legislation reporting obligations managed by the EEA

A key task for the EEA in providing comprehensive information on the state of and trends in Europe's environment is to process relevant data flows arising from legislative reporting obligations. Thus, the EEA is involved in managing reporting obligations on behalf of the European Commission for many legal instruments. The reporting obligation cycle and content varies between legal instruments, with a significant number of obligations requiring administrative information to be collected, but not used in EEA products. Table 8 provides a multiannual overview of the reporting cycle for reporting obligations managed by the EEA and dataflows.



Table 8: EU legislation reporting obligations managed by the EEA (arising from EU legislation in the field of environment and climate)

EU Legislation	Reporting obligations database entry	Number of obligations in 2022	2023	2024	2025
Air Quality Directive IPR	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/650	14	14	14	14
Birds Directive 2009/147/EC	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/658	3	1	1	1
CO ₂ emissions from new light commercial vehicles	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/648	2	2	2	2
CO ₂ emissions from passenger cars	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/644	2	2	2	2
CO ₂ monitoring and reporting, cars and vans: implementing provisions, incl. real-world monitoring	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/692	2	2	2	2
CO ₂ monitoring and reporting, heavy duty vehicles: implementing provisions, incl. real-world monitoring	Not yet available	0	0	2	2
E-PRTR Regulation	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/615	1	1	1	1
EEA-Eionet Regulation	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/499	8	7	8	7
Emissions Trading Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/593	1	1	1	1
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/634	1	1	1	1
Environmental Noise Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/585	7	0	1	1
F-Gas Regulation 2014	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/657	3	3	3	3
Floods Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/630	4	0	0	0
Fuel Quality Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/537	2	2	2	2
Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Mechanism Regulation	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/652	4	0	0	0
HDV Monitoring and Reporting Regulation	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/676	2	2	2	2
Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/560	3	1	1	1
Industrial Emissions Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/654	1	1	1	1
Marine Strategy Framework Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/631	7	0	3	1
Medium Combustion Plants Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/659	1	0	0	0
Mercury Regulation ⁵	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/677	4	4	2	4
New Bathing Water Directive (consolidated)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/609	2	2	2	2
New Drinking Water Directive (consolidated)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/545	1	0	1	0
Nitrates Directive (consolidated)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/257	1	0	1	0
Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/690	7	11	11	11
Regulation on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS Regulation)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/554	1	1	1	1
Regulation on invasive alien species	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/660	1	0	0	0
Revised NEC Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/675	10	7	5	5
Sewage Sludge Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/514	1	1	1	1
Seveso Directive III — eSPIRS	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/obligations/731(9)	0	0	0	0
Seveso Directive III — eMARS	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/obligations/729(9)	0	0	0	0
Union Space Programme Regulation	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/693	6	6	6	6
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (consolidated)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/543	3	0	2	0



VOC Paints Directive	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/647	1	0	0	0
Waste Framework Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/643	1	1	1	1
Water Framework Directive (consolidated)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/516	4	0	0	0
Bern Convention (international)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/564	2	1	1	2
CLRTAP (international)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/578	6	4	3	5
UNFCCC (International)	http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/411	1	1	1	1

Notes:

(^a) Only handled from 2026 onwards.

CLRTAP, Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution; IPR, implementing provisions on reporting; UNFCCC, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

3.2.4 EU submissions to international bodies managed by the EEA

Table 9: EU submissions to international bodies managed by EEA

Policy DG	International legislation	Link to EU legislation	EEA activity
ENV	UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP Convention)	National Emission Reduction Contribution (NEC) Directive	3
ENV	UNECE Pollutant Release and Transfer Register Protocol (PRTR Protocol) under the Aarhus Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters	E-PRTR Regulation(^a)	3
ENV	UN Minamata Convention on Mercury	Mercury Regulation	3
CLIMA	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (MMR) Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action	2
CLIMA	UN Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer (Montreal Protocol), under the Vienna Convention for the protection of the ozone layer Kigali amendment to the Montreal Protocol	Ozone Regulation and F-gas Regulation	2

Note:

(^a) For the E-PRTR, the role of the Agency is to create a European data set that, in turn, is used by the protocol bodies.



3.2.5 EU-wide policy information and knowledge platforms managed by the EEA

Table 10: Information platforms and portals in support of EU policy measures and instruments

Information system name	Short name/acronym	Policy DG	Legislative framework/reference ^(a)	ROD ⁽¹⁾
Air Quality e-Reporting and portal	AQ portal	ENV	2011/850/EU: Commission Implementing Decision of 12 December 2011 laying down rules for Directives 2004/107/EC and 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the reciprocal exchange of information and reporting on ambient air quality	Y
Biodiversity Information System for Europe	BISE	ENV	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions 'EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Bringing nature back into our lives' (COM(2020) 380 final)	N
Copernicus in situ component (assigned revenue)	CISC	DEFIS	Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU	N
Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (assigned revenue)	CLMS ¹	DEFIS	Regulation (EU) 2021/696 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing the Union Space Programme and the European Union Agency for the Space Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) No 912/2010, (EU) No 1285/2013 and (EU) No 377/2014 and Decision No 541/2014/EU	N
'Climate and energy in the EU' website	Climate and energy in the EU	CLIMA	Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (MMR) (525/2013)	Y
Emerald Viewer ^[9]	Emerald Network	Council of Europe and ENV	Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	Y
European Climate Adaptation Platform	Climate-ADAPT	CLIMA	Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action Communication from the Commission 'Forging a climate-resilient Europe — The new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change' (COM(2012) 82 final)	Y
European Climate and Health Observatory ^[18]		SANTE CLIMA	Communication from the Commission 'Forging a climate-resilient Europe — The new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM(2012) 82 final)	N
European Nature Information System	EUNIS	ENV	Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds	Y
Forest Information	FISE	ENV	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and	N



Information system name	Short name/acronym	Policy DG	Legislative framework/reference ^(a)	ROD ¹¹
System for Europe			Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions 'New EU Forest Strategy for 2030' (COM(2021) 572 final)	
				N
European Industrial Emissions Portal (formerly European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register)	E-PRTR	ENV	Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 January 2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EEC and 96/61/EC	Y
Invasive Alien Species portal	IAS	ENV	Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species	Y
Natura 2000 Network Viewer	Natura 2000	ENV	Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds	Y
The NOISE Observation & Information Service	N.O.I.S.E	ENV	Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 June 2002 relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise	Y
Water Information System for Europe — Freshwater	WISE-Freshwater	ENV	Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy as amended by Decision 2455/2001/EC and Directives 2008/32/EC, 2008/105/EC and 2009/31/EC Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste-water treatment	Y
Water Information System for Europe — Marine	WISE-Marine	ENV	Directive 2008/56/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 establishing a framework for community action in the field of marine environmental policy	y
European Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM) platform	NWRM	ENV	Case studies to be linked to Climate-ADAPT; case studies and natural water retention measures to be partially integrated in WISE-Freshwater (the assessment is ongoing)	N

Note:

^(a) The platforms are only sometimes directly required by the legislative framework.



3.2.6 Communicating for impact

Reaching and engaging key communities with EEA-Eionet environment and climate knowledge will be crucial for achieving impact in the coming years. The EEA will continue to deliver relevant knowledge at moments crucial to decision-making processes and in formats that match our stakeholders' needs through appropriate outreach channels and tools that ensure high impact. This will entail refining our content and improving its accessibility, availability and use by a wider set of environmental knowledge users, ranging from European and national policymakers to research communities.

In the time-frame covered by this SPD, emphasis will be given to stronger reputation management and branding of the EEA and Eionet. This will entail contributions to the 2023 EEA/Eionet Forum, updating the EEA/Eionet brand and corporate material and delivering a new public EEA website as part of a wider revision of the EEA's online presence. In the context of the Eionet modernisation, we will strengthen the partnership and engagement with Eionet including the ETCs and beyond. Focus will be put on delivering innovative and targeted products with shorter production times that help our stakeholders' make informed decisions, while further strengthening visual and audio-visual aspects and unlocking the communication potential of our data, implementing a recent product review. Sharpening our messaging and participation in emerging debates will help deliver our vision to be the leading network for policy-relevant environment and climate knowledge at EU, regional and country levels.

3.2.7 Eionet — the European Environment Information and Observation Network

Eionet connects hundreds of environmental institutions, including public authorities and research institutions, from 32 EEA member and six cooperating countries. Eionet forms a unique knowledge network, connecting robust data and information, analytical and scientific expertise to European and in some cases global policy processes. Since 1994 it has been providing data and information on Europe's environment to citizens and policymakers. The national focal points, together with experts in Eionet groups, ensure the smooth coordination of network activities and experts' input at national level, maintain regular dialogue with the EEA and other partners, and contribute to the efficient implementation of the priorities endorsed by the EEA Management Board.

A new structure for Eionet has been in place since January 2022 and underpins the implementation of the EEA-Eionet strategy. The new structure and work methods will strengthen the member states engagement in the network, support closer cooperation and facilitate co-creation of actionable knowledge. Stronger cooperation with other relevant environmental networks, particularly the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) Network, is envisaged to be continued in line with strategic objective 3 of the strategy, as well as co-creation of joint EEA and Eionet products and services.

In view of the EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030, the increased level of ambition with the implementation of the EGD, the 8th EAP and the changed working conditions in the post-COVID-19 period, good support for national network activities, to support strategy implementation and to receive the full benefits of the network, will be required in member countries in the coming years. To meet the ambition of the strategy and provide sufficient support to Eionet experts in countries, the EEA will continue internal capacity-building activities for cooperation and co-creation with Eionet and roll out the implementation of new digital infrastructure to facilitate communication and cooperation within the network. To strengthen the position of the



restructured Eionet as one of the key networks supporting the implementation of the EGD and 8th EAP, the EEA will organise a network event, bringing together Eionet, EEA and EEA scientific experts together with national and EU policymakers, in spring 2023.

The EEA is cooperating with Western Balkan countries with support from the IPA with funding currently in place until mid-2022. Pending successful negotiations in 2022, the EEA will continue supporting Eionet cooperation in line with the green agenda for the Western Balkans in 2023-2025.

3.2.8 Improving information delivery through the digitalisation framework

The EEA developed a digitalisation framework in support of the EEA-Eionet strategy with a set of activities and digital solutions that will be implemented across the work areas in the coming years.

A number of key features of the digitalisation landscape have been identified:

- The EEA data infrastructure, including the underlying general ICT infrastructure, is continuously upgraded to support effective and user-friendly data management, visualisation and dissemination, which are needed for other aspects of the digitalisation process.
- Reportnet will be deployed with additional functionalities as version 3.2 and beyond together with further migration of existing reporting data flows previously handled by the old reporting system. New reporting data flows and those entrusted to the EEA by new partners will be added based on prioritisation and resource availability. The support for service-based Inspire data exchange will be further extended in line with the ambitions around European data centres. The governance of Reportnet will be strengthened as part of the Eionet modernisation.
- Further user-friendly data management and visualisation tools (targeted dashboards) will be launched from the EEA common workspace to enhance users' experience.
- The revised data infrastructure will allow better data integration and offer new analytical capabilities including advanced modelling and artificial intelligence approaches as well as supporting the increased volume and granularity of data. New projects using these advancements will be launched.
- The modernisation of the EEA dissemination and communication infrastructure will allow the launch of a new EEA web presence, including a new EEA website and a dedicated data hub. The ambition to improve the linking of data, content and communication will be followed.
- Data content keeps growing in volume and variety (big data) across the five thematic work areas, in particular from Copernicus, Destination Earth, citizen science, socio-economic sources and the new topics covered by the EGD. The EEA will improve its capability to respond to this growth.
- Eionet core data flows are monitored and the need for review will be identified to reflect both the changing data and information landscape and the evolution of policy demands.
- In addressing new content and policy measures, challenges and tasks to support the role of digitalisation in sustainability will be identified and recommendations developed.
- In addition to technical and content-related measures, digitalisation opportunities will be grasped to improve stakeholder integration, interaction and communication across



Eionet and beyond. Stakeholder needs will be assessed, and interactive participation encouraged.

- The EEA, together with Eionet, contributes to the EGD data space and the Destination Earth initiative.
- All the above will be underpinned by investment in human resources and interaction among people by increasing digital literacy and better linking users and technology. Targeted training and coaching, enhanced collaboration and active knowledge co-creation are measures to be taken.

3.2.9 Working with the European neighbouring regions

Following the EEA's earlier engagement with the European Neighbourhood, the Agency is reflecting on its future activities with partners in the context of the 2021-2030 strategy and the revised international engagement framework. Cooperation with these regions will build on EEA and Eionet knowledge on environmental information sharing, indicator management, environmental assessment and expert support in line with EEA-Eionet recent developments and will be aligned to the Commission guidance on potential EEA future engagement.

Further to the current support provided by the EEA to Member States and the Commission for the implementation of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the governance of the energy union and climate action (Governance Regulation), in 2021 the Commission requested EEA support for the implementation of EU reporting requirements on climate and energy in the Energy Community, covering nine contracting parties (six Western Balkans, and three Eastern Partnership countries: Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine). The work envisaged entails covering various aspects of climate and energy reporting in line with the EEA's key actions on work area 2 'Climate change': greenhouse gas emissions, projections, national policies, climate adaptation, etc., and potentially new reporting on renewable energy and energy efficiency at a later stage. Additional resources for the EEA to implement this activity as of 2023 across the nine countries are currently being negotiated with relevant Commission services. The Commission's guidance will be sought on the potential implications of the recent events in Ukraine on any EEA engagement in this.

The EEA and UNEP/MAP finalised a new strategic partnership (2022-2030) focusing on convergence points between the EEA and the UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention multi-year strategic documents. This strategic partnership builds on and enhances mutual cooperation for the achievement of common objectives, taking into account the ambition of the EGD and the EU's renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood as proposed in the new agenda for the Mediterranean⁽⁶⁾ as well as the Union for the Mediterranean post-2020 environment and climate action priorities.

3.2.10 EEA international engagement

The focus of EEA activities will continue to support EU engagement⁽⁷⁾ in the international context, in close dialogue and cooperation with international organisations, UN bodies, and, when relevant, global and regional conventions. The environmental ambition of green transformation requires Europe to continuously work closely with neighbours and European

⁽⁶⁾ [Renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood — a new agenda for the Mediterranean](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/renewed-partnership-southern-neighbourhood-new-agenda-mediterranean_en), European External Action Service (https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/renewed-partnership-southern-neighbourhood-new-agenda-mediterranean_en).

⁽⁷⁾ In line with Article 15 of the EEA/Eionet Regulation and priorities of the European Commission 'A stronger Europe in the world' ([A stronger Europe in the world | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/europe-in-the-world/))



partners in line with the EU policies and priorities of the EGD. The EEA's international cooperation activities would be undertaken in the context of the revised international engagement framework aligned to the adopted EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030. The impact of the COVID-19 crisis is resulting in delays to some of the planned international events or re-shaping of international processes. The EEA will continue to provide its expertise in supporting EEA member and cooperating countries in fulfilling their international commitments; in ensuring linkages between regional and global assessments and processes; and in technically assisting the EU's position in international fora, particularly in the follow-up and implementation of some fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2) resolutions.

Of key importance is the EEA's support to the EU in implementing the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and in its input to the SDGs. The EEA will provide input to EU preparation and participation in relevant international events such as major Conferences of the Parties (COPs), preparation for UNEA 6 (scheduled for 2024), follow-up on UNEP@50 and Stockholm+50 meetings, and increasing the international partnerships in and outreach of the EEA/Eionet networking events planned for spring 2023.

3.2.11 Support to the EU space programme — Copernicus

Since 2014 the EEA has acted as the trusted entity under a delegation agreement with the European Commission and implements the CLMS (the pan-European, local and access to reference data components) as well as the cross-cutting coordination of Copernicus's access to in situ data. After signing the new Copernicus contribution agreement for the period 2021-2028 the EEA continued this role, prepared the implementation plan 2021-2022 and started preparation of the biannual work plan 2023-2024.

The work plans for the period 2023-2025 of the Commission delegated tasks to the EEA as part of the EU space programme will be organised in line with the main components of the CLMS, respecting the order of typical workflows for data products, i.e. starting with input satellite imagery and ancillary data, over basic processing steps towards the more complex products for the entire mapped area, and finally focusing on prioritised areas of interest across Europe. Collaboration with the JRC, in charge of the global component, will be fostered and a joint roadmap to transfer some of the global products that would benefit from efficiency gains resulting from having common processing workflows will be developed. The CLMS portfolio for the period 2023-2025 will cover:

- very high-resolution satellite image mosaics, in situ and reference data;
- biophysical monitoring at pan-European (i.e. high-resolution phenology and productivity, snow and ice monitoring) and global levels once the efficiency gains that would result from a transfer of the global products are described;
- pan-European land cover and land use mapping and monitoring, with distinction between the CLC+ package (the extended CLC land cover product) and a package of high-resolution layers on land cover characteristics;
- priority area monitoring in Europe (i.e. Urban Atlas, riparian zones, Natura 2000 sites, coastal zones);
- European Ground Motion Service.

User uptake and communication activities are considered of major importance in the new contribution agreement. For the first time, the Commission has specifically asked the EEA to work on these activities and therefore a yearly budget has been allocated for that purpose.



On user uptake activities, the focus will be on boosting the user uptake by Member States via a national collaboration programme that will be launched in late 2022 and will include the products from the Global Land Monitoring Service managed by the JRC. The goal of the programme in these early stages is to increase the uptake of current and future products by offering training that can increase Member States' capacity. The evolution of the programme will be based on the feedback from Member States. Finally, user uptake activities for each of the products will be developed and will include specific training sessions, webinars and information sessions.

As regards communication, the communications programme at the EEA will embed the communication activities specific to Copernicus, with the goal of increasing the alignment between both. Communications activities will include a stronger online presence of Copernicus at the EEA and the organisation of land user events, together with the JRC, and training.

3.2.12 Support to the Group on Earth Observation System of Systems — GEO/GEOSS

Over the years the EEA has cooperated with the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and its set of systems (GEOSS — Global Earth Observation System of Systems). For the period 2021-2023 the EEA has engaged with the European Commission (DG RTD) through an SLA to provide specific support on mainstreaming GEOSS data sharing and management principles in support of Europe's environment. A 3-year work plan was accepted in early 2021, which includes support to a future GEO in situ data strategy and the launch of a series of showcases making available data relevant to climate adaptation.

By the end of 2023 all the activities envisaged in the abovementioned work plan are expected to have been concluded, with the finalisation of the following key deliverables:

- full implementation of the GEO in situ data strategy (addressing the needs of key GEO work programme activities in relation to in situ Earth observation data) and the GEO data sharing and management principles (promoting best practices and success stories within Europe);
- a report evaluating the potential impact of EU in situ data-related initiatives vis-à-vis GEO's and Copernicus's requirements;
- strategic guidance on the evaluation of European and international observing networks;
- final reports on the showcases supporting climate change adaptation objectives: (a) better data and statistics in support of the EU strategy on adaptation and (b) providing access to data supporting the mainstreaming of climate resilience considerations in key community systems.

Still in the context of this SLA, in 2023 the EEA will continue participating in the GEO Programme Board and other relevant GEO events, representing the GEO European Caucus and promoting the European regional node of GEO (EuroGEO).

Regarding the period 2024-2025, discussions with DG RTD are already under way on starting the preparatory work to launch another SLA in 2024 to follow up on the activities carried out during the period 2021-2023.



3.2.13 Support to the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

In 2022 the EEA started providing targeted support to DG REGIO with the implementation of the initiative ‘Regional and urban environmental indicators and analysis’ by addressing regional and urban land use and various aspects of air pollution in Europe. This work will continue during 2023-2024 when the EEA will focus on three main objectives:

1. innovative data production, indicator development and assessments of the impacts of land use on the continental, regional and local scale, including specific assessments of functional urban areas;
2. supporting the evolution of CLMS by increasing the update frequency of the Urban Atlas products;
3. providing tailored information and data on air pollution, industry and environment based on data reported under the EU and international reporting obligations.

3.3 Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2023-2025

3.3.1 Overview of the past and present situation

Section 2.2.2 provides details of the new tasks the Commission has asked the EEA to include in its work programme.

The legislative acts that have already been adopted, with associated finance fiches giving the EEA additional resources to deliver the new tasks are as follows:

- the 8th EAP, giving the EEA several new tasks commencing in 2021;
- the European Climate Law, which establishes the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change (for which the EEA will host the secretariat), and which provides support to the Commission’s assessments of progress towards climate neutrality and on adaptation.

The resulting developments in the EEA’s budget and staffing plan from 2021 to 2022 is provided in Tables 11 and 12.

Table 11: Developments in the EU subvention (EUR)

	2021	2022	Variance 2022/2021
Baseline work programme	42,211,000	43,055,000	2.0%
8th EAP	3,187,000	3,236,000	1.5%
European Climate Law		3,391,516	
EU subvention	45,398,000	49,682,516	9.4%
Third countries and other contributions	6,020,177	6,154,505	2.2%
General revenue	51,418,177	55,837,021	8.6%



Table 12: Developments in human resources

		2021	2022
Baseline work programme	TA	131	131
	CA	74	74
8th EAP	TA	9	9
	CA	6	6
European Climate Law	TA		10
	CA		6
Temporary agents (TAs)		140	150
Contract agents (CAs)		80	86
Seconded national experts (SNEs)		20	20
TOTAL STAFF		240	256

3.3.2 Outlook for the years 2023-2025

Work programme and inflation

In compliance with the guidelines in the 2023 Budget Circular, the initial draft budget for 2023, submitted in January 2022, proposed “stability in real terms” for the EEA’s baseline work programme, with a 2% inflationary increase per year for the period 2023-2025. However, given the current inflationary environment, in June 2022 the Commission increased the draft salary budget by EUR 0.9 million. This increase is welcome but does not address the inflationary pressures on administrative and operational expenditure. Therefore, the EEA will be required to cut down on some of its operational expenditure in 2023: the breakdown of the expenditure budget is given in Annex 3, with supporting commentary explaining the budget developments.

In addition to the baseline work programme, the budgeted EU subvention for 2023-25 includes the resources allocated to the EEA to deliver its new tasks under several legislative acts with finance fiches as follows:

- 8th EAP
- European Climate Law
- LULUCF Regulation (amendment)
- Nature Restoration Law
- Seveso Directive
- E-PRTR Regulation (recast)
- Zero Pollution Package

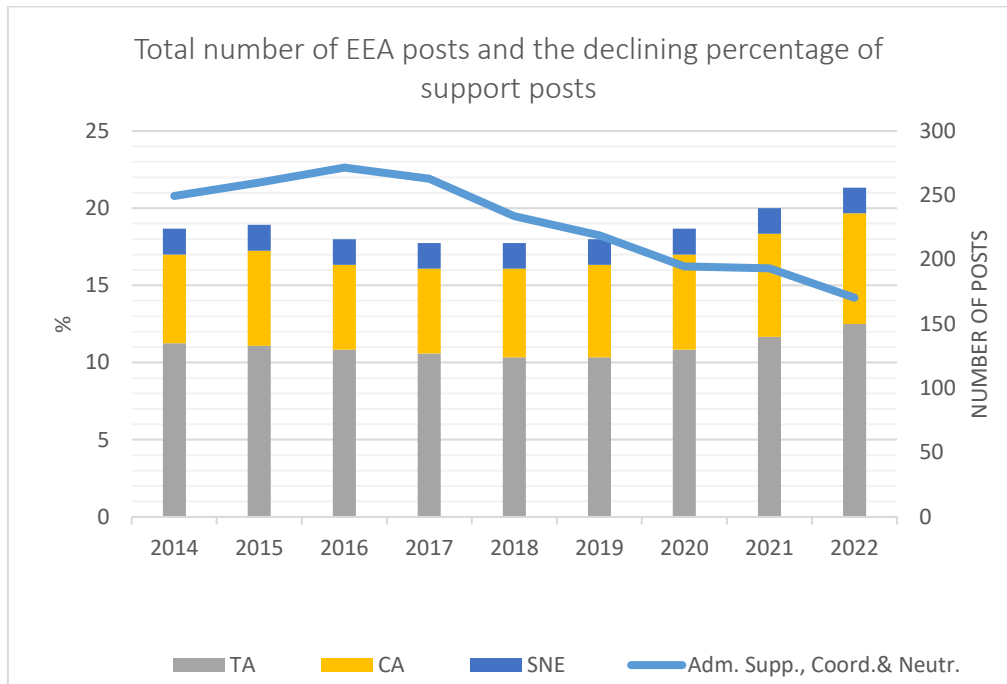
The above new tasks are outlined in Section 2.2.2 and an overview of the financial and human resources are given in Tables 13 and 14 in the next section below.

Support staff

Under the austerity measures of the previous multiannual financial framework (MFF 2014-20) and in the drive to achieve efficiency gains, the EEA has reduced its support staff since 2016. The finance fiches for legislative acts assigning new tasks to the EEA have given the EEA additional operational staff for the period 2018-2025 but no additional support staff. This has exacerbated the declining ratio of support staff to operational staff as shown in the Figure 1 below.



Figure 1



This has placed severe strain on the support programmes; appropriate levels of support for the additional operational staff joining in 2022 and thereafter cannot be sustained without the support staff complement also being increased. To address this problem, the EEA has identified the need for five additional support staff posts. The main need is for expertise in the fields of finance, legal/data protection, IT architecture/cybersecurity, communications and Eionet support (5 × TA AD6 posts).

The above request was supported by the European Parliament ENVI Committee, who drafted an amendment to the EEA's 2023 budget to include the 5 support posts. This amendment was adopted by the European Parliament in plenary in October 2022.

Project-financed actions

The EEA will continue to receive resources to deliver project-financed actions funded by grants, contribution and SLAs. Details of these agreements and the associated resources are provided in Section 2.2.3 and in Annex 11 *Plan for grant, contribution and service level agreements*.

3.3.3 Resource programming for the years 2023-2025

Tables 13 and 14 give the budgeted developments in the EEA's financial and human resources, giving a breakdown of the resources for the baseline work programme continued from the previous MFF 2014-20, and the additional resources specified in legislative acts adopted in the current MFF 2021-27.



Table 13: Developments in the EU subvention (EUR)

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Baseline Work Programme	43,055,000	44,808,514	45,704,684	46,618,778
8th EAP	3,236,000	3,287,000	3,338,000	3,390,000
European Climate Law	3,391,516	3,459,546	3,528,533	3,599,604
Nature Restoration		2,302,000	2,954,000	3,011,000
SEVESO		495,000	937,000	971,000
LULUCF		0	2,297,000	3,343,000
E-PRTR Regulation (recast)		0	649,816	558,412
Zero Pollution Package		0	1,187,000	2,043,000
EU Subvention	49,682,516	54,352,060	60,596,033	63,534,794
Third Countries & Other Contributions	6,154,505	6,270,733	6,892,258	7,074,864
General Revenue (EUR)	55,837,021	60,622,793	67,488,291	70,609,657

Table 14: Developments in human resources

		2022	2023	2024	2025
Baseline Work Programme	TA	131	131	130	130
	CA	74	74	74	74
8th EAP	TA	9	9	9	9
	CA	6	6	6	6
European Climate Law	TA	10	10	10	10
	CA	6	6	6	6
Nature Restoration	TA		7	7	7
	CA		5	5	5
SEVESO	TA		3	3	3
	CA		1	1	1
LULUCF	TA		4	8	8
	CA		1	3	3
E-PRTR Regulation (recast)	TA			2	2
	CA			0	0
Zero Pollution Package	TA			5	5
	CA			3	3
"No cost" post for EUAN	TA		1	1	1
Temporary Agents (TA)		150	165	175	175
Contract Agents (CA)		86	93	98	98
Seconded National Experts (SNE)		20	20	20	20
TOTAL STAFF		256	278	293	293



3.3.4 Strategy for achieving efficiency gains

The EEA continues to achieve efficiency gains through the modernisation of its e-reporting platforms and IT. The focus is on supporting the modernisation of Eionet with suitable IT tools and on rebuilding the EEA's web presence for increased stakeholder satisfaction. During the COVID-19 pandemic all meetings were held online and, while most restrictions have been eased, online meetings will continue to form a large share of all meetings.

Modernised e-reporting processes increasing

The first implementation phase of Reportnet 3.0 has been used to overcome a set of structural inefficiencies. With the system becoming more operational, we keep integrating the data flows of further stakeholders.

Moving away from tailored development of interactive data products

The EEA has embraced enterprise platforms designed to allow non-technical users to create and manage interactive data products, such as map viewers, story maps, data dashboards and data viewers. The EEA's efficiency has also been increased through the use of data by thematic experts and by an increase in the number of product creators. Products can be created directly by EEA staff or ETC partners. This efficiency gain has led to the EEA team and its consultants producing many more data visualisation products with their allocated resources.

Centralising the data management platform

Centralisation of the data management platform has enabled the EEA to address inefficiencies related to data transfer mechanisms, different tools, silos, loss of interim data, data lineage, etc. A central data management platform hosted by the EEA provides a collaborative working environment, which facilitates cross-thematic integration with all thematic areas and handles changes in the ETC constellations.

Changing data flow automation from a team of developers to specialised enterprise data transformation software

Using specialised data transformation software, some manual data processing tasks have been automated. In addition to reducing errors over time, reducing costs and reducing the time to bring new data to products, this also allows data managers time to address more value-added tasks. Automation also allows the EEA to chain data collection to data processing and feed existing interactive data products instantly with new data.

Increasing efficiency of data management

The introduction and continuous application of the internal roles of data steward and data custodian in reporting data flows brings efficiency. From autumn 2021 to spring 2022, data management practices were thoroughly analysed and a set of recommendations on efficiency gains have been adopted for implementation. The proposal introduced options for more flexibility in managing the variety of data flows and the different capacities of thematic groups and introducing stronger data governance to enforce and accompany necessary changes. An illustration of the increased efficiency of data handling is the example of the streamlining of industry data reporting implemented with countries over recent years, coupled with the launch in 2021 of a new [European Industrial Emissions Portal](#) as a single access point for stakeholders to find and explore information. This has led to savings in staff resources previously needed to maintain a number of separately designed reporting flows.



Streamlining infrastructure

One of the core tasks of the IT department is to make new servers available for software applications and replace them when the hardware becomes old. The number and complexity of maintenance regimes has been reduced. In addition, the individual applications have been packaged to make it easier to move to new hardware when a failure occurs or the server needs maintenance.

Co-location of IT systems successfully implemented

The Agency is increasingly able to service its clients over the internet without interruptions. The location of the EEA's offices made it difficult to ensure adequate fire protection, cooling and power, especially when the number of servers is growing. The lockdown period in 2020 was used as an opportunity to migrate the equipment to a co-location data centre in the vicinity. It was therefore possible to remove the burden of facility maintenance from EEA staff and purchase it as a service. The newly vacant floor space can then be turned into offices, reducing the need to find alternative solutions as the number of EEA staff grows. These co-location measures have been successfully implemented and the establishment of new office space is ongoing.

Co-creation with Eionet

Closer co-creation of the knowledge with Eionet provides a better opportunity to respond to issues arising in countries and thus improve the relevance of the production of stakeholder-related knowledge products, Co-creation can also lead to a more efficient and more engaging cooperation between the EEA and the countries, that could lead to mutual learning and opportunities for countries to follow up and act from the strategic perspective.

No print policy

Efficiency gains were achieved through the introduction of a no print policy for EEA publications, which led to reductions in the operational costs of printing and storing EEA reports.

3.3.5 Negative priorities/decrease of existing tasks

As an outcome of the impact of COVID-19 and the number of online meetings effectively held with our network partners during the pandemic, the EEA is currently revising its meeting and mission policy guidance to be applied from late 2022 onwards. This will allow the Agency to reduce the quantity of physical meetings and travel and to deliver its carbon neutrality ambition and economic benefits.

In early 2022 the EEA Senior Management Team increased the level of its EMAS ambition for the EEA with respect to becoming climate neutral by 2030. With the return to a 'post-pandemic' normal and this higher climate neutrality ambition, the EEA will be aiming to explore more innovative methods of co-creation and closer engagement with its network partners to jointly implement the EEA-Eionet strategy in the years to come.

The transfer of the **LPD database (Land Purchase database)** towards CINEA (Hosted at DG Digit), which EEA hosted and maintained since December 2014 will be discontinued from 2023 onwards, due to no direct use for EEA's work programme and in agreement with DG ENV.

EEA has discontinued initial plans to potentially develop a greater capacity to support assessment activities relating to the circular economy key value chain of 'electronics'. This reflects the need to avoid overlap of activities with other institutions that have existing

competence, as well an internal prioritisation of resources towards ensuring support to the Commission on the three value chains where EEA capacity has been developed over past years (and where strong links with ENV Dir B have been established) i.e. on plastics, textiles, and construction/buildings.



4 Annual work programme 2023

4.1 Executive summary

The annual work programme is structured around five activities within which actions in focus are highlighted. Table 15 at the end of this section lists a summary of planned 2023 knowledge outputs.

4.2 Activities

4.2.1 Biodiversity and ecosystems activity

The actions in focus for 2023 are:

- Action 1: Supporting the implementation of the environmental directives.
- Action 2: Biodiversity and ecosystems — protection and restoration.
- Action 3: Sectors, systems and sustainability challenges impacting ecosystems.

Activity 1		Biodiversity and ecosystems
Reference to strategic objectives	SO1: Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions SO2: Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges SO3: Building stronger networks and partnerships SO4: Making full use of the potential of data	
Specific objective	To ensure the delivery of data, information and knowledge contributing to the maintenance and restoration of good ecosystem condition and the halting of the loss of biodiversity across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.	
Activity description	This activity covers enhancing knowledge support for the effective implementation of related strategies and legislation (e.g. protection, restoration) and mainstreaming of biodiversity and natural resources in economically and societally relevant sectors, systems and policies. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting monitoring, reporting and implementation of key legislation on biodiversity, nature, marine and freshwater and exploring the full potential of innovative monitoring, digitalisation and shared observation systems that allow changes in environmental status and condition, ecosystem extent and functioning, as well as drivers, pressures, impacts and solutions to be tracked. We will use Copernicus products to support this work. • Supporting the EU biodiversity strategy's protection and restoration agenda. This includes monitoring progress and assessing the effectiveness of protection and restoration using existing and new data and providing better knowledge through digitalisation of data sources. • Support for knowledge on sectors, systems and sustainability challenges in relation to ecosystems and the bio-economy, covering agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, 	



	forestry and the food system, as well as trade-offs and synergies with climate change, economics of biodiversity and pollution and chemicals.
Changing strategic context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EU has legal frameworks, strategies and action plans to protect nature and restore habitats and species. Key policies for addressing the continued biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation under the EGD are the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 and the farm to fork strategy. The zero-pollution action plan, the chemicals strategy and the EU Climate Law and the EU missions on ocean and waters and on soil are important policies and initiatives to regulate pollution and climate change impacts on ecosystems. • The understanding of and link to other sectoral policies such as the common agricultural policy, the integrated maritime policy, the common fisheries policy, the EU forest strategy and the bio-economy strategy are key to help mainstream biodiversity into economic activities. • The EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 aims to put Europe’s biodiversity on a path to recovery, including establishing and effectively managing a larger EU-wide network of protected areas on land and at sea, building on existing Natura 2000 areas, and developing an EU nature restoration plan to restore and manage degraded ecosystems across the EU by 2030, addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss. • Strengthened governance and implementation of the environmental acquis, e.g. Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the nature directives.
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to the monitoring and reporting activities under the key EU legislation for marine, freshwater, biodiversity and nature. • Deliver actionable knowledge about the integrated assessment of condition, combined pressures and impacts across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. • Deliver information and data to EEA stakeholders through user-friendly and integrated tools that make use of the latest digitalisation opportunities. • Expand the co-creation of activities and products with the EEA’s network of stakeholders, partner institutions, regional organisations and business and environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Activity 1: Key performance indicators		
KPI	Target 2023	Means of verification
Eionet data submission — Eionet data flows	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — indicators updated	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — publications	90%	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs



Action 1	Supporting the implementation of the environmental directives
<p>Description</p>	<p>The EEA supports monitoring and reporting and condition assessment under the key EU legislation for marine, freshwater, biodiversity and nature. Developing actionable knowledge for supporting the sustainable use of natural resources and ecosystem-based management also requires assessing the combined pressures and impacts on terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems as a basis for implementing integrated solutions.</p> <p>In addition, various monitoring frameworks are being developed, including for the EGD, the 8th EAP and the zero-pollution action plan, to which the EEA will contribute.</p> <p>These activities relate to developing information and knowledge on ecosystem condition and restoration and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting the reporting activities under the EU key legislation; • delivering on the assessment of ecosystem condition and combined pressures and impacts on terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems; • supporting the streamlining of environmental reporting of ecosystem status and pressures ('ecological monitoring') across terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems; • complementing and strengthening where appropriate in situ and expert monitoring with Earth observation and Copernicus products; • delivering information and data from reporting and assessments through user-friendly and integrated tools that make use of the latest digitalisation opportunities; • contributing to the monitoring frameworks for the EGD, the 8th EAP and the zero-pollution action plan.

Action 2	Biodiversity and ecosystems — protection and restoration
<p>Description</p>	<p>Both the biodiversity strategy for 2030 and the objectives of the 8th EAP call for putting biodiversity on the path of recovery. The two main objectives of the biodiversity strategy are the protection and the restoration of nature. Activities (applicable to both land and sea) will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring progress and assessing the effectiveness of protection measures (protected areas and other effective area-based measures); • supporting the process of enhancing the coherence and connectivity of the protected areas network; • providing expert advice on protected areas and restoration to the Commission; • supporting the restoration of ecosystems;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unlocking the potential of existing data complemented with data derived from Copernicus to monitor and assess restoration efforts; • coordinating the development of the biodiversity, forest and water information systems in an integrated manner to host knowledge on biodiversity generated through assessments.
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Action 3		Sectors, systems and sustainability challenges impacting ecosystems
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Description	<p>The EGD calls for integrated, systemic and coherent knowledge and solutions across ecosystems, bio-economic sectors (e.g. agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture) and socio-economic systems, (e.g. food, housing, health or mobility) to respond to the sustainability challenges that impact ecosystems and lead to biodiversity loss, such as pollution and climate change. Working closely with our country network in co-creating knowledge and sourcing best practice solutions, the activities will include examining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the bio-economy (agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture) and the food system and their effects on biodiversity and ecosystem condition with a view to informing the farm to fork strategy, and the sector-specific policies governing their respective management, including the common agricultural policy, common fisheries policy and EU forest strategy; • the economics of biodiversity and ecosystems, including analysis of the socio-economic aspects of restoration and ecosystem-based management, natural capital accounting and sustainable finance/EU taxonomy; • climate change implications for ecosystems and their biodiversity, including knowledge on cumulative drivers, pressures and impacts, and on trade-offs and synergies; • pollution and chemicals impacting ecosystem condition and their biodiversity with a view to supporting the zero-pollution action plan, including knowledge on pressures stemming from sectors and pollution-related restoration targets under the biodiversity strategy for 2030.
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Activity 1		Biodiversity and ecosystems outputs
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2023 output type	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	<p>Outputs will address specifically the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of ecosystem condition and combined pressures and impacts on terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems, and across the land-sea interactions: the focus will be on marine litter, sea use and marine protected areas, and the status of water bodies in Europe;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the protection and restoration of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems: the focus will be on key targets of the biodiversity strategy for 2030, e.g. 25,000km of free-flowing rivers; • publish an integrated assessment of marine litter from source to sink, supporting the zero-pollution action plan 2022 monitoring report; • marine ecosystems and biodiversity under climate change; • the bio-economy (agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry), and the interaction of the food system with biodiversity and ecosystems; • the economics, sustainable finance and socio-economics of biodiversity and ecosystems; • progress on the building blocks of an integrated 'Nature as a solution' product for 2023/2024, including contributions on the bio-economy, sectoral and economic integration, climate change and biodiversity and the food system, and the multiple pressures and cumulative effects of human activities on the environment.
<p>Monitoring</p>	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the use of Copernicus services products (Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS), CLMS, Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)) in EEA indicators and supporting reporting under EU legislation; • supporting the data reporting cycle and upgrading; • information and streamlining reporting on biodiversity; • nature, marine, maritime, freshwater and invasive alien species-related directives and on protected areas/marine protected areas; • supporting the monitoring framework of the 2030 biodiversity strategy (including a number of key targets such as 25,000km of free-flowing rivers) and contributing to the global biodiversity policy (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)); • supporting the monitoring framework of the zero-pollution action plan with regard to water and terrestrial (soil) pollution, chemicals and human health; and directly contributing to the publication of the zero-pollution action plan 2022 monitoring report led by the EEA; • delivering policy-relevant indicators in biodiversity, marine and freshwater domains at European and global levels, including supporting the monitoring frameworks being developed for the EGD, the 8th EAP and the zero-pollution action plan.
<p>Enhancing network capabilities</p>	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening networks and co-creation with member countries in Eionet as part of the Eionet review and its modernisation;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> networking and supporting Commission working groups under the nature, marine and freshwater directives; networking at regional seas convention level and ocean governance within the EEA’s international engagement context; follow-up specifically on the outcomes of the UNEP/MAP COP22; networking with neighbouring countries, including those in the Western Balkans, eastern Europe and the Mediterranean; networking with international organisations and conventions, including the CBD, UNEP, UNFCCC and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).
Information systems	<p>Outputs will be delivered by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enabling digitalisation of data to improve information services and timeliness of data; keeping WISE-Marine up to date as the European entry point to marine information; developing the WISE-Freshwater data and map visualisation tools; updating and upgrading BISE, supporting the Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity; developing and maintaining FISE as the entry point for information on forest ecosystems; establishing links to Climate-ADAPT and the Environmental Health Atlas; finalising the updated Natura 2000 web portal.

4.2.2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation activity

The actions in focus for 2023 are:

- Action 1: Monitoring and reporting on progress towards climate neutrality.
- Action 2: Monitoring and reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation.
- Action 3: Assessing solutions for the transition towards climate neutrality and resilience.
- Action 4: Supporting the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change.

Activity 2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation	
Reference to strategic objectives	SO1: Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions SO2: Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges SO3: Building stronger networks and partnerships SO4: Making full use of the potential of data SO5: Resourcing our shared ambitions
Specific objective	To ensure the delivery of data, information and knowledge in support of the implementation and further development of policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
Activity description	This activity covers the following work areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> collecting, quality-checking, compiling and reporting relevant data and information on climate change mitigation,



	<p>as well as climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation in Europe;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analysing and assessing these data against European and national mitigation and adaptation objectives and commitments; • monitoring the implementation and effects of national climate-related policies and accompanying measures, including in specific sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture, forestry and other land use; • promoting exchanges, between European countries, regarding successful experiences in achieving climate-related objectives at the national or sub-national levels, considering multiple perspectives (environmental, social, economic); • identifying trade-offs and synergies of climate mitigation and adaptation policies with other environmental issues, such as biodiversity, air quality, and freshwater and marine environments; • supporting the various tasks of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, as described in the European Climate Law.
<p>Changing strategic context</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe is affected by climate change and the current pace of reductions in greenhouse gas emissions remains insufficient to help limit global temperature increases to below 1.5 C. The EEA’s support for Eionet and the Commission will take place in the context of existing and new objectives, policies and legislation related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, energy and transport. • 2023 will see further consolidation of the EU legislation adopted or revised over the past few years, under the 2030 climate and energy policy framework, with Member States providing a first draft revision of their national energy and climate plans for achieving the 2030 targets. In addition, the following ongoing initiatives under the EGD will continue to shape EEA support on climate change policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the European Climate Law, which includes a legally binding target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and an objective to enhance Europe’s adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability, and a revised target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030; ○ the ‘Fit for 55’ package, which aims to strengthen Europe’s climate policy frameworks with revisions of relevant existing legislative measures to deliver on the increased climate ambition; ○ the 2021 EU adaptation strategy and the mission on adaptation supporting implementation of adaptation for 2021-2030 and European climate risk assessment; ○ other EGD initiatives relevant to EEA activity on climate change, including a renewed sustainable finance strategy, a European industrial strategy, a circular



	economy action plan, and a farm to fork strategy/greening of the common agricultural policy.
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced knowledge on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation actions in Europe. • Updated and upgraded Climate-ADAPT and European Climate and Health Observatory. • New indicators on climate change adaptation. • New assessment on urban adaptation in Europe. • Mission on adaptation knowledge hub prepared and populated with information. • European climate risk assessment drafted and prepared to be published in 2024. • Increased integration of monitoring data on climate, energy and transport. • New policy-relevant knowledge on mitigation options and progress assessments to support long-term achievement of climate neutrality. • Closer collaboration with Eionet member countries on mitigation and adaptation policies and measures. • Adequate support provided to the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change.

Activity 2: Key performance indicators		
KPI	Target 2023	Means of verification
Eionet data submission — Eionet data flows	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — indicators updated	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — publications	90%	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs



Action 1	Monitoring and reporting on progress towards climate neutrality
Description	<p>The EEA will work with Eionet member countries and the Commission on the first full integrated national energy and climate progress reporting under Article 17 of the Regulation on the governance of the energy union and climate action, or Governance Regulation. This will be done in the context of the e-reporting platform developed jointly with DG CLIMA and DG ENER, building on the EEA reporting infrastructure Reportnet 3.0. To support the dissemination of data and information reported under the Governance Regulation and other climate-related regulation, the EEA will further develop its website on climate and energy data and information. The EEA will also continue working with the Commission to support the monitoring of progress towards the 2030 targets and climate neutrality, as well as the preparation of the 2023 state of the energy union report and the first updates to national energy and climate plans by Member States in June 2023.</p> <p>The EEA will assist the Commission in the preparation of the assessments referred to in Articles 6 (assessment of Union progress and measures) and 7 (assessment of national measures) of the European Climate Law.</p> <p>The EEA will support monitoring of the trend in the gap between vehicle emissions tested in the laboratory and real-world emissions through the collection of data on the real-world CO₂ emissions and energy consumption of cars and vans, envisaged in Regulation 2019/631 on CO₂ emission performance standards for cars and vans. A similar data collection will also cover heavy duty vehicles; legislative work is ongoing in this respect.</p> <p>The EEA will also carry on with its regular reporting activities concerning the compilation of the EU greenhouse gas inventory, preliminary estimates of recent greenhouse gas emissions, greenhouse gas projections, climate change mitigation and policies and measures, use of the Emissions Trading System (ETS) auctioning revenues, support provided to developing countries, EU ETS implementation, ozone-depleting substances and fluorinated greenhouse gases (F-gases), fuel quality and fuel greenhouse gas intensity, and average CO₂ emissions from new cars, vans and heavy-duty vehicles. The EEA will start making the adaptations needed in light of the future regulations on ozone depleting substances and F-gases, for example electronic verification related to F-gases. It will also support reporting on climate and energy data by the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community, as described in an impending agreement on this work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with its country network, the EEA will continue developing knowledge on the transition of the



	<p>energy and mobility systems towards climate neutrality and sustainability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EEA will support monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry as required under the LULUCF Regulation. This includes the performance of quality checks on reported LULUCF greenhouse gas data and the provision of information to Member States on other data sets and methodologies for improving the LULUCF inventory, in particular by extraction, compilation and dissemination of land use data from the CLMS for improving the quality of national LULUCF greenhouse gas inventories.
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Action 2 Monitoring and reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation	
Description	<p>The EEA will work with the European Commission, its member countries, the Copernicus programme and its services, the European Climate and Health Observatory partners, research projects and other data providers to collect data on climate change and impacts, vulnerability and adaptation. These data are used to build policy-relevant indicators and assessments on climate change and its impacts (on economic sectors, ecosystems, and social systems and human health) and support the preparation and implementation of adaptation actions at various geographical and governance levels, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting adaptation reporting in 2023, analysing the reported information and updating country profiles on Climate-ADAPT; • collecting climate hazards, impacts and vulnerability information in Europe in collaboration with Copernicus services; • supporting monitoring and reporting on adaptation at regional scales within the mission on adaptation, in particular developing the mission knowledge hub hosted by Climate-ADAPT; • further updating the European Climate and Health Observatory with a focus on the impacts of key climate hazards and climate-related infectious diseases; • supporting the Commission in the preparation of the assessments referred to in Articles 6 (assessment of Union progress and measures) and 7 (assessment of national measures) of the European Climate Law.

Action 3 Assessing solutions for the transition towards climate neutrality and resilience	
Description	<p>The EEA will work with the key partners and Eionet countries on presenting solutions for achieving climate neutrality and resilience. In particular the EEA will work on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessing climate resilience at urban and regional levels by preparing assessments of urban adaptation actions;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessing climate risks in Europe and preparing draft European climate risk report (to be published in 2024); • assessing societal resilience in the context of adaptation; • presenting case studies on adaptation and human health; • updating the Climate-ADAPT platform content and presenting good practice examples at, for instance, local level, and information from other sources such as C3S; • assessing the role of biomass in Europe, in particular in reaching climate and biodiversity targets; • assessing solutions within the agri-food sector to support climate neutrality targets and climate resilience.
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Action 4 Supporting the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change	
Description	<p>The EEA will host a new secretariat to support the new European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change.</p> <p>The secretariat will continue facilitating the functioning of the Advisory Board and supporting its activities. The tasks of the secretariat will be directly determined by the nature and content of the work programme of the Advisory Board.</p>

Activity 2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation outputs	
2023 output type	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	<p>New EEA publications on monitoring and reporting on actions towards climate neutrality and adaptation, including assessing solutions. The outputs include EEA assessments on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • climate hazards, impacts and vulnerability; • climate risks in Europe; • social vulnerability and urban adaptation; • nature-based solutions for increasing climate resilience; • costs of adaptation and economic losses caused by climate change impacts; • national pathways, policies and measures toward climate neutrality; • key issues in the energy transition; • progress towards climate and energy targets in Europe; • progress in adaptation policies and actions; • progress made in reducing environmental pressures from the transport sector in Europe.
Monitoring	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updated data and information on climate mitigation, energy and transport, and adaptation, based on Member States' reporting under the Governance Regulation and other legislation;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updated data and information on climate change and its impacts on economic sectors, ecosystems and human health (including use of data from the C3S and CLMS); • information provided to Member States on data sets and methodologies for LULUCF inventory improvement in particular but not limited to data sets from the CLMS to support the implementation of the LULUCF Regulation; • new or updated indicators, based on Member States' reporting under the Governance Regulation and other legislation.
Enhancing network capability	<p>Outputs will deliver on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening networks with member countries in Eionet; • meetings and webinars with Eionet groups on the topics 'Climate change mitigation and energy systems', 'Climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation', 'Mobility systems', 'Food systems' and 'Land systems'; • when feasible, knowledge co-creation initiatives with Eionet on specific issues; • enhanced links to the Copernicus programme and its services; • newly established links with regional networks supporting implementation of the mission on adaptation objectives; • networking with international organisations, policy frameworks and conventions including UNEP, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNFCCC and UNECE.
Information systems	<p>Outputs will be delivered by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contributions, through Reportnet 3.0, to the e-platform under the Governance Regulation; • an EEA communications website on energy and climate data and information; • updated Climate-ADAPT and European climate and health observatory; • the knowledge hub for the mission on adaptation to support regions to analyse climate risks and develop adaptation actions.



4.2.3 Human health and the environment activity

The actions in focus for 2023 are:

- Action 1: Health-related environmental pressures.
- Action 2: Environmental impacts on human health and well-being.

Activity 3		Human health and the environment
Reference to strategic objectives	SO1: Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions SO2: Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges SO3: Building stronger networks and partnerships SO4: Making full use of the potential of data SO5: Resourcing our shared ambitions	
Specific objective	Deliver data and information to improve knowledge of the health impacts caused by air, water and soil pollution, noise, chemicals and the changing climate in Europe.	
Activity description	<p>The following work areas are covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting countries and the European Commission with the reporting of data flows and information relevant to human health pressures, including those on air quality, air pollutant emission inventories, environmental noise, industrial emissions to air, water, soil and waste, and soil contamination (E-PRTR and Industrial Emissions Directive and industrial accidents (Seveso)). • Assessing progress towards relevant policy objectives, including those of the zero-pollution action plan and the 8th EAP. Building on the 2022 zero-pollution baseline assessment, the EEA will explore options to use alternative, non-legislative data sources to address data limitations and knowledge gaps in the second assessment, due early 2024. The EEA will continue to coordinate closely with the JRC in the context of the zero-pollution outlook work. • Managing reported information on air quality, assessing human exposure to air pollutants against EU standards and World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines and estimating associated health impacts. This includes updating and enhancing information services for citizens, including the European Air Quality Index and associated app and the European City Air Viewer, and launching the European Environmental Health Atlas. • Managing reported information on human exposure to environmental noise and estimating associated health impacts, to be consolidated in an EEA report on environmental noise in Europe anticipated in 2024. • Exploring the role of socio-economic and demographic status as determinants in environmental health and well-being, with a particular focus on the impacts of environmental stressors on children's health. Helping improve understanding of the benefits to health and well- 	



	<p>being in Europe provided by access to high-quality environments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producing updated assessments of the burden of disease associated with exposure to environmental stressors in Europe. This includes launching, in 2023, the European Environmental Health Atlas, an online platform displaying spatial data on environmental pollution, impacts on health and social factors, as well as presenting an environmental health index by country. The atlas will be an online, accessible tool aimed at citizens and other key stakeholders, including a ‘check your place’ function to allow people to explore the quality of their local environment. • Developing a framework of indicators to measure progress against the objectives of the chemicals strategy for sustainability objectives, in partnership with ECHA, for publication in the first half of 2024. • Assessing the systemic use of chemicals in Europe’s socio-technological systems, resulting in exposure pathways for the environment and humans and impacts on ecosystems and health. Develop innovative approaches to estimate the burden of disease associated with exposure to chemicals in Europe. • Delivering the EEA’s role to prioritise research work under the Partnership for the Assessments of the Risks of Chemicals (PARC) under Horizon Europe, in partnership with EFSA and ECHA, and supporting the development of guidance for approaches that are safe and sustainable by design.
<p>Changing strategic context</p>	<p>Work with Eionet countries and the European Commission will be prioritised to support the ongoing implementation the NEC Directive, the Industrial Emissions Directive, the E-PRTR, the Noise Directive, the Water Framework Directive and the Floods Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, and relevant chemicals legislation including the Mercury Regulation. In particular, the EEA will provide support to the revision and future implementation of the ambient air quality directives.</p> <p>Additional ambitions, as a result of Commission proposals, with regard to the Industrial Emissions Directive, the E-PRTR — now with the name Industrial Emissions Portal — and the transfer of responsibilities on industrial accidents (Seveso) from the JRC to the EEA, will require a substantial transformation of these data flows. The EEA will prioritise these efforts in the period 2023-2026. As from 2027, all changes are expected to be operational and become a part to the routine work of activity 3.</p> <p>Under the Regulation on serious cross-border threats to health, a role is envisaged for the EEA to deliver risk assessments on cross-border threats to health of an environmental or climate origin. The EEA will seek further clarification on the scope and delivery of this role.</p>



	<p>The implementation of key elements of the EGD will also significantly shape EEA work on human health and the environment, including in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the zero-pollution action plan and accompanying thematic actions for air, water and soil, as well as the zero-pollution monitoring and outlook framework; • the chemicals strategy for sustainability and the related legislative initiative on chemical safety — better access to chemicals data for safety assessments; • a revised EU industrial strategy and anticipate changes to the Industrial Emissions Directive and the E-PRTR Regulation (legislative procedure envisaged during 2022-2023); • the proposed revision of the Directive on the sustainable use of plant protection products; • interactions with other relevant EGD initiatives, including the farm to fork strategy, biodiversity strategy and circular economy action plan. <p>In addition, the EEA will continue to support developments in the WHO European environmental health process and EU monitoring of the SDGs linked to health and environment.</p>
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated and more timely knowledge of environmental pressures relevant to human health and progress towards relevant policy objectives. • Improved understanding of the health impacts arising from combined exposure to different environmental stressors. • Attractive and accessible information on environment and health and on the environmental burden of disease across Europe. • Consolidated evidence on how nature supports health and well-being across Europe. • Enhanced knowledge on the influence of socio-economic, demographic and behavioural factors on the environment, health and well-being nexus.

Activity 3: Key performance indicators		
KPI	Target 2023	Means of verification
Eionet data submission — Eionet data flows	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — indicators updated	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — publications	90%	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs



Action 1	Health-related environmental pressures
Description	<p>The EEA will work with Eionet countries to support reporting of coherent and high-quality data on the environmental pressures relevant to human health arising from Europe's production, consumption, energy, transport and agricultural systems. This includes supporting countries and the European Commission with the reporting of data flows and information relevant to human health pressures, including on air pollutant emission inventories, environmental noise, industrial emissions to air, water, soil and waste, and soil contamination.</p> <p>In particular, the EEA will provide support to DG ENV in the context of the revision of the ambient air quality directives. This includes support to the monitoring, reporting and assessment of air pollutants of emerging concern and to the reporting of air quality plans. Knowledge on the linkages between air pollution, climate change and health will be included in the European Climate and Health Observatory. Supporting improved knowledge of the systemic use of chemicals in Europe's production, manufacturing and agricultural systems and resulting releases of chemicals to the environment is a priority.</p> <p>Progress towards policy objectives for the mitigation of emissions of pollutants will be evaluated. Support will be provided to DG SANTE to ensure the inclusion of data on air quality in the new EU Cancer Inequalities Registry, consistent with information presented in the European Environmental Health Atlas.</p>

Action 2	Environmental impacts on human health and well-being
Description	<p>The EEA will assess human exposure to environmental pollutants and their impacts on health. This includes impacts arising from exposure to air water and soil pollution, noise and chemicals, the changing climate and the broader risks to health from biodiversity loss. An assessment of the environmental burden of disease in Europe will be produced, focused on the environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease in Europe. Regarding the social distribution of the health impacts of pollution, the EEA will publish a briefing on the impact of air pollution on children in early 2023, in support of the revision of the air quality directives. A broader report on children and environmental health will be produced for publication in 2024, in support of monitoring progress against the zero-pollution action plan.</p> <p>Regarding chemicals, the EEA will work in partnership with ECHA to produce a framework of chemical indicators against which to measure progress under the chemicals strategy for sustainability, for publication in early 2024. In support of the proposed revision of the Directive on the sustainable use of plant protection products, the EEA</p>



	<p>will produce an assessment of the impacts of pesticides use on human health in Europe.</p> <p>The EEA will continue to support the Information Platform for Chemical Monitoring (IPCHEM), as module coordinator on environmental and human biomonitoring data, as well as supporting ECHA’s work to build a common data platform under the legislative initiative on chemical safety – better access to chemicals data for safety assessments. In addition, the EEA will draw on human biomonitoring data produced under the Horizon human biomonitoring project HBM4EU to generate qualitative estimates of the burden of disease attributable to human exposure to chemicals in Europe. The EEA will also help to steer the development of new knowledge on chemicals, including on exposure, health impacts and options for delivering safe and sustainable chemicals by design, through its role in the Horizon Europe project PARC.</p> <p>The impacts of climate change on human health in terms of direct risks to health from extreme temperatures and floods, as well as changing patterns of disease, will also be assessed. Such assessments will support the evaluation of policies designed to mitigate the impacts of climate change on health, with knowledge included in the European Climate Health Observatory.</p> <p>The EEA will also work with Eionet and other partners to investigate new methods to assess exposure to multiple environmental stressors, and methods of mapping these. The important role of socio-economic status, demographics and behaviours as determinants in environmental health and well-being across Europe will be further explored. The benefits of access to biodiverse environments will be assessed, with a focus on the utility of green solutions to improve health and well-being in urban areas.</p> <p>Work on joint activities with partner EU agencies, including ECHA and EFSA, other EU institutions, and the Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring Service (CAMS) service will continue. The EEA will collaborate with other EU agencies to develop concrete lines of work following the ‘One Health’ approach.</p>
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Activity 3	
Human health and the environment outputs	
2023 output type	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an update to the annual assessment of air quality status, impacts on health and on ecosystems, as well as an assessment of the impacts of air pollution on children’s health; • updated annual assessments of emissions to air under the NEC Directive and UNECE Air Convention;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessments of chemical impacts on health, with a focus on agrochemicals and chemicals in consumer products; • developing work on the environmental burden of disease, including an assessment of the environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease; • assessments of externalities from industrial sources and of the combustion sector in Europe; • annual updates to a range of indicators on pollutant emissions and environmental health stressors, including an indicator on inequalities in exposure to air pollution; • delivery of targeted information to DG REGIO focused on environmental pressures and impacts on health at regional scale.
Monitoring	<p>Outputs will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support to countries' e-reporting of data to the EEA on emissions to air, air quality and industrial pollution; • support to Commission-led exchanges with Member States on the monitoring, reporting and assessment of air pollutants of emerging concerns; • support to Member States when e-reporting data on noise using the new Inspire Directive-compliant data model; • updated data and information on emissions to air, air quality, noise, and industrial pollution accessed via respective EEA data centres.
Enhancing network capability	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening relationships with Eionet countries in the area of environment and health, particularly through the new Eionet group and thematic groups on air pollution, chemicals, and noise, in line with the Eionet modernisation process; • the co-creation of knowledge with Eionet partners, with a focus on integrated approaches to understanding environment and health, chemical impacts on environment and health, as well as knowledge areas prioritised by Eionet partners in an ongoing process; • providing support to Western Balkan countries on air quality monitoring under the IPA, pending agreement that the EEA continue to support the green agenda for the Western Balkans in 2023-2025.
Information systems	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updating the EU Air Quality portal; • supporting reporting under the Environment Noise Directive and updating the Noise Observation and Information Service for Europe and noise portal; • updating and maintaining the European Industrial Emissions Portal (formerly known as the E-PRTR); • making information on environmental pollution and health impacts accessible to citizens through digital products including the European City Air Viewer, the European Air



	Quality Index and accompanying app and the European Environmental Health Atlas.
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4.2.4 Circular economy and resource use activity

The actions in focus for 2023 are:

- Action 1: Circular economy and industrial transformation.
- Action 2: Supporting implementation of EU waste legislation.
- Action 3: Material flows and sustainable resource use.

Activity 4	Circular economy and resource use
Reference to strategic objectives	SO1: Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions SO2: Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges SO3: Building stronger networks and partnerships SO4: Making full use of the potential of data
Specific objective	Deliver expected results as set out in the annual work plan (AWP). Deliver key assessments, indicators updates and process data flows in support of policy information needs.
Activity description	This activity covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening the monitoring of progress towards a circular economy and assessment of the uptake of these policies in Europe’s economy, including monitoring of national strategies and identification of best practices; • identifying co-benefits brought about by the implementation of a greater circular economy in Europe for the biodiversity and climate agendas; • analysing the environmental and climate impacts of key product value chains, with a focus on textiles, plastics and buildings; • the transformation of European industry; • supporting the implementation of EU waste legislation, with a focus on waste prevention programmes and the attainment of targets established by the acquis (the so-called early warning mechanism); • analysing material flows, resource efficiency, critical raw materials and the environmental and climate aspects of these.
Changing strategic context	<p>The EGD has transformed the orientation of policies around resource use, industrial ecosystems and circular economy. The implementation of the 2020 circular economy action plan is now well under way and a set of proposals are either adopted, being read by the co-legislators or close to being proposed to them by the Commission. These policy packages include a wide range of commitments to strengthen the environmental acquis in the years to come and the EEA has built its work programme around them.</p> <p>As from 2023, additional priority will be given to the interface between the circular economy and climate change and biodiversity.</p> <p>The 8th EAP and the Bellagio process are also calling for further improvements in monitoring the circular economy, to better understand the multitude of angles that are needed to transform Europe’s economy</p>



	<p>into a circular, climate-neutral model. This element is an increasingly key area of EEA activities in the strategic context of activity 4. This work is conceived as complementary to the efforts of Eurostat (i.e. the circular economy monitoring framework) and the JRC (consumption footprint Platform). An aspect of particular emphasis is the monitoring of national strategies and initiatives at country level to foster the transition to a circular model by implementing the Eu acquis and their efforts beyond that framework.</p>
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated and more timely knowledge on the transition to a circular economy in Europe. • Improved understanding of the embedded impacts of Europe’s consumption and how the circular economy can help benefit the environment and climate. • Consolidated evidence on the links between circular economy goals and other policy areas, including climate and biodiversity. • Supporting improved knowledge on circular economy aspects that relate to socio-economic, business model and citizen behaviour.

Activity 4: Key performance indicators

KPI	Target 2023	Means of verification
Eionet data submission — Eionet data flows	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — indicators updated	90%	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery — publications	90%	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs

Action 1 Circular economy, key supply chains and industrial transformation

Description	<p>The EEA will support improved monitoring of Europe’s circular economy, in line with the principles agreed upon in the Bellagio process. Activities will complement the existing circular economy monitoring framework coordinated by Eurostat, and also contribute to the relevant aspects of the 8th EAP monitoring framework.</p> <p>Another key aspect of this action is the investment to improve relevant knowledge across key product value chains. The EEA will prioritise its activities around three of the seven key product value chains identified in the circular economy action plan: plastics, textiles and construction/buildings.</p> <p>Understanding value chains requires a system thinking approach, which spans production and consumption systems and thus relies on methodologies such as foot-printing, input-output analysis and life-cycle assessment. Cooperation with the JRC is therefore relevant to leverage its considerable expertise on these matters.</p> <p>Europe’s ambition to transition to climate neutrality, together with the objective to protect and restore biodiversity, are two goals where the circular economy will contribute. Developing an improved</p>
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understanding of these links and interdependencies will be important, as well as the links between circular economy, sustainable production and consumption and the zero-pollution ambition.

Action 2	Supporting implementation of EU waste legislation
Description	<p>The EEA will deliver its legal responsibilities under the EU legislation on waste. This includes the assessment of progress towards waste prevention, the identification of best practice for this policy and sectoral studies. In 2022, the EEA will compile and assess information to produce its second biennial report on waste prevention for publication in 2023. As future revised policies in this area are expected to include specific targets, the necessary monitoring frameworks will need to be put in place. This will be the focus of the 2022 assessment.</p> <p>In addition, support will continue to be provided to the European Commission and EU Member States for the so-called early warning mechanism, which identifies how countries are progressing towards the targets established in the EU legislation on waste for specific waste streams. To support the European Commission, a significant investment has been made in past years to support this process. Specific country reports, coupled with briefings on the key issues identified during the process, will have been published in 2022, with EEA activities in 2023 focused on supporting the European Commission with its report to the European Council and the European Parliament, as mandated by the Waste Framework Directive.</p> <p>In addition, the EEA plans work to increase the understanding around the upcoming priorities on waste as also outlined in the new circular economy action plan and in coordination with the European Commission. The specific topics will be aligned to European policy processes, such as the reinforcement of secondary raw materials markets, environmental issues arising from waste shipments, or the challenges posed by other policy ambitions in terms of waste generation and management.</p>

Action 3	Material flows and sustainable resource use
Description	<p>The EEA will further develop knowledge on material flows and the embedded environmental pressures of Europe's resource supply. These policies have an international dimension, and, as a result, the EEA will continue its support to the International Resource Panel. In particular, in 2023 the EEA will support the finalisation of the panel's <i>Global resource outlook report</i>.</p> <p>The EEA will continue to help improve indicators on resource supply and resource efficiency, in line with the efforts mentioned in action 1 (the Bellagio process). This work is aligned with the focus on resource flows included in the circular economy action plan.</p>



The EEA, in partnership with the JRC, will continue its cooperation with selected European countries around the environmental aspects of raw material supply, consolidating knowledge produced through the Raw Material Information System and adding EEA expertise to that process. It is expected that this work, comprising a range of activities to build understanding and develop capacities across countries, will finish in 2023 with a joint EEA/JRC publication.

Activity 4	
Resource use and circular economy outputs	
2023 output type	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • producing up-to-date assessments concerning the state of play of Europe’s transition to a more circular economy; • help develop novel knowledge around the links between the circular economy and other key policy areas, including biodiversity and climate mitigation; • supporting an evidence -based and more quantitative understanding of circular economy implementation by supporting and complementing activities of other EU institutions such as Eurostat or the JRC; • producing up-to-date assessments in the area of resource supply including through targeted cooperation with the JRC and the International Resource Panel; • reinforcing understanding of key issues and sustainability pathways for selected key-product supply chains, namely textiles, plastics and buildings.
Monitoring	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a set of experimental indicators on the circular economy; • contributions to the 8th EAP monitoring framework; • a set of EEA indicators on waste and the circular economy; • pilot data flows on sewage sludge and reuse of products.
Enhancing network capability	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthening the relationships with Eionet countries in the area of the circular economy, particularly through the new Eionet group and potential subgroups, in line with the Eionet modernisation process; • networking with neighbouring countries, particularly with those in the Western Balkans; • fostering co-creation activities with countries in the context of the Eionet group on the circular economy and follow-up to the Bellagio process.
Information systems	N/A in 2023

4.2.5 Sustainability trends, prospects and responses activity

Actions in focus for 2023 are:

- Action 1: Monitor and assess sustainability in Europe through systemic lenses and across scales.



- Action 2: Analyse sustainability transitions enablers — economics, finance, innovation, policies and governance — across scales.
- Action 3: Develop co-created knowledge for action across scales, including foresight, with stakeholders.

Activity 5		Sustainability trends, prospects and responses	
Reference to strategic objectives	SO1: Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions SO2: Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges SO3: Building stronger networks and partnerships		
Specific objective	Deliver key assessments and indicators in support of EU policy needs and EEA assessments, especially in the 8th EAP EEA monitoring report and the SOER 2025.		
Activity description	<p>This activity covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preparing for the SOER 2025 through investments in priority knowledge developments (integrated assessment methods, socio-economic analysis, policy analysis, foresight and outlooks, systems interlinkages, and country analysis); • assessing and reporting on EU progress towards achieving the 8th EAP priority objectives, taking into consideration the 8th EAP enabling conditions and the overall goal of achieving systemic change; • developing prospective systemic analysis of environmental impacts, enabling factors for systemic change, potential solutions and transition pathways to support achievement of sustainability policy goals in the context of volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world we live in; • developing new methodological approaches to improve further the quality and policy relevance of these assessments; • providing EEA indicator-related input to the monitoring by the Commission of the EGD, of the SDGs, and of green resilience under the Strategic Foresight initiative. • Channelling EEA knowledge to support specific Commission sustainability knowledge initiatives, e.g. DG RTD missions and JRC knowledge systems, and EU policy agendas beyond the EGD and 8th EAP (e.g. the new urban agenda). 		
Changing strategic context	The conclusions of SOER 2020 and subsequent analysis confirm that Europe faces persistent environmental challenges of unprecedented scale and urgency. Where there has been progress on reducing emissions and impacts on human health, the improvements are insufficient to meet the long-term objectives to 2050. Such persistent challenges and new ones, such as pandemics, are resistant to traditional policy responses and could be more fully resolved if they were addressed as broader sustainability issues that transcend environmental, social, economic and governance dimensions and at European and global levels. Addressing them will require policies, investments and knowledge to be brought together to transform the systems driving unsustainability while maximising		



	the environmental, social and economic co-benefits at different scales.
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indicator-based report monitoring progress towards meeting the EU’s 8th EAP priority objectives. • Concise long-term assessment across EGD and 8th EAP priorities. • Assessment of systemic challenges and their governance under conditions of uncertainty and complexity. • Assessment of getting the finances right in support to sustainability transitions. New methods for measuring and assessing sustainability transitions.

Activity 5: Key performance indicators		
KPI	Target 2023	Means of verification
Work programme delivery — publications	90%	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs

Action 1		Monitor and assess sustainability in Europe through systemic lenses and across scales
Description	<p>This would include further developing improved assessments and indicators to support the EGD, the 8th EAP, the EU digital agenda, the renewed sustainable finance strategy, the new urban agenda and the EU SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the further development and refinement of the 8th EAP indicator-based monitoring framework. • Deliver the first, annual indicator-based report that will assess the progress towards the 8th EAP priority objectives. • Ensure coherent and timely EEA indicator contributions to the other main monitoring processes of EU policies (EGD, EU SDGs, Commission green resilience dashboard, etc.). • Implement an integrated framework to measure and assess sustainability trends, prospects and responses. This will include assessment steps and tools as well as a summary assessment method. • Develop prospective, cross-system analysis (focus on food, mobility and energy systems), identify and characterise systemic challenges, including some aspects of uncertainty and quality of evidence. • Identify success factors for achieving EGD objectives and long-term resilience and sustainability in Europe, including global connections. • Use systems thinking, stakeholder engagement and transdisciplinary knowledge and methods to address systemic issues and measure progress (e.g. the concept of the resource nexus, systems dynamics modelling, 	



	<p>quantitative storytelling, foresight, composite indicators, dashboards, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify emerging trends using horizon scanning methods. • Further develop forward-looking quantifiable data patterns in the area of water and urban mobility using the combined approach of machine learning and horizon scanning. • Develop forward-looking qualitative and quantitative system-based analysis using the scenarios for a sustainable Europe 2050 (co-created with Eionet) including identification of policy and financial leverage points. • Further implement the foresight for action plan, developing common understanding on the potential use of foresight in the EEA’s work on integrated assessment for sustainability transitions. Develop cross-programmes complementary activities including foresight and system-based approaches. • Further develop the series of briefings ‘Narratives for change’ to strengthen the characterisation of systemic challenges and governance strategies that respond to the need for systemic change acknowledged by the 8th EAP
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Action 2 Analyse sustainability transitions enablers — economics, finance, innovation, policies and governance — across scales	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build new indicators and produce assessments on different forms of innovation (technological, social, governance, organisational, etc.) and how they contribute to enabling sustainability transitions. • Analyse the role of diverse policies and policy mixes in enabling system change at different scales and so help achieve the EU’s long-term sustainability objectives. This will include the assessment of horizontal and vertical policy coherence and environmental-sectoral policy integration. • Assess the role of informal actors, including local communities and networks, in enabling transitions, including their role in supporting experimentation, innovation and learning, and their capacity to deliver transitions across scales. • Continue engagement and ensure timely knowledge contributions under the renewed EU sustainable finance strategy as per the EEA’s roles therein. • Continue EEA’s role as a permanent member in the Platform on Sustainable Finance, providing associated assessments of reported taxonomy information. • Support and assess reported information under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, including through networking with EU-level financial actors and national EPAs. • Develop new methods and indicators for assessing the climate and environmental impact of EU sustainable finance policy initiatives in line with the Taxonomy Regulation and including recovery measures, capital flows and risks at company, sectoral and European levels.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop new evaluations of the role of sustainable finance in support for transitions drawing on EEA-supported work on the EU taxonomy and Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and in cooperation with finance actors such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), European Central Bank (ECB) and European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs). • Further develop knowledge on the macroeconomic dimensions of sustainability transitions, including the implications for fiscal sustainability, reshoring and trade and social inequalities, and the environment. • Further develop knowledge on the urban dimension of sustainability, building on the 2017-2021 urban sustainability outputs, and focusing on the key enablers identified there (governance, culture, knowledge, finance, data and information and technology).
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Action 3 Develop co-created knowledge for action across scales, including foresight, with stakeholders	
Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop analysis using solution scenarios for a sustainable Europe in 2050, in line with EU sustainability objectives, including synthesising foresight literature and evidence, identifying regional insights, new opportunities and challenges, and stimulating innovative thinking and solutions. • Complement qualitative analysis with quantitative information, using system dynamics modelling, participatory methods, machine learning and alternative data sources. • Further secure a continuous process of horizon scanning with the ETC on sustainability transitions and Eionet group on foresight. • Establish dialogue with countries on how to engage in a practical way towards building the SOER 2025, how to embed foresight outputs in national state of the environment reports, how to create bigger impact and more use of foresight in policymaking and how to engage with stakeholders in a targeted way. • Continue and develop specific activities to support Western Balkan countries on state of the environment reporting and foresight for action. • Continue cooperation and participatory processes with key stakeholders (OECD, DG ENV, DG RTD and other European Commission services, the EEA Scientific Committee) in developing forward-looking knowledge. • Develop better online presence for foresight knowledge through a web platform with particular focus on improved messaging, outreach and communications. • Further develop and implement principles and guidelines for stakeholder involvement in knowledge development at European and national levels. • Reinforce the stakeholders’ dimension of urban sustainability work in a new phase of the EEA urban stakeholders group.



Activity 5		Sustainability trends, prospects and responses outputs
2023 output type	Summary description of outputs	
Expanding the knowledge base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three areas of action are expected to produce the following knowledge outcomes that will inform EEA products for 2023: • narratives for systemic change towards sustainability; • analysis of the role of innovation (social, governance, technological) for achieving sustainability; • ‘getting the finances right’ analysis of sustainability transitions and its relevance for the EGD, the 8th EAP and sustainable finance; • a report on assessment of the EU policy mix for food system transition, including insights for food system governance; • future-oriented actionable knowledge related to horizon scanning for emerging trends, as well as scenario analysis of changing contexts and potential solutions by 2050; • forward-looking cross-system analysis on success factors for sustainability(food-mobility-energy) using system dynamics and sustainability scenarios; • improved data sets for water, including coverage of emerging issues important for future policies, using machine learning and foresight. 	
Monitoring	<p>Outputs will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • application of a conceptual framework and assessment process for sustainability trends, prospects and responses, including a summary assessment and identification of transitions indicators; • capitalisation on actions related to the EEA’s work on urban sustainability and the EU urban agenda; • new methods and indicators to inform analysis of EU sustainable finance policy initiatives. 	
Enhancing network capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outputs will deliver on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creating an enhanced knowledge base in cooperation with Eionet groups on foresight and the state of the environment; • engagement with the Eionet national focal points and the EEA Scientific Committee to support the forthcoming SOER 2025; • strengthening networking and partnership building on urban sustainability with DG REGIO, JRC, Committee of the Regions, Urbact (a European urban initiative), as well as with relevant OECD and UN-Habitat initiatives; • strengthening cooperation and networks with Member States, EIB, ECB and ESAs in the area of sustainable finance including assessments, policy analysis, information, knowledge and data sharing. 	



Table 15: 2023 Summary of planned knowledge outputs

Working title	Activity area
Publications	
European bathing water quality 2022	1
European forest ecosystems: key allies in sustainable development	1
A health check of European forest ecosystems: condition, biodiversity and resilience	1
Trends and projections in Europe 2023	2
Confidential report on ozone depleting substances	2
Confidential report on fluorinated gases	2
Climate mitigation through policies on waste	2
Annual EU greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2021 and inventory report 2023	2
Biomass in Europe	2
Economics of nature-based solutions for adaptation	2
Update on the progress of national adaptation actions	2
Behavioural aspects of energy efficiency in buildings	2
Sector coupling to unlock the flexibility of the EU's energy system	2
EU emissions inventory report under the air convention	3
EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook	3
Impacts of air pollution on vulnerable groups: children	3
Impacts of pesticides on health and ecosystems in Europe	3
Heart disease – the role of Europe's environment	3
Europe's air quality status 2023	3
National emissions reduction status 2023	3
Health impacts of air pollution	3
Air pollution 2023	3
Export of EU textiles waste: a baseline	4
Embedded impacts of Europe's consumption	4
Pathways towards sustainable plastic value chains	4
What a circular economy means for biodiversity	4
Monitoring of the circular economy: how far away are we from our target to double circularity in Europe?	4
Tracking waste prevention progress at EU level	4
State of play of circular economy in Europe	4
Bringing about circularity and climate mitigation: key policy interventions	4
Waste prevention policies	4
Externalities from industrial sources	4
Foresight and resilience of EU's sustainability transitions	5



Sustainable transport transitions and decarbonization: electrification targets and assumptions of the future	5	
Narratives for change: public participation	5	
Financing transition	5	
Just transition	5	
8 TH EAP monitoring progress report	5	
Consolidated annual activity report (CAAR) 2022	-	
EEA environmental statement 2022	-	
EEA single programming document (SPD) 2024-2026	-	
EEA 2022: the year in brief	-	
EEA Signals 2022	-	
Eionet core data flows 2023	-	
Core data flows		
(E1a) Information on primary validated assessment data - measurements (Article 10)	3	
(E2a) Information on primary up-to-date assessment data - measurements (Article 10)	3	
Bathing Water Directive - Monitoring and Classification of Bathing Waters	1	
E-PRTR and LCP integrated data reporting	3	
EU Registry on Industrial Sites	3	
Greenhouse gas inventories	2	
LRTAP Convention - National emission inventories	3	
National projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions - GovReg	2	
Nationally designated areas (CDDA)	1	
WISE SoE - Biology data (WISE-2)	1	
WISE SoE - Water quality (WISE-6)	1	
WISE SoE - Water Quantity (WISE-3)	1	
Information platforms		
EEA new website	-	
EEA data hub	-	
Eionet 2.0 platform	-	
Copernicus Land Monitoring portal (update)	-	
Reportnet 3 (function extension)	1,2	
Integrated information systems (BISE, FISE, WISE Freshwater, WISE Marine)	1	
Climate-ADAPT (technology upgrade)	2	
Climate and energy website	2	
Indicators		
AIR001	Heavy metal emissions in Europe	3
AIR002	Persistent organic pollutant emissions	3
AIR003	Exceedance of air quality standards in Europe	3
AIR004	Exposure of Europe's ecosystems to ozone	3

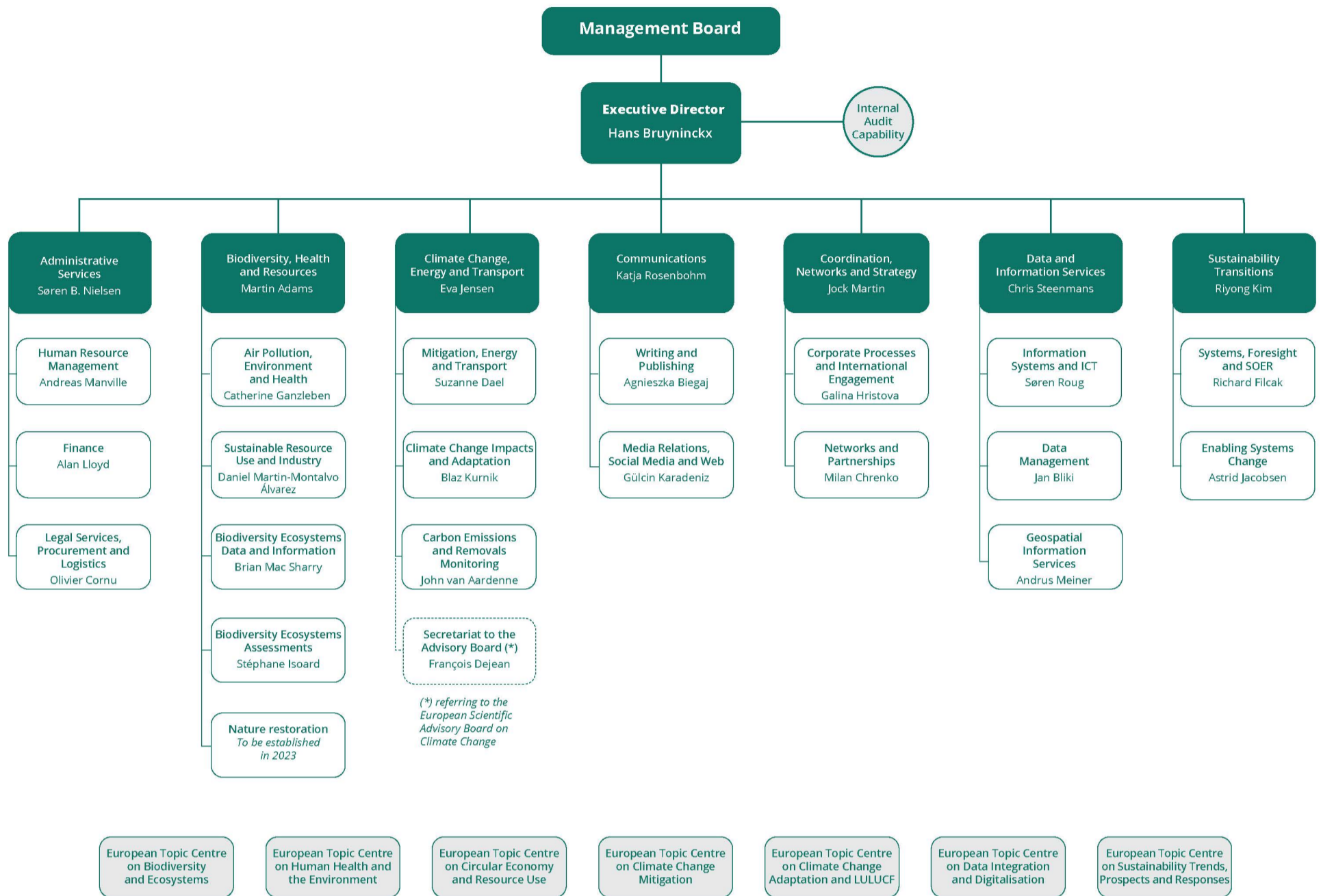


AIR005	Emissions of the main air pollutants in Europe	3
AIR007	Health impacts of exposure to fine particulate matter	3
CLIM001	Global and European temperatures	2
CLIM010	Arctic and Baltic Sea ice	2
CLIM012	Global and European sea-level rise	2
CLIM013	European sea surface temperature	2
CLIM039	Economic losses from climate-related extremes in Europe	2
CLIM043	Ocean acidification	2
CLIM045	Extreme sea levels and coastal flooding	2
CLIM048	Hydrofluorocarbon phase-down in Europe	2
CLIM049	Consumption of ozone-depleting substances	2
CLIM050	Total greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe	2
CLIM052	Atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations	2
CLIM055	Greenhouse gas emission intensity of fuels and biofuels for road transport in Europe	2
CLIM056	Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture in Europe	2
CLIM057	Greenhouse gas emissions from land use, land-use change and forestry in Europe	2
CLIM058	Progress towards national greenhouse gas emission targets in Europe	2
CLIM059	Greenhouse gas emissions from energy use in buildings in Europe	2
CLIM060	Progress in emission reductions in the EU Emissions Trading System	2
CLIMA061	Use of ETS auctioning revenues	2
ENER016	Primary and final energy consumption in Europe	2
ENER028	Share of energy consumption from renewable sources in Europe	2
ENER038	Greenhouse gas emission intensity of electricity generation in Europe	2
INDP003	Industrial pollutant releases to air in Europe	3
INDP005	Industrial pollutant releases to water in Europe	3
INDP006	Emissions and energy use in large combustion plants in Europe	3
LSI004	Landscape fragmentation pressure and trends in Europe	1
LSI011	Drought impact on ecosystems in Europe	1
MAR001	Hazardous substances in marine organisms	1
MAR002	Trends in marine non-indigenous species	1
MAR005	Nutrients in transitional, coastal and marine waters	1
MAR006	Chlorophyll in transitional, coastal and marine waters	1
MAR007	Status of marine fish and shellfish stocks in European seas	1
MAR011	Changes in fish distribution in European seas	1
MAR012	Oxygen concentrations in European coastal and marine waters	1
SEBI001	Abundance and distribution of selected species in Europe	1
SEBI007	Nationally designated terrestrial protected areas in Europe	1
SEBI008	Natura 2000 sites designated under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives	1
SEBI023	Ecological Footprint of European countries	1
TERM002	Greenhouse gas emissions from transport in Europe	2
TERM003	Emissions of air pollutants from transport	2
TERM017	CO2 performance of new passenger cars in Europe	2



TERM031	Use of renewable energy for transport in Europe	2
TERM034	New registrations of electric vehicles in Europe	2
TERM041	CO2 performance emissions of new vans in Europe	2
TERM042	CO2 performance emissions of new heavy-duty vehicles in Europe	2
TERM045	Shar of collective transport and non-road modes in total passenger and freight transport	2
WAT001	Use of freshwater resources in Europe	1
WAT002	Oxygen consuming substances in European rivers	1
WAT003	Nutrients in freshwater in Europe	1
WAT009	Pesticides in rivers, lakes and groundwater in Europe	1
WST007	Europe's material footprint	4
WST008	Europe's consumption footprint	4
WST009	Circular material use rate in Europe	4

Annex 1 Organisational chart



Note: The chart presents the EEA's organisation on 1 January 2023.

Annex 2 Resource allocation per activity 2023-2025

Activity	2022		2023		2024		2025	
	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)
1 Biodiversity and Ecosystems	65	17.5	76	20.3	81	22.5	81	23.6
2 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption	68	15.6	73	16.3	78	19.0	78	20.4
3 Human Health and the Environment	31	7.3	34	8.1	38	9.5	38	9.8
4 Resource Use and the Circular Economy	14	4.9	14	4.9	14	5.1	14	5.2
5 Sustainability, Trends, Prospects and Responses	49	10.5	49	11.0	49	11.3	49	11.5
Total	227	55.8	246	60.6	260	67.5	260	70.6

Notes:

The EEA has defined new activities under its strategy for 2021-2030.

The budget and FTEs are to deliver the EEA's Annual Work Programme and exclude budget and FTEs to deliver project financed actions funded by grant, contribution and service level agreements.

The forecast resource development from 2022 to 2025 reflects the additional staffing and resources the EEA will receive from the following legislative acts with finance fiches assigning new tasks to the Agency:

- European Climate Law (including hosting the secretariat for the European Scientific Advisory Board for Climate Change) - Activity 2 from 2022
- Nature Restoration Legislation - Activity 1 from 2023
- SEVESO Directive - SPIRS and MARS - Activity 3 from 2023
- LULUCF - Activity 2 from 2024
- Recast of the E-PRTR Regulation/Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) - Activity 3 from 2024
- Zero Pollution Package - Activities 1 and 3 from 2024

The full-time equivalents (FTEs) and budget allocation include a proportional allocation of support, management, governance and administration activities and resources.

The forecasting of the FTEs takes into account, based on historical patterns, a "frictional" vacancy rate arising from staff turnover, and staff opting to work on part-time contracts. The FTEs are therefore lower than the number of posts in the EEA's approved staffing plan.

Annex 3 Financial resources 2023-2025

Table A1: EEA revenue budgets

GENERAL REVENUE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2021	Original Budget 2022	Draft Budget 2023		VAR 2023 / 2022	Anticipated 2024	Anticipated 2025
			Agency Request	Budget Forecast			
1 REVENUE FROM FEES AND CHARGES							
2 EU CONTRIBUTION	45,398,000	49,682,516	54,352,060	54,352,060	9.4%	60,596,033	63,534,794
- Of which assigned revenues deriving from previous years' surpluses	218,261	235,161	171,623	171,623	-27.0%	0	0
- Of which funding of European Schools Type 2	247,000	260,000	270,000	270,000	3.8%	280,000	290,000
3 THIRD COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTION (incl. EFTA and candidate countries)	4,346,853	4,314,412	4,394,330	4,394,330	1.9%	4,647,960	4,721,723
- Of which EFTA	1,219,853	1,187,412	1,267,330	1,267,330	6.7%	1,520,960	1,594,723
- Of which candidate countries	3,127,000	3,127,000	3,127,000	3,127,000	0.0%	3,127,000	3,127,000
4 OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS	1,673,324	1,840,093	1,876,403	1,876,403	2.0%	2,244,298	2,353,141
5 ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS							
- Of which interest generated by funds paid by the Commission by way of the EU contribution (FFR Art. 58)							
6 REVENUES FROM SERVICES RENDERED AGAINST PAYMENT							
7 CORRECTION OF BUDGETARY IMBALANCES							
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE	51,418,177	55,837,021	60,622,793	60,622,793	8.6%	67,488,291	70,609,657

ADDITIONAL REVENUE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2021	Original Budget 2022	Draft Budget 2023		VAR 2023 / 2022	Anticipated 2024	Anticipated 2025
			Agency Request	Budget Forecast			
Additional EU funding stemming from grant agreements (FFR Art. 7)	265,000	357,000	0	0		0	0
Additional EU funding stemming from contribution agreements (FFR Art. 7)	12,631,000	27,969,000	35,524,460	35,524,460	27.0%	21,969,290	16,270,539
Additional EU funding stemming from service level agreements (FFR Art. 43.2)	553,000	1,710,000	2,880,000	2,880,000	68.4%	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL REVENUE	13,449,000	30,036,000	38,404,460	38,404,460	27.9%	21,969,290	16,270,539

TOTAL REVENUE (EUR)	64,867,177	85,873,021	99,027,253	99,027,253	15.3%	89,457,581	86,880,196
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Notes:

The 'candidate countries' reported under '3 THIRD COUNTRIES' CONTRIBUTION' is the contribution from Türkiye as a member country of the Agency.

The revenue reported under '4 OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS' is the contribution from Switzerland as a member country of the Agency, separate from its contribution under EFTA.

A breakdown of the ADDITIONAL REVENUE is provided in Annex 11, *Plan for grant, contribution and service-level agreements*.

A variance analysis of the increase in the EU contribution from 2021 to 2024, as the result of new tasks being received by the Agency, is provided in Section 3.3, Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2022-2025.

EFTA, European Free Trade Association, **FFR**, Framework Financial Regulation

Table A2: Expenditure budgets by chapter to deliver the EEA work programme

CORE EXPENDITURE (EUR)	Commitment / Payment Appropriations						
	Executed Budget 2021	Original Budget 2022	Draft Budget 2023		VAR 2023 / 2022	Anticipated 2024	Anticipated 2025
			Agency Request	Budget Forecast			
Title 1 Staff Expenditure	28,875,768	32,784,614	36,723,793	36,723,793	12.0%	41,984,791	44,051,657
11 Salaries & allowances	27,774,031	30,641,614	34,548,793	34,548,793	12.8%	39,766,791	41,790,657
- of which establishment plan posts	19,841,049	21,731,387	23,096,991	23,096,991	6.3%	27,512,291	29,038,157
- of which external personnel	7,932,982	8,910,227	11,451,802	11,451,802	28.5%	12,254,500	12,752,500
12 Expenditure relating to Staff recruitment	299,151	880,000	750,000	750,000	-14.8%	765,000	780,000
13 Mission expenses	54,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	0.0%	306,000	312,000
14 Socio-medical infrastructure	351,874	385,000	460,000	460,000	19.5%	469,000	478,000
15 Training	396,711	564,000	650,000	650,000	15.2%	663,000	676,000
16 Social services	0	14,000	15,000	15,000	7.1%	15,000	15,000
Title 2: Infrastructure and administrative expenditure	5,585,886	5,274,550	6,214,000	6,214,000	17.8%	6,649,500	6,267,000
21 Rental of buildings and associated costs	3,755,545	3,911,550	4,365,000	4,365,000	11.6%	4,438,000	4,112,000
22 Movable property and associated costs	934,270	321,000	780,000	780,000	143.0%	1,122,500	1,046,000
23 Current administrative expenditure	763,141	816,000	796,000	796,000	-2.5%	811,000	826,000
24 Postage / Telecommunications	3,643	6,000	13,000	13,000	116.7%	13,000	13,000
25 EEA Governance	46,387	180,000	220,000	220,000	22.2%	224,000	228,000
26 Environmental management of the EEA	82,900	40,000	40,000	40,000	0.0%	41,000	42,000
Title 3 Operational expenditure	16,956,523	17,777,857	17,685,000	17,685,000	-0.5%	18,854,000	20,291,000
33 Resources	14,941,491	15,643,357	15,830,000	15,830,000	1.2%	16,808,000	17,204,000
35 Areas of Work	2,015,032	2,134,500	1,855,000	1,855,000	-13.1%	2,046,000	3,087,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	51,418,177	55,837,021	60,622,793	60,622,793	8.6%	67,488,291	70,609,657

Notes:

The EEA has non-differentiated appropriations, so the budget appropriations for commitments and payments are identical and provided in a single table.

Developments in expenditure:

The main drivers of the development in the EEA's budgeted expenditure from 2021 to 2025 are:

Firstly, the additional resources allocated to the EEA via finance fiches, to deliver new tasks defined by the Commission in several legislative acts. Overviews of the legislative acts and associated resources are provided in Tables 13 and 14 in Section 3.3 *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2022-2025*, and descriptions of the new tasks are provided in Section 2.2.2 *Foreseen new tasks in 2023-2025*.

Secondly, the impacts of inflationary increases: the Commission's guidance for budget development given for MFF 2021-27 had defined a 2% inflationary increase per year for the EEA's EU subvention to give "stability in real terms". However, this is not sufficient in the current inflationary environment. Therefore, for 2023 the EEA has planned to offset the inflationary increases in its Title 1 and 2 budgets by reducing certain operational expenditure in its Title 3 budget. A similar pattern is expected in 2024 and 2025.

- Some of the main expenditure developments are as follows:
- Chapter 11: The overall salary increase from 2022 to 2023 is 7.3%; this comprises an interim rappel of 2.4% in June 2022, and a year-end rappel with a baseline increase of 2% plus a 2.5% residual carried forward from 2020. This full year rappel of 6.9% is complemented by a slight increase in the Copenhagen coefficient, from 134.2% at the end of 2022 to 134.7%, hence resulting in an overall salary increase of 7.3%. The salary budgets for 2024 and 2025 are calculated using 3% and 2% inflationary increases respectively; this is based on available forecasts, though these are probably on the low side.
- The relatively high budgets for recruitment expenditure (Ch. 12) is mainly the cost of installation allowances for the additional staff who are and will be recruited to deliver the EEA's new tasks.
- As part of the EEA's plan to achieve climate neutrality, it is aiming to halve travel emissions from pre-Covid levels. This is reflected in its budgets for EEA staff travelling on mission (Ch. 13), the Management Board and Scientific Committee (Ch. 25) and Eionet network and expert meetings (part of Ch. 33).
- The EEA's premises are currently being refurbished to open-plan activity based working space, whilst also providing upgraded and increased facilities for virtual meetings. This facilitates face-to-face collaboration, adjusts to the increased teleworking and virtual collaboration post-Covid, provides greater flexibility, and has allowed additional staff to be accommodated without an increase in office space. The budget for the refurbishments is reflected in Ch. 21 and 22.

- The largest component of Ch. 33 is the budget for the EEA's European Topic Centres (ETCs), which will be reduced from EUR 9.0M in 2022 to EUR 8.8M in 2023; this reduction is the consequence of needing to reduce operational expenditure in the face of the inflationary pressures on Title 1 & 2 mentioned above. The other components of Ch. 33 are the IT and communications budgets, which have also been squeezed, but to a lesser extent.
- Ch. 35 comprises the EEA's direct contracting in its thematic Areas of Work; the reduction in this budget from 2022 to 2023 again reflects the squeeze on operational budgets from inflationary pressures.

Table A3: Budget outturn and cancellation of appropriations 2018-2020

Budget outturn	2020	2019	2018	2017
Reserve from the previous years' surplus (+)	0	0	0	0
Revenue actually received (+)	61 169 120	52 316 361	66 085 813	68 000 073
Payments made (-)	-64 118 346	-55 223 813	-57 008 158	-52 054 488
Carryover of appropriations (-)	-27 834 239	-33 337 392	-40 372 493	-35 823 836
Cancellation of appropriations carried over (+)	203 867	226 600	242 025	443 566
Adjustment for carryover of assigned revenue appropriation from previous year (+)	30 805 060	36 251 401	31 313 807	19 910 772
Exchange rate differences (+/-)	9 699	-14 898	-7 776	-2 480
TOTAL	235 161	218 261	253 218	473 607

Annex 4 Human resources quantitative

Table A4: Staff population and its evolution: overview of all categories of staff 2020-2024

A. Statutory staff and seconded national experts

Human Resources	2021			2022	2023	2024	2025
	Authorised Budget	Actually filled 31/12/2021	Occupancy rate (%)	Authorised Budget	Envisaged	Envisaged	Envisaged
Administrators (AD)	79	79	100.0%	90	104	114	114
Assistants (AST)	61	60	98.4%	60	61	61	61
Assistants/Secretaries (AST/SC)	0	0		0	0	0	0
ESTABLISHMENT PLAN POSTS	140	139	99.3%	150	165	175	175
Contract Agents (CA)	80	79	98.8%	86	93	98	98
Seconded National Experts (SNE)	20	18	90.0%	20	20	20	20
TOTAL STAFF	240	236	98.3%	256	278	293	293

Notes:

Please refer to Section 3.3 *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2022-2025*, where variance analyses and explanations have been provided for the development in the EEA's staffing plans.

B. Additional external staff expected to be financed from grant, contribution or service level agreements

Contract Agents (CA) per Agreement	Partner DG	2022 Authorised	2023 Envisaged	2024 Envisaged	2025 Envisaged
HBM4EU	RTD	2			
PARC	RTD		2	2	2
Copernicus Contribution Agreement	DEFIS	12	12	12	12
IPA 2020	NEAR	1			
IPA III - Green Agenda & Energy Community	NEAR		5	7	7
NDICI - Governance of the Energy Community	NEAR				
EuroGEO	RTD	2	2		
Climate & Health Observatory	SANTE	1	1	1	1
Regional & Urban Env Indicators	REGIO	2	2	2	
LULUCF	CLIMA	0	0		
Mission on Adaption to Climate Change	CLIMA	3	4	4	4
European Climate Risk Assessment	CLIMA	2	2	2	
EEA - Eurostat Cooperation	ESTAT		3	3	3
International Resource Panel	UNEP	1			
TOTAL		26	33	33	29

Notes:

The table lists the posts for the agreements that are currently in force. Details of the agreements in force and future anticipated agreements are provided in Annex 11 *Plan for grant, contribution and service-level agreements*.

The durations of the employment contracts of some of the contract agents extend beyond the durations of the grant, contribution and service level agreements financing them. Once the agreements end, the financing switches to the core budget.

DG, Directorate-General; **DG CLIMA**, DG for Climate Action; **DG DEFIS**, DG for Defence Industry and Space; **DG NEAR**, DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations; **DG REGIO**, DG for Regional and Urban Policy; **DG RTD**, DG for Research and Innovation; **DG SANTE**, DG for Health and Food Safety; **UNEP**, United Nations Environment Programme; **HBM4EU**, Human Biomonitoring for Europe; **PARC**, Partnership for the Assessment of the Risks of Chemicals; **IPA**, Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance; **LULUCF**, Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.

C. Other human resources (intra muros)

Structural Service Providers	FTEs actually in place as of 31/12/2021
Security	2
Canteen	5
Cleaning	5
IT	4

Interim Workers	Total FTEs in year 2021
Interimaires	2.8
Blue Book trainees	6

Table A5: Multiannual staff policy plan 2021-2025

Function group and grade	2021				2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Amended Budget		Actually filled as of 31/12/2021		Original Budget		Envisaged		Envisaged		Envisaged	
	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts	Permanent posts	Temporary posts
AD 16												
AD 15		1		1		1		1		1		1
AD 14		2				2		2		3		3
AD 13	1	6		2	1	6	1	5	1	5	1	6
AD 12		16	1	5		16		10		12		14
AD 11		10		9		10		13		14		14
AD 10		11		17		11		14		14		14
AD 9		9		8		9		10		10		11
AD 8		5		6		6		10		8		10
AD 7		7		15		11		15		21		20
AD 6		11		15		17		23		25		20
AD 5												
AD TOTAL	1	78	1	78	1	89	1	103	1	113	1	113
AST 11		2				2		1		1		1
AST 10	1	5	1	3	1	5	1	4	1	4	1	4
AST 9	2	11		4	2	11	2	8	2	8	2	9
AST 8		11	1	7		11		10		10		12
AST 7		11		8		11		10		11		11
AST 6		10		10		10		10		11		11
AST 5		8		9		7		9		9		7
AST 4				12				5		4		3
AST 3				4				1				
AST 2				1								
AST 1												
AST TOTAL	3	58	2	58	3	57	3	58	3	58	3	58
AST/SC 6												
AST/SC 5												
AST/SC 4												
AST/SC 3												
AST/SC 2												
AST/SC 1												
AST/SC TOTAL												
TOTAL	4	136	3	136	4	146	4	161	4	171	4	171
GRAND TOTAL	140		139		150		165		175		175	

Contract Agents	2021 Authorised	Recruited as of 31/12/21	2022 Authorised	2023 Envisaged	2024 Envisaged	2025 Envisaged
Function Group IV	59	60	64	70	75	75
Function Group III	11	11	11	12	12	12
Function Group II	10	8	11	11	11	11
Function Group I						
TOTAL	80	79	86	93	98	98

Seconded National Experts	2021 Authorised	Recruited as of 31/12/21	2022 Authorised	2023 Envisaged	2024 Envisaged	2025 Envisaged
TOTAL	20	18	20	20	20	20

Notes:

AD, administrator; AST, assistant; SC, secretary.



Table A6: Recruitment forecasts for 2023, following retirement/mobility or new requested posts

Job title in the Agency	Type of contract (Official, TA or CA)		TA/Official		CA
			Function group/grade of recruitment internal (Brackets) and external (single grade) foreseen for publication*		Recruitment Function Group (I, II, III and IV)
	Due to foreseen retirement/mobility	New posts requested due to additional tasks	Internal (brackets)	External (brackets)	
Head of Programme			AD9-AD12	AD11	
Head of Group	1	1	AD7-AD12	AD7	
TA Expert	3	13	AD6-AD8	AD6-AD8	
CA Expert	4	18			GFIV
TA Assistant	5	1	AST4-AST7	AST4	
CA Assistant		1			GFIII
Officer	2				GFIII



Annex 5 Human resources qualitative

Recruitment policy

The EEA recruitment policies for temporary and contract agents are laid down in the respective implementing rules adopted by the EEA. Officials are recruited via open competition and transfer within the institution and/or transfer from other institutions. The policy for recruitment of temporary agents employed under Art. 2(f) (TA2f) has been adopted according to the new agency model implementing rules on the engagement and use of TA2f as agreed between the European Commission and the EU agencies and as adopted by the Commission. Furthermore, the policy for recruitment of contract agents employed under Art. 3(a) has been adopted following the new agency model implementing rules on the general provisions for implementing Art. 79(2) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union (CEOS), governing the conditions of employment of contract staff employed under the terms of Art. 3(a) thereof, also as agreed between the European Commission and the EU agencies and as adopted by the Commission.

The selection procedure for TA2f is laid down in the Management Board Decision on the engagement and use of temporary agents (written procedure 007/EEA/MB-WP-HR/2015 signed on 25 August 2015) further to the new agency model implementing rules adopted by the Commission(C(2015) 1509) following Art. 110(2) of the Staff Regulations. The selection procedure for contract agents is laid down in the Management Board Decision on the engagement and use of contract staff (written procedure MB/WP/2020/01 signed on 31 January 2020) further to the new agency model implementing rules adopted by the Commission(C(2019) 3016) following Art. 110(2) of the Staff Regulations.

Both documents include the following main steps:

- publication of the vacancy notice on the EEA website, EU Agency Network's job portal and on the European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) website listing formal requirements, eligibility and selection criteria, and indicating type and duration of contract and recruitment grade;
- setting up of a Selection Committee representing the recruiting programme, the administration and the Staff Committee; an external member may be invited if required by the nature of the post;
- pre-selection of candidates on the basis of CVs and motivation letter, permitting the evaluation of formal requirements, eligibility and selection criteria;
- written tests of selected candidates covering the specific competences in the area of expertise, general aptitudes and language abilities; exceptions to this practice are duly motivated;
- interviews of selected candidates by the Selection Committee on the basis of pre-defined questions;
- list of successful candidates submitted by the Selection Committee to the Appointing Authority;
- recruitment interviews by the Appointing Authority and/or the head of the recruiting programme;
- reserve list of suitable candidates established by the Appointing Authority;
- appointment decision taken by the Appointing Authority.

Long-term temporary agents, who take up posts with a long-term perspective, are recruited with the abovementioned implementing rules and in general at the levels indicated below in order to permit long-term career development:



- AST 1-4 for function group AST;
- AD 5-8 for function group AD.

With regard to the function group AST/SC, it has not been possible so far to set aside posts for this new category of staff, because the establishment plan restrictions have made it necessary to either cut any posts becoming vacant or to deploy them to other functions. AST/SC types of tasks have consequently been undertaken by contract agents instead.

Recruitment at grades AD 9-11, and in exceptional cases at grade AD 12 for management posts, are to remain within the limits of 20% of recruitments per year (averaged over 5 years) for long-term employment within the EEA.

The EEA offers stimulating and challenging job opportunities in a diverse and multicultural working environment. The EEA aims to be a modern, future-oriented Agency, with a highly competent workforce. As an employer, the EEA is committed to the EU's regulatory framework and does not discriminate on any grounds such as sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation.

EEA staff are given equal opportunities to demonstrate their abilities throughout their careers, including contract renewals.

Contract renewals are an important milestone for both the EEA and its employees to revisit their mutual relationship and are based on the following guiding principles:

- The needs of the service and budgetary availabilities. The EEA is committed to contributing to a better society for European citizens, and it places the needs of the service at the centre of employment decisions.
- Performance. The EEA's most valuable asset is its staff, and EEA employees are expected to perform to a high standard. Employees are encouraged and supported to evolve and develop so that their skills adapt to the changing needs of the service we provide to European citizens.

Talent and commitment is valued, and the EEA aims to retain it. The EEA welcomes the opportunity granted by the EU regulations to extend contracts for an indefinite period.

Officials/temporary agents on long-term employment

The EEA requires technically qualified staff with specialist knowledge and experience for most of its activities. This is also valid for staff working in administration, accounting, audit and informatics, etc., since, in many cases, there will be only one member of staff to cover each specific activity.

While the EEA had selected a staffing model focused on temporary agents on potentially long-term employment in order to lead, manage and deliver core activities, it became increasingly challenging to have all core activities covered by temporary agents, given the reductions in staff numbers imposed. The EEA has a small number of permanent posts in order to provide scope for administrative and/or technical experts to move between the EEA and other Community institutions.

The EEA criteria for identifying a post as being of long-term duration continue to be the following:

- for posts covering tasks of a permanent nature as identified in the strategy based on the EEA Founding Regulation;
- to safeguard continuous expertise in specific areas.

Long-term temporary agents are offered a contract under Art. 2(f) of CEOS, for a period of 4 years, renewable for another time-limited period not exceeding 4 years. Second prolongations are of an indefinite duration. All renewals of contract are subject to a thorough examination as described above (needs of the service, budgetary availabilities and performance of the staff member).



Temporary agents on short term employment

The Executive Director is appointed by the Management Board for a period of 5 years, renewable once, under Art. 2(a) of CEOS.

Following the new rules on unpaid leave for TA2f introduced with the 2014 reform of CEOS, contracts for TA2f might be offered for short-term and limited-term employment in order to replace TA2f on unpaid leave (Art. 52(3) CEOS).

Contract agents on long-term employment

Contract agents have become an increasingly important part of the EEA staff and complement the officials and temporary agents, being technically qualified staff with specialist knowledge and experience for most of EEA's activities, also in light of the challenges imposed by the reductions in staff numbers. This is also valid for staff working in administration, accounting, audit and informatics, etc., since, in many cases, there will be only one member of staff to cover each specific activity.

As for TA2f, the EEA criteria for identifying a contract agent post as being of long-term duration continue to be the following:

- for posts covering tasks of a permanent nature as identified in the strategy based on the EEA Founding Regulation;
- to safeguard continuous expertise in specific areas.

Long-term contract agents are offered a contract under Art. 3(a) of CEOS, for a period of 4 years, renewable for another time-limited period not exceeding 4 years. Second prolongations are of an indefinite duration. All renewals of contract are subject to a thorough examination as described above (needs of the service, budgetary availabilities and performance of the staff member).

Contract agents on short-term employment

In accordance with the implementing rules on the general provisions for implementing Art. 79(2) of CEOS, governing the conditions of employment of contract staff employed under the terms of Art. 3(a) thereof, contract agents may be offered a contract under Art. 3(a) of CEOS of a different duration, in the interest of the service, or a contract with a limited perspective in time. Such contracts are justified in particular for projects of limited duration, for cases where the Agency needs to avail itself of up-to-date knowledge in a specific area (and accordingly, to renew staff) or to replace absent staff.

The criteria used to identify contract agents for short-term employment are the following:

- heavy workload anticipated in a certain area for a substantial, but not indefinite, time period;
- to work with specific, time-limited projects;
- new expertise in an exploratory capacity (where the long-term aspect of the post is unclear and needs further assessment);
- to fill gaps during long-term absences.

All possible renewals of contracts are subject to a thorough assessment as described above (needs of the service, budgetary availabilities and performance of the staff member).

Seconded national experts

Seconded national experts assist the EEA in carrying out the duties assigned to them under the work programme or description of duties drawn up when they apply for the secondment. They continue to be an invaluable part of the staffing structure, and their support is pivotal for cooperation with the Europe-wide network Eionet as defined and established in the Founding



Regulation of the EEA, as a means of enabling further knowledge sharing and building between the EEA and its member countries.

The secondments of national experts to the EEA are governed by Commission Decision of 12.11.2008 laying down rules on the secondment to the Commission of national experts and national experts in professional training (C(2008) 6866), applied by analogy at the EEA. Secondments are concluded for an initial period of 2 years and can be renewed for up to a total of 4 years. While an exceptional further extension could be possible, under duly justified circumstances, with up to a total maximum of 6 years, the Agency no longer plans to offer this possibility as of 2021 to avoid seconded national experts being separated from their employment in their home countries for too long.

Structural service providers

The EEA makes use of structural service providers to a certain extent, typically in the areas of IT support and general support (e.g. interimaire). Service providers are under contract to private companies that have been selected via a tendering procedure (usually an open call for tender). The framework contracts are normally of 4 years' duration.

Blue Book trainees

In 2017, the EEA entered into a service level agreement (SLA) with the Traineeship Office (TO) of the European Commission to make use of the possibility to participate in the Blue Book traineeship scheme of the European Commission. The current SLA envisages up to eight Blue Book trainees per term (starting in March and October of a given year) to be placed in the EEA in Copenhagen for the duration of the traineeship, which is a period of 5 months. The TO involves the EEA in the selection procedure for eligible candidates and the establishment of the short-listed candidates in the Blue Book. Based on the established Blue Book, the EEA has the opportunity to make up to eight placement offers through the TO for short-listed candidates. Blue Book trainees are a great opportunity to bring into the EEA environment young and motivated professionals to support EEA experts with their newly acquired knowledge, and they have the possibility to gain an insight into the EU system and, in particular, the EEA's work and mission (not included in Table A7)

Appraisal of performance and reclassification/promotions

Appraisal of performance

The EEA has an annual Career Development Cycle (CDC) scheme in place for staff since 2004. An individual development plan is drawn up in December for the following year laying down the objectives and performance indicators of the staff member in relation to the work programme. The CDC includes also the formalisation of the identification of individual learning and development needs. An appraisal is done in January on the performance in the previous year on the basis of the performance indicators set in the yearly development plan. New implementing rules on appraisals were adopted by Management Board decision of 30 October 2015 according to the agency model rules agreed between the European Commission and the EU agencies, in accordance with the established procedure under Art. 110 of the Staff Regulations.

Table A7: Reclassification of temporary staff/promotion of officials

New implementing rules on the promotion of officials and reclassification of temporary agents were adopted in April 2016 according to the agency model implementing rules agreed between the European Commission and the EU agencies, in accordance with the established procedure under Art. 110 of the Staff Regulations. These rules replace the former promotion/reclassification rules in place at the Agency. An annual promotion/reclassification



exercise for officials and temporary agents has therefore been carried out since 2016 following the new rules.

Average seniority in the grade among reclassified staff							
Grade	Year N-4	Year N-3	Year N-2	Year N-1	Year N	Actual average over 5 years	Average over 5 years (according to Decision C(2015) 9560)
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022		
AD 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.8
AD 6	0	2	1	1	1	3.1	2.8
AD 7	3	1	2	1	1	4.0	2.8
AD 8	2	1	2	2	3	3.8	3
AD 9	0	2	3	3	1	4.9	4
AD 10	0	0	1	0	1	7.5	4
AD 11	0	1	0	0	0	7.5	4
AD 12	0	1	1	1	1	9.5	6.7
AD 13	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.7
AST 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
AST 2	1	0	0	0	0	2.75	3
AST 3	0	3	2	3	0	3.5	3
AST 4	1	1	3	1	4	4.0	3
AST 5	1	2	3	1	3	5.2	4
AST 6	0	2	2	0	0	7.6	4
AST 7	1	0	1	1	1	7.2	4
AST 8	2	1	0	0	2	7.0	4
AST 9	0	0	2	0	0	8	N/A
AST 10 (senior assistant)	0	0	0	0	0	0	5

AST/SC 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
AST/SC 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
AST/SC 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5.9
AST/SC 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.7
AST/SC 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	8.3

A8: Reclassification of contract staff

New implementing rules on the reclassification of contract agents were adopted in April 2016 according to the agency model implementing rules agreed between the European Commission and the EU agencies. An annual reclassification exercise for contract agents has therefore been carried out since 2016 following the new rules.

Reclassification of contract staff



Function group	Grade	Staff in activity at 01.01.Year N-2 (2020)	Staff reclassified in year N-1 (2021)	Average no of years in grade of reclassified staff members	Average no of years in grade according to Decision C(2015) 9561
CA IV	17	0	0	-	Between 6 and 10
	16	3	1	3.4	Between 5 and 7
	15	0	0	0	Between 4 and 6
	14	6	5	3.3	Between 3 and 5
	13	1	0	3.5	Between 3 and 5
CA III	11	0	0	0	Between 6 and 10
	10	0	1	3.0	Between 5 and 7
	9	0	2	4.0	Between 4 and 6
	8	0	1	3.5	Between 3 and 5
CA II	6	0	2	3.0	Between 6 and 10
	5	0	3	3.4	Between 5 and 7
	4	0	0	0	Between 3 and 5
CA I	2	0	0	0	Between 6 and 10
	1	0	0	0	Between 3 and 5

Implementing rules foreseen for adoption year N+1

The following implementing rules are foreseen for adoption in 2023:

- Decision on working time and hybrid working (awaiting agency model);
- Model decision on administrative enquires and disciplinary proceedings;
- Decision on absences as a result of sickness or accident;
- Decision on employment of temporary agents TA2(a) (b) (d);
- Decision on fight against sexual and psychological harassment.

Gender balance

Table A9: Data on gender balance as at 31/12/2021

		Official		Temporary		Contract		Grand total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Female	Administrator level	1	33.3	27	20.4	36	45.5	64	30
	Assistant level (AST and AST/SC)	2	66.7	37	28	15	19	54	25.2
	Total	3	100	64	48.4	51	64.6	118	55.1
Male	Administrator level	0	0	47	35.6	24	30.4	71	33.2
	Assistant level (AST and AST/SC)	0	0	21	16	4	5.1	25	11.7
	Total	0	0	68	51,6	28	35.4	96	44.9
Grand total		3	100	132	100.00	79	100.00	214	100.00



Table A10: Data on gender evolution over 5 years in middle and senior management (2022)

	N-5 (2017)		N-1 (2021)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Female managers	1	12.5	3	37.5
Male managers	7	87.5	5	62.5

Geographical balance

Table A11: Data on the nationality of EEA staff as at 31/12/2021

Nationality	AD+CA function group IV		AST, AST/SC+CA function groups I+II+III		Total	
	Number	% (category)	Number	% (category)	Number	% (total staff)
Austria	2	1.48	0	0.00	2	0.93
Belgium	7	5.19	4	5.06	11	5.14
Bulgaria	0	0.00	1	1.27	1	0.47
Croatia	2	1.48	0	0.00	2	0.93
Cyprus	1	0.74	0	0.00	1	0.47
Denmark	21	15.56	28	35.44	49	22.90
Estonia	1	0.74	0	0.00	1	0.47
Finland	2	1.48	2	2.53	4	1.87
France	12	8.89	3	3.80	15	7.01
Germany	17	12.59	3	3.80	20	9.35
Greece	4	2.96	1	1.27	5	2.34
Hungary	2	1.48	4	5.06	6	2.80
Ireland	5	3.70	2	2.53	7	3.27
Italy	5	3.70	10	12.66	15	7.01
Latvia	0	0.00	1	1.27	1	0.47
Lithuania	3	2.22	1	1.27	4	1.87
Luxembourg	1	0.74	0	0.00	1	0.47
Malta	0	0.00	2	2.53	2	0.93
Poland	7	5.19	1	1.27	8	3.74
Portugal	9	6.67	1	1.27	10	4.67
Romania	3	2.22	1	1.27	4	1.87
Slovakia	2	1.48	2	2.53	4	1.87
Slovenia	4	2.96	0	0.00	4	1.87
Spain	12	8.89	6	7.59	18	8.41
Sweden	2	1.48	4	5.06	6	2.80
Switzerland	0	0.00	1	1.27	1	0.47
The Netherlands	4	2.96	1	1.27	5	2.34
Türkiye	3	2.22	0	0.00	3	1.40
United Kingdom	4	2.96	0	0.00	4	1.87

Table A12: Evolution over 5 years of the most represented nationality in the Agency



Most represented nationality	N-5 (2017)		N-1 (2021)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Denmark	44	25.14	49	22.9

Schooling

Agreement in place with the European School of:	Copenhagen (ESCPH)
Contribution agreement signed with the Commission type I	No
Contribution agreement signed with the Commission type II	Yes
No of service contracts in place with international schools	None
Description of any other solutions or actions in place	None

The European school is now fully opened as the last element, being the accreditation of the upper secondary, has now been successfully granted. The first European Bacculaureate students are expected to graduate in June 2023. The Management of the European School did meet with the relevant authorities of the Danish Government and it appears that the re-evaluation of the marking of the European Bacculaureate for entrance to Danish Universities was re-evaluated in a more favourable manner, though still not ideal.

The number of students continues to grow with further increases due to the expansion of the Agency where the school has certainly been of assistance in attracting a wider range of applicants.

Following the lifting of all covid restrictions in Denmark, it is now an aim going forward to establish closer links with the school and perhaps host school visits at the Agency but also to encourage environmental exchange with the students at the school – in particular with the upper secondary students who may not be fully aware of the presence of the Agency. This will be further developed with the collaboration of the school.



Annex 6 Environmental management

Context of the Agency and its environmental management strategy

Given the EEA's mission and legal mandate, the Agency recognises in its [environment policy^{\(a\)}](#) that it has a special responsibility to act as a role model when it comes to managing its own environmental performance.

The EEA's vision is to be a climate-neutral and resource-efficient organisation.

To minimise its environmental impacts and continually improve its performance, the Agency has in place an environmental management system, which complies with the Eco-management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

Overview of the Agency's environmental management system

The EEA uses an environmental management system, which was registered under **EMAS** in 2005. Since 2009, the EEA has published an [annual environmental statement on its website^{\(a\)}](#). EMAS is part of the EEA's quality management system.

Environmental management, procedures, responsibilities and annual activities are documented in the *EEA environmental management handbook* (EEA internal document).

Environmental aspects, indicators and targets

EEA activities have both direct and indirect impacts on the environment. Under EMAS, the EEA routinely monitors the following environmental aspects:

- use of electricity (100% renewable energy; change 2020-2021: -40.5%);
- energy for heating (district heating; change 2020-2021: +15.8%);
- water consumption (change 2020-2021: +1.1%);
- paper consumption (number of pages in printed reports; change 2020-2021: -63.5%);
- generation of waste (change 2020-2021: +23.6%);
- CO₂ emissions from business travel (change 2020-2021: -84.4%).

The [EEA's environmental statement report 2021^{\(a\)}](#) outlines details on objectives, monitoring and progress. It includes a summary table outlining the sources of the impact, action plans, performance indicators, the performance in 2021 and the percentage change compared with data for the previous 5 years for all environmental aspects listed above. The EEA's environmental performance in 2021 was still heavily influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in considerably lower environmental impacts compared with the targets.

Actions to improve and communicate environmental performance

Detailed action plans to improve and communicate the organisation's environmental performance are included in the [EEA's environmental statement report 2021^{\(a\)}](#).

Following the decision to become a **climate-neutral organisation** in November 2020, the EEA assessed its carbon footprint in the course of 2021 and developed climate neutrality pathways to identify an array of feasible actions to help deliver climate neutrality by 2030. In January 2022, the Executive Director endorsed a high-ambition-level pathway, which assumes that more than 50% of the EEA's greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced by 2030 compared with



2019 levels. Specific measures to achieve cuts in greenhouse gas emissions are under consideration and will be prioritised and approved on an annual basis as part of the EEA's environmental management activities.

Offsetting of emissions

Emissions related to business travel have been reported since 2006 and a carbon-offsetting scheme was introduced. The carbon-offsetting scheme is managed by the EEA's travel agent, BCD Travel, and the offsets are used to support Gold Standard energy efficiency projects in Africa.

Note: ^(a) <https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/emas>



Annex 7 Buildings

Information to be provided per building	Name, location and type of building	Other comments
Location	Kongens Nytorv 6 (KN6) Kongens Nytorv 8 (KN8)	Down-town (centrally located) late 19th century buildings — previously hosting banks and headquarters of Danish companies. The EEA is the only tenant in KN6 while renting only a part of KN8.
Total surface area (in square metres)	KN6 7,202m ² ; KN8 2,740m ²	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> of which office space 	KN6 5,990m ² ; KN8 2,460m ²	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> of which non-office space 	KN6 1,212m ² ; KN8 280m ²	
Annual rent (in EUR)	KN6: approx. EUR2,000,000 KN8: approx. EUR700,000 Total EUR2,700,000	Including rent, operational costs and deposit
Type and duration of rental contract	Commercial lease agreement valid until one of the parties renounces it through either a 12-month or 18-month written notice	Although the ownership of the building KN6 changed at the beginning of 2017, it did not entail any modification to the existing lease agreement, except an extension by 6 months of the notice period for termination.
Host country grant or support	None	
Present value of the building	Not applicable	
Outlook		The EEA is approximately half-way through converting the individual office space in KN6 to open activity-based working space. This facilitates face-to-face collaboration, adjusts to the increased teleworking and virtual collaboration post-Covid, provides greater flexibility, and has allowed additional staff to be accommodated without an increase in office space. Once the remaining floors in KN6 have been converted to open activity-based working space, floors currently rented in KN8 may be able to be released, but this will depend on projections for EEA staff numbers. Given the required notice periods, no changes in office rental will be made in 2022.



Annex 8 Privileges and immunities

Agency privileges	Privileges granted to staff	
	Protocol of privileges and immunities/diplomatic status	Education/day care
The Agency has diplomatic status	Since 1 April 2017, Agency staff have the option to be registered either with Danish Protocol or with a full CPR in the Danish system. Senior management have full diplomatic status	Agency statutory staff receive education allowances in line with the Staff Regulations
The Agency has exemption from VAT. The Agency pays the VAT on Danish invoices then claims it back from the Danish Protocol	Externally recruited Agency staff can buy one car free of VAT and registration tax within a period of 1 year from the date of taking up duties	No specific privileges. Agency staff have access to day-care facilities within Denmark, but this can be problematic for those staff who wish to or need to register via the Protocol Department rather than via the normal immigration services (thus obtaining a full CPR number)



Annex 9 Evaluations

Between 2016 and 2018 the European Commission carried out an evaluation of the EEA and of its Eionet network, including the Agency's founding regulation. The evaluation covers the period mid-2012 until the end of 2016 and considers the previous evaluations of the Agency (such as that from April 2013). The evaluation follows the Better Regulation guidelines and thus includes analysis of five main themes: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and European added value.

The overall conclusion of the evaluation is that the EEA and Eionet fulfil the main objectives set by their founding regulation. The evaluation assessed that the EEA and Eionet continue to be relevant and provide European added value by implementing the multiannual work programmes in a largely effective, efficient and coherent way.

The evaluation recognised that Eionet is a unique network of environment and climate expertise, which provides essential expertise in many areas and contributes to the efficiency of the EEA's work. There was margin for improvement in the information on Eionet activities, the clarification of the role and better visibility of the added value of the various Eionet components and how these interact with the EEA and the Commission services, notably in the area of reporting.

The EEA and Eionet were seen as essential data providers both for the Commission and also for member countries. Although data collection is seen as working efficiently in all climate and many environmental fields, these areas did not always fully benefit from new technologies, such as Copernicus. The evaluation identified that additional requests came from the Commission and demonstrate recognition that the EEA and its network provide unique value for money.

The evaluation further concluded that the EEA has proven to be reliable in providing the necessary information to support EU policymaking and had adapted very well to new EU policy developments. The evaluation also noted that these accomplishments had been achieved against a backdrop of decreasing staff resources and increasing demand from the Commission to support new legislation on both the environment and climate sides, as well as providing support for Copernicus.

The conclusions of the evaluation, and the subsequent recommendations of the Management Board, are available on the EEA website⁽⁸⁾. Follow-up on the recommendations is being addressed by the EEA in its ongoing planning and also in the implementation of the EEA-Eionet strategy covering the period 2021-2030.

⁽⁸⁾ https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/documents#c4=public%20administrative%20document&b_start=0&c6=Eionet%20evaluation



Annex 10 Strategy for the organisational management and internal control systems

The EEA is organised as per the organisational chart (Annex 1) with nine programmes designed to deliver the activities detailed in Section 3 of this document. The resources, both human and financial, are attributed to each programme according to the activities carried out.

The EEA governance bodies — the Management Board and Bureau — adopt all statutory documents, as set out in the applicable rules and regulations, including those related to the internal control system.

For effective internal control, the EEA Management Board and Bureau adopted the EEA Internal Control Framework at its 80th meeting in December 2017. This framework derives from the Internal Control Framework laid down by the Commission for its own departments.

The five components of EEA Internal Control Framework are as follows

Control environment. Under this umbrella, EEA management has defined how the organisation ensures a common approach regarding responsibility, accountability, integrity and competences of staff.

In particular, the EEA has put measures in place to prevent cases of conflict of interest. The EEA's degree of exposure to the risk of conflict of interest has been assessed in the policy for the management and prevention of conflict of interest and reputational risk, and some of the existing mitigating measures to respond to the risk listed in the policy are the following:

- In every staff annual appraisal, potential conflicts of interest are evaluated and the confirmation of conflict of interest/no conflict of interest is documented.
- The appointed members of all selection committees are required to declare any potential conflict of interest situation they may have with any of the applicants prior to commencing performance of their tasks.
- All contracts and grant agreements signed between the EEA and contractors include clauses on confidentiality and avoidance, as well as reporting, of potential conflicts of interest. With regard to intra-muros consultants and interim staff in particular, when taking up duties, they shall sign a form on their rights and obligations, whereby they acknowledge that they shall refrain from any behaviour or action that may impair their independence and reflect adversely on their position, the work or the image of the EEA. This form is then countersigned by the responsible line manager.
- With regard to staff leaving the service, if they intend to engage in an occupational activity, whether gainful or not, within 2 years of leaving the service, they shall inform the EEA about this activity. If this activity is related to the work carried out by them during the last 3 years of service and could lead to a conflict with the legitimate interests of the EEA, the EEA may, having regard to the interests of the service, either



forbid the staff member from undertaking it or give its approval subject to any conditions it thinks fit.

Risk management. EEA management identifies risks to the achievement of its objectives across the organisation after setting the EEA mission, objectives per activities, financial objectives, reporting and monitoring. Risk identification and assessment are done every quarter at project level and annually at Agency level.

The risk of fraud is considered for each of these assessments. However, it is formally assessed every 3 years when the anti-fraud strategy is reviewed or when relevant changes occur in the EEA organisation within the 3 years. The EEA Management Board adopted the first anti-fraud strategy and action plan in November 2014 and adopted the regular updates thereafter.

Control activities. Several control procedures have been developed to mitigate the risks identified in the risk management exercises and to mitigate the risks inherent to EEA activities. Among these procedures, the EEA management has defined user rights so that segregation of duties is respected both in the approval processes and in IT systems. The EEA has organised IT governance in place. A business continuity plan has been developed and regularly updated since 2011, which allowed a high degree of responsiveness from EEA staff and management to the COVID-19 crisis in 2020 and 2021.

Information and communication. This component of the EEA internal control system relates to both internal and external measures put in place. Regular staff meetings are conducted by the EEA Executive Director and cascade briefings on the Senior Management Team meetings are available to all staff. In the case of concerns about fraud or serious wrongdoing, EEA staff can access procedures to help them raise their concerns in an adequate way to the appropriate functions. These functions keep their information on procedures updated, with their participation in targeted networks on internal control.

For external communication, specific communication strategies are developed to ensure that the messages are relevant to the audience being targeted and are cost-effective. Regular contacts take place between programme COM and the European Commission to align their messages about the environment or common projects.

Monitoring activities. EEA management continuously monitors the performance of the internal control system with resource hearings attended by competent staff. They assess the efficiency and effectiveness of controls, identify potential weaknesses and propose remedial actions.

Among the auditors looking at the EEA, the internal audit capability contributes to the functioning of an effective and efficient internal control system by the audits performed, the advice provided and the liaison with the European Court of Auditors and the Internal Audit Service of the European Commission.

Annex 11 Plan for grant, contribution and service level agreements

Agreements in force are highlighted in bold	General Information					Financial and HR Information				
	Start Date	Total Amount (EUR)	Duration (months)	Counterpart	Short Description		2022	2023	2024	2025
Grant Agreements										
HBM4EU	Jan 2017	2,000,000	66	DG RTD	Human biomonitoring initiative in a consortium led by the German Environment Agency under Horizon 2020	Amount (EUR)	357,000			
						No. of CAs	2			
						No. of SNEs				
PARC	May 2022	2,890,000	84	DG RTD	Continuation of human biomonitoring after the expiry of the HBM4EU agreement	Amount (EUR)	2,890,000			
						No. of CAs	2	2	2	2
						No. of SNEs				
Contribution Agreements										
Copernicus Delegation Agreement	Dec 2014	87,000,000	97	DG DEFIS	Delivery of land services and insitu coordination under the Copernicus Programme	Amount (EUR)				
						No. of CAs				
						No. of SNEs				
Copernicus Contribution Agreement	Nov 2021	135,000,000	86	DG DEFIS	Continuation of Copernicus activities, replacing the current agreement	Amount (EUR)	20,736,000	35,524,460	21,969,290	16,270,539
						No. of CAs	12	12	12	12
						No. of SNEs				
IPA 2020	Feb 2020	1,275,000	30	DG NEAR	Cooperation with Western Balkan countries under the Instrument for Pre-Accession	Amount (EUR)				
						No. of CAs	1			
						No. of SNEs				
IPA III - Green Agenda & Energy Community	Jan 2023	3,912,000	36	DG NEAR	Continuation of Green Agenda tasks from IPA 2020 agreement and 2/3 of Energy Community budget	Amount (EUR)	3,912,000			
						No. of CAs		5	5	5
						No. of SNEs				
NDICI - Governance of the Energy Community	Jan 2023	1,000,000	36	DG NEAR	1/3 of budget supporting the implementation of the Governance Regulation in the Energy Community.	Amount (EUR)	1,000,000			
						No. of CAs		2	2	2
						No. of SNEs				
Service Level Agreements										
EuroGEO	Dec 2020	1,500,000	36	DG RTD	Mainstreaming GEOSS data sharing and management principles in support of Europe's environment	Amount (EUR)	1,135,000			
						No. of CAs	2	2		
						No. of SNEs				
European Climate and Health Observatory	Aug 2021	1,500,000	48	DG SANTE	Supporting the content developments of the European Climate and Health Observatory	Amount (EUR)	1,382,000			
						No. of CAs	1	1	1	1
						No. of SNEs				
Regional & Urban Environmental Indicators	Dec 2021	1,324,000	36	DG REGIO	Supporting the implementation of regional and urban environmental indicators and analysis	Amount (EUR)	1,324,000			
						No. of CAs	2	2	2	
						No. of SNEs				
LULUCF	Feb 2022	300,000	15	DG CLIMA	Supporting Member States to upgrade their GHG inventories to be fit for target compliance in 2025	Amount (EUR)	300,000			
						No. of CAs	0	0		
						No. of SNEs				
Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change	May 2022	2,880,000	36	DG CLIMA	Developing a support system tailored to the needs of the Mission in the Climate-ADAPT platform	Amount (EUR)	2,000,000	880,000		
						No. of CAs	3	4	4	4
						No. of SNEs				
European Climate Risk Assessment	May 2022	1,800,000	30	DG CLIMA	Support the development of the first EU-wide climate risk assessment	Amount (EUR)	1,800,000			
						No. of CAs	2	2	2	
						No. of SNEs				
EEA - Eurostat Cooperation	Jan 2023	2,000,000	48	ESTAT	Cooperation to enrich and make increased use of ESTAT data and accounts	Amount (EUR)		2,000,000		
						No. of CAs		3	3	3
						No. of SNEs				
International Resource Panel	Mar 2022	210,000	12	UNEP	Contributing to developing the content of the Global Resources Outlook 2023	Amount (EUR)	140,000			
						No. of CAs	1	1		
						No. of SNEs				

Notes:

Financial and human resources information have been provided only for the agreements in force at the time of writing.

The financial amounts reported each year are the R0 budget appropriations (revenue and expenditure) made, or forecast to be made, in that year.

Regarding the duration of Copernicus Delegation Agreement, the operational period of the agreement terminates at the end of 2021, but the financial period terminates at the end of 2026.

HR, human resources; **CAs**, contract agents; **SNEs**, seconded national experts; **DG**, Directorate-General; **DG CLIMA**, DG for Climate Action; **DG DEFIS**, DG for Defence Industry and Space; **DG NEAR**, DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations; **DG REGIO**, DG for Regional and Urban Policy; **DG RTD**, DG for Research and Innovation; **DG SANTE**, DG for Health and Food Safety; **Eurostat/ESTAT**, Statistical Office of the European Union; **UNEP**, United Nations Environment Programme; **ENI**, European Neighbourhood Initiative; **GHG**, greenhouse gas; **HBM4EU**, Human Biomonitoring for Europe; **PARC**, Partnership for the Assessment of the Risks of Chemicals; **IPA**, Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance; **NDICI**, Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument; **LULUCF**, Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry;



Annex 12 Strategy for cooperation with third countries and international organisations

The EEA and Eionet Regulation envisages active international cooperation around core areas of EEA work to support EU engagement in international contexts to create synergies and avoid duplications of effort (Art. 15.4). The tasks of the EEA, described in Art. 2, include:

- promoting the incorporation of European environmental information into international environmental monitoring programmes (Art. 2(g));
- cooperating with regional/international bodies and programmes such as OECD and UNEP (Art. 15.2);
- cooperating with institutions in non-EU member countries (Art. 15.3).

Art. 3 describes the principal areas of activity and priority work areas, which include furnishing information covering transfrontier, plurinational and global phenomena (Art. 3.2). The EEA international engagement activities were captured in the EEA [framework for international engagement](#), aligned to the multiannual work programme 2013-2020, endorsed by the Management Board in 2017 and published in 2018.

With the adoption of the [EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030 \(the strategy\)](#) in December 2020, the Agency aligns its international engagement with the ambitions of the EU policy framework set up by the EGD, and the 8th EAP objectives. The current EU policy priorities are closely linked to major global processes and related objectives as in the UN 2030 agenda as well as the SDGs and the implementation of the long-term objectives of the Paris Agreement. The strategy foresees a key role for the EEA and Eionet in supporting the environment and climate actions under European policies, the EGD, particularly its Section 3, 'The EU as a global leader', and in the implementation of the 8th EAP, as well as in responding to Europe's global commitments. The EEA international engagement is supporting the implementation of strategic objective 3 of the strategy, 'Building stronger networks and partnerships'. The EEA international activities in this annex have particular focus on engagements in 2023 and build on the EEA core work and key thematic contributions in support of the EU international agenda.

The EEA international engagement for this SPD period is aligned with the priorities listed in the EEA multiannual programming 2023-2025 and annual work programme 2023, respectively (Sections 3 and 4) of the current document. They support the two key objectives below of EEA international engagement with the overarching perspective of contributing to international processes as well as strengthening the EEA's knowledge base:

1. Supporting the ambitious EU policy agenda at international level
 - The activities under this objective cover expert support to relevant EU bodies (European Commission, European Parliament, European Council) and EEA member and cooperating countries in fulfilling environmental and climate-related obligations at international level. It also contributes to feeding information and knowledge to relevant international debates and negotiation processes, through position papers, background documents and opinions, and contributions of our knowledge to EU 'lines to take', developed by the institutions and EU Member States.
2. Making EEA knowledge available and supporting knowledge exchange in international fora



- The EEA support to EU policy implementation and participation in international activities and partnerships brings added value and enriches the knowledge base of the EEA's work, as it cuts across the entire monitoring to assessment and knowledge chain and supports more active knowledge exchange with international partners.

Given the EEA's long-standing engagement in international activities, the cooperation activities below are aimed at capturing the EEA's contributions to the EU and relevant bodies, collaboration with Eionet partners in member and cooperating countries, and other countries beyond Eionet, as well as international organisations and key international/global processes in the period 2023-2025.

Expert support to EU bodies

- Participation in the working meetings and events contributing to the monitoring framework of the biodiversity strategy for 2030 and ensuring links to the global biodiversity policy (CBD) in cooperation with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES).
- Support to the European Commission task force for UNFCCC negotiations: participation in expert groups and the EU delegation to climate COPs and subsidiary bodies' sessions, preparation of the EU Member States national communications to UNFCCC, as well as relevant participation in UNFCCC workshops linked to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the UNFCCC Consultative Group of Experts, OECD's Climate Change Expert Group and Commission-related cooperation initiatives.
- Technical advice and support to EU bodies on ecosystem protection and restoration aspects, covering ocean governance, soil partnerships at European and global (FAO) levels, fisheries, forestry and agriculture.
- Support to international discussions in Council working parties, in particular to the Working Party on International Environmental Issues Global (WPIEI Global), following on from the UNEA 5.2 resolutions and follow-up in the run up to UNEA 6 (2024), particularly on GEO future processes, plastics, pollution panels and related aspects.
- Support to the Commission on engagement with the bodies of the PRTR Protocol (UNECE) and part of the EU delegation to Meeting of the Parties as well as participation in working groups on technical matters in the relevant OECD task force in 2023.
- Regular dialogue and partnership with relevant EU bodies (DG ENV, DG CLIMA, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European External Action Service, JRC, Eurostat, Parliament, Council working parties) and other EU agencies (e.g. EFSA, ECHA, ECDC) on joint approaches and identifying opportunities to support the EU international agenda in areas of the EEA's mandate.

Countries and relevant national environmental structures

- Regular dialogue and capacity development with the Western Balkans partners linking to the European international agenda and EU priorities in the Southern and Eastern Neighbourhoods — taking into account the long-term effects of the conflict in Ukraine — as well as contributions to the EU-funded projects and activities in these regions.
- Support the EU transatlantic agenda, together with other interested EPAs through maintaining close dialogue with the US EPA on issues/environmental priorities of



common interest, e.g. environmental indicators, SDGs, assessing progress towards a sustainable and resource-efficient economy, and state of the environment reporting.

- Technical assistance to interested partners/countries from outside the EEA/Eionet — with European Neighbourhood and third countries in partnership with Eionet, also through TAEIX support — including in the context of large EU-funded regional projects (EU4Env, EU4CLIMA, new DG NEAR action on water and data in Eastern Partnership region), in support of the EU international agenda and EGD objectives.

Cooperation and partnerships with international organisations

- Contribute to activities of UNEP and the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), including on activities relevant to EEA core work on data, monitoring, indicators and state and outlook of the environment reporting.
- Engage in co-creation activities with international partners (e.g. OECD, UNEP, UNECE, International Energy Agency) in enhancing the knowledge base in preparation for cross-cutting integrated assessments — including towards the SOER 2025 — and developing sustainability knowledge on topics of common interest and international concern, e.g. digitalisation, foresight analysis, pollution, sustainability trends, integrated assessments, prospects, responses on policy goals in Europe and beyond, climate change, biodiversity and the circular economy.
- Cooperation and regular exchange with UN Statistics Division (UNSD), UNECE, FAO and OECD — including on streamlining indicators, SDG indicators, green growth, circular economy activities, cross-system and foresight activities.
- Continuous exchange with and support to the WHO Europe-led European environment and health processes, particularly with WHO Europe and WHO (global) on the new air quality guidelines and generally on the burden of morbidity and mortality or air pollution, as well as on noise and chemicals.
- Continuous involvement in the PRTR Protocol bodies (supporting the EU Delegation) and maintaining key involvement in the OECD task force on PRTRs.
- Involvement/recognised stakeholder in the discussions led by the Platform on Accelerating the Circular Economy (PACE: <https://pacecircular.org/>). Participation and technical exchange with several OECD task forces on trade, circular economy and waste issues.
- Contribution to the activities performed under the Energy Community Treaty relevant to climate change and the environment: the EEA chairs the Treaty's Task Force on Environment, reporting on energy input and emissions from large combustion plants in the region. Follow/support the implementation of the Governance Regulation by the Treaty's contracting parties, expected to begin in 2023.
- Regular dialogue and continuous support to work on indicators and environmental statistics with UNSD, UNECE and OECD in support of SDG discussions.
- Dialogue with relevant knowledge providers in countries and international organisations such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and UNFCCC in support of climate change and mitigation policies, and CBD in the context of biodiversity actions and the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration.
- Contribute to the work of UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNGIM) Europe: participate as observer in the executive committee and in work stemming from that directly and engage in working groups based on demand and our interest (currently developing methodologies for selected SDG indicators).



Regional collaborations

- Cooperation activities under the ‘Environment for Europe’ process following the Nicosia Ministerial in October 2022, in partnership with UNEP Europe and UNECE (Environmental and Statistical Divisions) in support of regular environmental assessments, digital transformation and extending the implementation of the EU digital agenda.
- Production of the annual EU inventory under the CLRTAP and participation in the EMEP (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme) Steering Body.
- Cooperation and regular dialogue with regional conventions and partners — UN Regional Seas (European Regional Sea Forum), Alpine, Arctic, Baltic, Black Sea, Carpathian, Water Convention — in dialogue with UNECE, UNSD (SDGs), Eurostat/JRC.
- Support the Euro-Mediterranean work through cooperation with the Union for Mediterranean Secretariat (UfMS) and its working group on environment and climate change; strategic partnership with UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention under the renewed EEA-UNEP/MAP joint work plan 2022-2030, specifically around the outcomes of the UNEP/MAP COP22, as well as collaboration with Plan Bleu on MED 2050 foresight activity.
- Standing cooperation with the Energy Community Treaty, providing the chair of the Environment Task Force and assisting reporting from these countries on emissions from large combustion plants.
- Support reporting on climate and energy data by the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community as of 2023, as described in an impending agreement on this work.
- Chair of the European Regional Soil Partnership.

Contribution to other international processes

- Promoting the benefits of Earth observation data and information in support of the EGD objectives by showcasing the benefits of Copernicus data and information in support of various policy objectives (e.g. climate adaptation, LULUCF, greenhouse gas emissions and removals), through dedicated earmarked Copernicus activities and as part of the EuroGEO project under the Horizon 2020 programme.
- Continued EEA contribution to/participation in the global assessment dialogue in preparation of the next GEO-7 report and GEO process in partnership with UNEP, building on the SOER integrated environmental assessment methodology and the ‘knowledge to action’ report (2021).
- Close partnership with UNEP International Resource Panel and OECD by supporting the coordination of the *Global resource outlook 2023* report.
- Support to EU input to IUCN/IPBES activities and assessments.

Annex 13 Procurement plan for 2023

CORE BUDGET 2023							
Request code	Short title & Activity code in MPS	Full title	Maximum contract value	Procedure type	Contract type	Maximum contract duration (Months)	Target Contract Signature Date
EEA-PN-2022-000074	Foresight Briefs (5.3.x)	Foresight Briefs: Analytical work and technical assistance	139,999	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	01/03/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000075	Just transitions (5.2.x)	Just transitions	139,999	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	01/03/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000077	Social change and sufficiency (5.2.x)	Social change and sufficiency	139,999	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	01/03/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000078	Digitalisation and sustainability trans. (5.1.x)	Digitalisation and sustainability transitions	139,999	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	01/03/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000115	Assess sufficiency_Union lists (1.1.7)	Support the undertaking of sufficiency assessments and preparation of Union Lists	30,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	6	01/03/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000071	First aid and Firefighting (6.9.x)	Provision of training services on first aid and firefighting to EEA staff members	40,000	Negotiated (low value)	Single Framework contract	48	01/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000114	NRL Information System (1.2.9)	Feasibility study on creating an Information System for the EU Nature Restoration Law	50,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	6	14/04/2023

EEA-PN-2022-000102	Media monitoring services (6.3.x)	Media monitoring services	220,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	30/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000109	Audit service (6.1.4.)	Audit services of EEA final account (2024-2026) as well as financial verification of cost statements (interim and final) for ETC's for 2023-2026	500,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/05/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000113	Maritime transport II new topics (1.2.5)	Support to establishing a knowledge base on environmental impacts of maritime transport in Europe II	40,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	6	01/05/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000073	Access and use of NatCatSERVICE data (2.3.8)	Access and use of NatCatSERVICE data	15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Purchase order	12	31/05/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000055	IT consultancy for dataflow support (6.4.3)	IT consultancy in the areas of dataflow support, web- and mobile applications and graphical data dissemination	12,000,000	Open	Multiple framework contract in cascade	48	01/09/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000068	Kitchen equipment repair (6.1.2)	Provision of kitchen equipment maintenance and repair services	60,000	Negotiated (low value)	Single Framework contract	48	01/09/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000067	Office furniture (6.1.2)	Supply of office furniture and provision of ancillary consultancy services for the EEA	600,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	31/10/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000065	Consultancy - geospatial data (6.4.3)	IT consultancy services in the areas of dataflow development, management and operations.	9,000,000	Open	Multiple framework contract in cascade	48	01/11/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000066	Security services (6.1.2)	Security services	1,000,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/11/2023

EEA-PN-2022-000101	Consultancy - Metadata (6.4.3)	IT consultancy services in the areas of geospatial data modelling and metadata cataloguing	2,000,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/11/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000103	Multimedia services (6.3.x)	Multimedia services	650,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	30/11/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000112	Kitchen repairs and maintenance (6.1.2.)	Repairs, service and maintenance of kitchen equipment including purchases	60,000	Negotiated (low value)	Single Framework contract	48	01/12/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000116	Security and reception services (6.1.2.)	Security, reception and mail services for the Agency	1,000,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/12/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000104	Monitoring of the use of EEA products (6.3.x)	Monitoring of the use of EEA products	120,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	31/12/2023
	Ad-hoc L&D courses (6.9.1)	Ad-hoc L&D courses	up to 15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Purchase order	up to 12	throughout 2023

NON-CORE BUDGET 2023

Request code	Short title & Activity code in MPS	Full title	Maximum contract value	Procedure type	Contract type	Maximum contract duration (Months)	Target Contract Signature Date
EEA-PN-2022-000093	REGIND ETC/DI (6.7.1)	Support to the Work package 1-2-3 of the REGIND SLA	371,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	18	01/02/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000099	IPA III – Capability building (6.2.5)	Integrating Western Balkan partners in the work of the EEA	350,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/03/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000100	EU ecosystem accounts EUROSTAT SLA	Support to implementation of EU ecosystem accounts EUROSTAT SLA	54,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	36	01/03/2023

EEA-PN-2022-000089	SANTE - ETC/CA (2.3.6)	Knowledge development for the European Climate and Health Observatory	100,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	10	17/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000090	SANTE - ETC/HE (2.3.6)	Contribution to the European Climate and Health Observatory	80,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	9	17/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000091	SANTE - ASPHER support (2.3.6)	ASPHER support to the Climate and Health Observatory	50,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	8	17/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000094	IPA III – Air Quality (6.2.5)	Integrating Western Balkan partners in the work of the EEA 2023-2025 - Air Quality (ETC/HE)	300,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	18	17/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000096	IPA III – Circular Economy (6.2.5)	Integrating Western Balkan partners in the work of the EEA 2023-2025 - Circular Economy and Resource Use (ETC/CE)	100,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	12	17/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000076	ETC/DI - Support to CLMS (6.5.15)	Support for the implementation of the Copernicus Land monitoring service	850,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	12	20/04/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000081	Copernicus - EU Hydro (6.5.20)	EU Hydro	2,200,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	15/05/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000088	Copernicus Urban Atlas (6.5.28)	Urban Atlas	1,900,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	15/05/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000092	Support to Adaptation (2.3.12)	Support to Adaptation	2,000,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	17/07/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000095	IPA III – Water (6.2.5)	Integrating Western Balkan partners in the work of the EEA 2023-2025 - Water (ETC/BE)	100,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	24	11/09/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000086	Copernicus Natura 2000 (6.5.29)	Natura 2000	1,150,000	Open	Direct contract	15	18/09/2023

EEA-PN-2022-000082	Copernicus HRVPP (6.5.22)	Continuation and extension of HRVPP	4,100,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	25/09/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000080	Copernicus Validation (6.5.15)	Validation	3,700,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/12/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000097	IPA III – Knowledge to Action (6.2.5)	Integrating Western Balkan partners in the work of the EEA 2023-2025 - SOER and Foresight (ETC/ST)	40,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	12	04/12/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000098	IPA III – Biodiversity (6.2.5)	Integrating Western Balkan partners in the work of the EEA 2023-2025 - Biodiversity and Ecosystems Assessment (ETC/BE)	40,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	12	04/12/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000083	Copernicus CLC + BB (6.5.25)	CLC+ BB updates	3,400,000	Open	Single Framework contract	36	15/12/2023
EEA-PN-2022-000079	WEkEO User Interface modules (6.5.14)	WEkEO User Interface modules	2,400,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	15/02/2024
EEA-PN-2022-000084	Copernicus CLC+ Conceptual work (6.5.25)	CLC+ Conceptual work (EAGLE)	600,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Single Framework contract	48	15/02/2024
EEA-PN-2022-000085	COP. Small landscape Features (6.5.24)	Small landscape Features	5,000,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	01/03/2024
EEA-PN-2022-000087	CLMS portal (6.5.11)	CLMS portal technical maintenance and evolution	1,600,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	25/03/2024

Note: All procedures under Copernicus are subject to approval of the Copernicus Procurement Board.