



EEA single programming document 2024-2026

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List of abbreviations and acronyms

Acronym	Name
8th EAP	Eighth Environment Action Programme
BISE	Biodiversity Information System for Europe
BWD	Bathing Water Directive
CA	Contract agent
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
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
DWD	Drinking Water Directive
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
UWWTD	Urban Waste Water Directive
WHO	World Health Organization
WISE	Water Information System for Europe

1 Mission statement

EEA's mission statement

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.

EEA's legal mandate

The EEA is a decentralised agency of the European Union. The EEA/Eionet Regulation ⁽¹⁾ 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 includes the provision that the Agency is open to countries that are not members of the EU. 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 in coordination with Eionet.

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: *'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 the necessary technical and scientific support.'*

EEA's corporate values

The EEA's values 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 EEA 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 quality results Making things happen

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 401/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A32009R0401>).



	Delivering on the competencies	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 positive Being trustworthy	Working collaboratively Communicating effectively

2 General context

2.1 Policy developments

With Russia's war in Ukraine, the rising cost of living and Member States and citizens grappling with the energy crisis and its consequences, the overall narrative is evolving. A growing number of European policymakers want to take a break from Green Deal lawmaking. **The focus of the Green Deal is shifting towards economic dimensions**, including the EU's competitiveness, strategic autonomy, and access to raw materials, in support of a green industrial policy to keep jobs and companies in Europe. At the same time, implementation on the ground of the many policy initiatives developed in recent years will gain importance. Fierce resistance to change in some communities, such as farmers, will have to be carefully addressed.

Nevertheless, no one can escape the higher frequency and devastating effects of **extreme weather events**, pointing to rising costs of non-action or a lack of ambition on climate and environment, especially because these are intertwined. Temperatures last summer were extremely high in large parts of Europe (and around the world). There were widespread floods and wildfires in numerous European countries, signifying that these extreme weather events are likely to persist. More and more citizens are concerned with the acceleration of climate change and the consequences for nature, food production, water security, energy security and the economy. There is also growing recognition that Europe's attention needs to **move from response towards preparedness**, together with Member States.

With its country network Eionet, the EEA will continue to play an important role in informing about progress with the green transition including knowledge on solutions.

The European elections of 6-9 June 2024 are approaching soon. This implies that **the window for policymaking is closing rapidly**. The final months of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024 will be very intense for the co-legislators as they aim to finalise interinstitutional negotiations on a wide range of policy initiatives launched in recent years, including in the context of the European Green Deal. The focus is however being redirected to the political battle that will define the balance of power and the political priorities for the next 5 years.

For the European Commission, **2024 should be considered as a transition year**, with its 2024 work programme focusing on the evaluation of ongoing policies to underpin this College's legacy, progress reports and fitness checks, in preparation for the next policy cycle. Some announced European Green Deal flagship initiatives will in fact prepare the ground for future policymaking. These include the launch of a Water Resilience Initiative, the Communication on identifying and assessing how best to manage climate risks across EU policy areas, the initiative on industrial carbon management setting out a strategy for environmentally sustainable carbon capture, utilisation and storage deployment in the EU, and – crucially - the adoption of the 2040 climate target. In addition, we can expect that the 8th Environmental Action Programme (EAP) mid-term report, and other mid-term reviews on zero pollution and biodiversity will also feed into the reflections on future priorities.

The Commission will also initiate a series of green **dialogues** to engage fully and directly with citizens, as well as clean transition dialogues with industry and social partners. Furthermore, the Commission will launch a specific strategic dialogue on the future of agriculture in the EU.



The international political agenda on the environment and climate is also under the spotlight. The Conference of the Parties (**COP**) **28** is expected to discuss governance and operational rules of the new fund on financing loss and damages that was established under COP 27. So far, although keeping global warming at 1.5°C was on the agenda, substantial progress did not materialise in terms of addressing the root causes of climate change or on measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Global nature and biodiversity issues were addressed at the **COP 15** to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022, where a landmark agreement was reached, containing 23 targets to achieve by 2030. These targets include effective conservation and management of at least 30% of the world's land, coastal areas and oceans and restoration of 30% of terrestrial and marine ecosystems. EEA supports both of these summits with its wide-ranging knowledge and technical expertise.

2.2 Development of new tasks

2.2.1 Developments in 2023

The EEA's original budget for 2023 included one new task:

- 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 Temporary Agent (TA) and one Contract Agent (CA) post, to perform these tasks.

In addition to the above new tasks, the EEA's 2023 work programme and budget includes the following new tasks which had already started in previous years:

- the hosting of the secretariat of the newly established **European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change**, and supporting the reporting on progress towards climate neutrality and the monitoring and evaluation of progress on adaptation, under the **European Climate Law** (Regulation (EU) 2021/1119), which started in 2022;
- several new tasks and under the **8th EAP** legislation, which started in 2021.

Section 3.3, *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2024-2026*, 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 2024 to 2026

The Commission has, through legislative acts, proposed several new tasks for the EEA starting in 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:

- In November 2022, political agreement was reached on a revision of the **Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) Regulation** strengthening the contribution of the LULUCF sector to the EU's increased overall climate ambition for 2030. This will be done by setting an EU target of 310 Mt CO₂ equivalent of net removals in the LULUCF sectors in 2030 and with binding national targets for 2030. The EEA is tasked with reviewing the LULUCF inventory data for compliance with legislative monitoring and reporting requirements, and to provide comprehensive reviews to verify the reported greenhouse inventory data. The EEA will also provide support to improve the quality of emissions and removal information by facilitating increased geographical tracking of carbon pools in the agriculture and LULUCF



sector, and by performing assessment studies to identify options to increase and ensure long-term storage of carbon in the land use sector, including analysis to ensure that increasing carbon removals does not negatively impact the environment. Furthermore, the EEA is to establish, as far as possible, consistency between LULUCF reporting with carbon certification data and biodiversity reporting. To deliver these tasks, the regulation specifies eight TA and three CA posts, allowing five to be recruited towards the end of 2023 and the remaining in 2024.

- 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 newly 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 had expected to adopt the legislation in mid-2023. However, delays were encountered; political agreement was reached in November 2023, with adoption anticipated by the end of 2023 or early 2024. The 2023 budget held in reserve for this new task was therefore removed, and the resources will only be received by the EEA once the legislation is adopted.
- 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 TA posts commencing in 2024.
- The Commission published the **Zero Pollution Package** in October 2022, which includes three legislative proposals: 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. Each of the three proposals foresees additional tasks for the EEA, and also foresees resources for previously adopted legislation (the implementing decision of Water Reuse Regulation expected in 2023). The new tasks include developing a platform integrated water management and reporting, support to new monitoring activities of the revised Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive and new monitoring, reporting, exchange of information, and assessment activities of the revised Air Quality Directive. The financial fiche accompanying the Zero Pollution Package specifies a total of five TA posts and 3 CA posts, split with three TA posts to deliver the integrated water management reporting under the EQSD, two TA posts to deliver Air Quality objectives, 1 CA post for Urban Waste Water Treatment, 2 CA posts for Water Reuse, and the redeployment of one TA post internally (also for EQSD).
- The Commission published a combined proposal for carbon removals and further monitoring of emissions from heavy duty vehicles. The finance fiche for **Carbon Removals & HDVs** specifies one TA post and three CA posts in 2024, increasing to four CA posts in 2025. For the **HDV proposal**, the resources of 1 TA and 1 CA have been assigned to implement and apply the reporting system, quality assurance and data quality control systems for expanded HDV emissions monitoring, as well as data management and technical helpdesk for reporters. The proposal to establish a **Union certification framework for carbon removals**, aims to promote the generation of high quality carbon removals with the view to support the achievement of the 2050 climate neutrality objective set in the European Climate Law and the other environmental objectives of the European Green Deal. Three additional contract agents (with 2 CA's starting in 2024) are assigned to EEA support to development of certification methodologies that comply with quality criteria defined in the Regulation, the data gathering on monitoring, reporting and verification of specific

carbon farming activities including the establishment of baseline carbon removal activities and to support ensuring the linkages between certification scheme, national GHG inventories and the LULUCF regulation.

- Finally, the Commission has proposed new tasks for the EEA to support **Green Claims**, commencing in 2025. The proposal sets out monitoring requirements to provide an overview of faulty environmental claims and labels. Member States will compile these and report them to the EEA which, in turn, will publish a report assessing the evolution of environmental claims in each Member State and the Union as a whole. These reports are foreseen to be released every second year. These additional tasks are covered by the relevant finance fiche which specifies one TA and one CA post.

An overview of the additional resources to deliver these new tasks is provided in Section 3.3, *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2024-2026*.

The LULUCF Regulation has already been adopted; the tasks and resources are therefore already confirmed for the EEA's 2024 budget. All other new tasks and resources are subject to political agreement and adoption of the legislative acts by the Budgetary Authorities.

2.2.3 Grant, Contribution and Service Level Agreements

The EEA's work includes project actions that are financed through grant, contribution and service level agreements (so-called 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 core-funded 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 since 2010, and Copernicus since 2012. The disadvantages of this instrument are that it hinders knowledge retention, disrupts continuity, and places 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

Under the **Copernicus Contribution Agreement** with the Directorate-General for Defence, Industry and Space (DG DEFIS), the EEA is continuing to develop the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS) and the coordination of Copernicus's access to in situ data. The implementation period of the agreement is from November 2021 to the end of 2028, with a total budget of EUR 135 million. The main challenges for this new implementation phase include maintaining continuity to the operational service, while ensuring a better response to policy requirements, such as those addressed in the European Green Deal (EGD), and broader uptake by the wide community of users e.g. authorities and scientific communities.

In 2022 the Commission, via the Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER), and the Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), 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**, which comprises six Western Balkan countries, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Furthermore, DG NEAR requested the EEA to continue its cooperation with the **Western Balkan** countries on **Green Agenda** activities under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA). These two contribution agreements have a three-year implementation period, commencing in January 2023 and a combined budget of EUR 4.9 million.

Service level agreements

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

- a three-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 four-year agreement with 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 began in January 2022.

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

- a 15-month agreement to support Member States in upgrading 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 three-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 and preparing mission webpages for the associated mission implementation platform;
- a 30-month agreement to support development of the first **EU-wide climate risk assessment** (EUCRA).

In 2023 the EEA entered into two further SLAs with the Commission:

- a three-year SLA with **Eurostat**, which started in January 2023, for cooperation on a variety of topics, including better use by the EEA of Eurostat data and accounts, and producing new geo-spatial data sets based on Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (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.
a two-year agreement with Joint Research Centre (JRC) to deliver tasks supporting the **Nitrates Directive**, commencing in November/December 2023. The agreement will provide the required technical and scientific assistance to the Commission for the reporting cycle 2023-2025, and with a view to explore a potential transfer of this responsibility from the JRC to the EEA later on.

The EEA is currently negotiating two further SLAs with the Commission as follows:

- with Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) to support the **Mission Ocean Monitoring**, which is expected to start in the first half of 2024.
- with Directorate-General for mobility and transport (DG MOVE) to support **CountEmissions EU**, ensuring consistent emissions reporting across transport sectors. This initiative is expected to start in 2025.

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 2024** under the auspices of the International Resource Panel.

Grant agreements

In 2022 the EEA, together 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 as a partner. The PARC grant agreement began 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*.

3 Multi-annual programming 2024-2026

3.1 Multi-annual 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 Multi-annual strategic objectives to 2026

The Agency’s work planning in this document spans the period 2024 to 2026, with a particular focus on 2024. The implementation of the EEA–Eionet Strategy 2021-2030 forms the main driver for the 3-year strategic objectives to 2026, presented in Table 2. Given the multi-disciplinary nature of the multi-annual objectives, monitoring up to 2026 will be mostly qualitative.

Table 2 EEA multi-annual strategic objectives to 2026

SO	Multiannual strategic objective to 2026	Expected results by 2026
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: • aligned with strategic investments under the roadmap to SOER 2025 and those EU policy priorities and processes most relevant to sustainability (8th EAP, EGD and SDGs); and



		increasing the uptake and optimising the use of high-quality data and services, 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' according to its roadmap. continued growth in reach and uptake of EEA knowledge amongst stakeholders and key target audiences.
SO3	To enable building of stronger networks and partnerships across the EEA and Eionet.	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 which deliver a more flexible and innovative knowledge network, including: - 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.
SO4	To enable timely, relevant, and up-to-date data and services to support our knowledge, data and information service delivery through the digitalisation of EEA and Eionet, and leveraging new/innovative technologies and data sources (e.g. big data and artificial intelligence) for the development of new knowledge and services.	Improved digitalisation of EEA-Eionet, resulting in increased use of new/potential data sources and development of services, technology and digitisation, with a focus on: - enhanced data services for EEA-Eionet stakeholders, including Reportnet and Copernicus; - increased cloudification of the EEA-Eionet ICT infrastructure; and - development of better platform capabilities for developing knowledge-as-a-service for different users.
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.	- 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, learning and experimentation.
SO1-5	To further enhance the synergies with the EU framework programme for research and innovation and to seek partnerships with relevant research organisations; to	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.



	ensure a systematic uptake, dissemination and use of research outputs by the EEA.	• 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 collaboration in the context of other existing institutional collaboration frameworks such as the EKC, 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. The strategic areas for an enhanced collaboration between the EEA and the European Commission services will be Horizon Europe clusters and missions, the Horizon 2020 Green Deal call and Horizon Europe partnerships.
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Notes: DG RTD, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation; EAP, Environment Action Programme; EGD, European Green Deal; EGs, Eionet groups; 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 2024

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 3).

Table 3 Annual performance objectives

Performance objectives
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 4 presents the EEA's multi-annual KPIs to monitor these objectives.

Table 4 EEA multi-annual 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 forward of EEA core budget	100%	Min. 98%
	3*	Budget execution – Cancellations	Cancellation rate of payment appropriations in year N	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 European Court of Auditors implemented (with deadline in year N)	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 N (updated in 2021/22)	93.1%	Min. 90%
	6*	AWP delivery – Indicators	Indicators updated (%) as planned for year N (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	Number of followers on social media (Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn combined)	207,000	Stable/increase
	10	Web traffic	Number of registered sessions on EEA website	9.8 M	Stable/increase
	11	Downloads	Registered use of map services (number of views measured as 'machine to machine' traffic)	660 M	Stable/increase
	18	EEA support to EU policy documents	Number of EU policy documents referencing EEA or its 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. Delays in the roll out of the Eionet tools modernisation has impacted the ability to collect and process coherent data with robust baselines on Eionet performance. The revised project roll-out timeline foresees richer data to be available to support improved KPIs on Eionet in 2024.

Environmental management

To minimise its environmental impacts and continually improve its performance, the EEA has in place an environmental management system, which is an integral part of the management plan. The EEA's environmental management system complies with the Eco-management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

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. In February 2023, the EEA established a Steering Committee to **strengthen the governance** for implementing the EEA's environmental management system. This key decision-making and issuer resolution body consists of the EMAS environmental coordinator and three members of the Senior management team — the EMAS top management representative, the Heads of the two programmes 'Administrative Services' and 'Coordination, Network and Strategy'. Under the EMAS Steering Committee, the EMAS team was replaced by the EMAS working group. This new governance system helps to ensure the coherent and efficient continuous implementation of the environmental management programme in different areas, such as building management, staff travel, 'new ways of working', visitor travel and the purchase of goods and services.

(See Annex 6 for further details on the EEA's environmental management).

3.2 Multi-annual programme

3.2.1 Multi-annual 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:

- biodiversity and ecosystems;
- climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- human health and the environment;
- circular economy and resource use; and
- sustainability trends, prospects and responses.



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 communication, networks and partnerships, digitalisation, and international cooperation as well as reporting obligations and platforms managed by the EEA. 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 those areas to be highlighted in the implementation of activities within the timeframe of an SPD. 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 and the environmental acquis for nature, freshwater and the marine environment, shape the priority areas of work for activity 1. A key priority for the EEA is providing support for the objectives framed by the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030, which calls for better information and knowledge which contributes 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 strengthening an eco-region approach and mainstreaming 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 Europe's water and terrestrial ecosystems, building upon key data collected under the environmental acquis. Moreover, this activity area will begin to integrate knowledge into systems view across the agricultural, forestry and maritime sectors to be inputted 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 benefit biodiversity, ecosystems and climate.

The EEA's partnership with other Commission-organised bodies e.g. the Knowledge Centre for Biodiversity and the 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), as well as contributions to the Monitoring Framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

The EEA will work to enhance partnerships and cooperation with EC, member countries and international organisations to support the priorities under the EGD and SDGs at EU level and to ocean governance. Linking the 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 a core concern in the sustainability challenge facing Europe.

2024	Actions in focus in activity 1
Action 1	Monitoring and reporting in support of EU policies on nature, freshwater and marine
Action 2	Assessments, solutions and sustainability challenges for nature and ecosystems protection and restoration

Activity 2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation

The Paris Agreement is the first-ever universal, legally binding global agreement on climate change. To achieve Europe's commitments under the Paris Agreement, climate action is at the heart of the EGD. This includes the ambition for Europe to become climate neutral by 2050, which the European Climate Law enshrines into law, together with the objective of a climate-resilient Europe. The Climate Law 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, forestry, land use, buildings), by enhancing carbon removals from agriculture, forestry and land use and by increasing Europe's adaptive capacity and strengthening climate resilience in line with the EU strategy on adaptation to climate change ⁽²⁾. In addition to sectoral policies and measures, this transformation will also be supported by other actions and initiatives, such as those targeting sustainable finance, circular economy and digitalisation, while also ensuring a just transition. To achieve these climate objectives, the EU adopted in 2023 a very comprehensive package of measures on pricing, targets, standards and support measures to make the EU 'Fit for 55'.

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 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. The EEA will develop assessments on the climate risks Europe is facing and assessments addressing solutions for climate change adaptation, in particular in urban areas and for human health and well-being. By working closely with the European Commission, the EEA will continue providing relevant inputs for the mission on adaptation to climate change, which supports the implementation of climate adaptation at the subnational level.

Through a closer relationship with its country network and other relevant stakeholders, including other EU agencies and institutions, the EEA will support the development, implementation and evaluation of relevant policies and accompanying measures to reduce

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

greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, in the context of Europe's broader sustainability objectives. Of particular emphasis will be support for the monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals in the agriculture and LULUCF sector, through establishing a quality control system on MS reported data and providing support for inventory improvements as well as the performance of assessments to identify options for increasing carbon removals which ensure long-term storage without compromising the other environment and climate targets of the European Green Deal.

The EEA will enhance cooperation with appropriate knowledge providers in countries and international organisations, including the UNFCCC, to support climate change and mitigation policies. This includes continued support to the Energy Community countries that began reporting on climate and energy in 2023.

The EEA will also continue supporting the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change established by the European Climate Law. The Advisory Board will establish its 2024 work programme independently and consult the Management Board. This work programme will determine the specific tasks of the secretariat hosted by the EEA.

2024	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

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 in 2022, the EEA will kick-off the development of the second zero pollution assessment due in 2024 (and also in preparation for the next expected assessment in 2026), in particular by exploring options to address some of the data and knowledge gaps and limitations already evident. Following work in 2023, the EEA will continue 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 5). Regarding the latter, 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, 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 information on the environmental burden of disease in Europe. In 2024, the focus on children and environmental health, and on the burden of disease associated with exposure to chemicals, will continue from the work which began in 2023. 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, as well as the EFSA and the ECHA, in order to develop knowledge. We will also enhance cooperation with other appropriate knowledge providers in countries and international organisations (UNEP, Regional office for Europe, UNECE, WHO) to provide support for human health and environment policies.

2024	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 environmental and climate impacts caused by Europe's production and consumption of raw materials, products and services. This includes addressing the 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 environmental 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 toward 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 investments necessary to help improve the monitoring of circular economy - the EEA is investing in indicator-based assessments on the circular economy, reflecting moves towards more target-based provisions.

These assessments are supported by 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. This also includes interactions with international organisations such as the International Resource Panel (IRP), the community negotiating the new Global Instrument to end Plastic Pollution, and several Expert Groups and Task forces of the OECD, as key examples.

2024	Actions in focus in activity 4
Action 1	Monitoring and assessment of the transition to a circular economy
Action 2	Supporting implementation of EU waste legislation
Action 3	Interlinkages of circular economy with EU biodiversity, climate neutrality and well-being objectives

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, in exploring the social and environmental nexus of the just transition and with a particular focus on knowledge for action through engagement and co-creation with Eionet and our key 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. To achieve maximum impact, we will present knowledge for action and knowledge-as-a-service through interactive and engaging user interfaces, particularly through the development of the European Environment Situation Room.

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, the twin green & digital transition, the just transition 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 on forward-looking integrated systemic analysis and better knowledge on solutions towards sustainable development.

Foresight techniques will be used to inform future perspectives and outlooks, 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.

2024	Actions in focus in activity 5
Action1	Monitor and assess sustainability in Europe through systemic lenses and across scales
Action 2	Analyse sustainability transitions enablers: economics, finance, innovation, technological, social policies, and governance across scales
Action 3	Develop co-created knowledge for action across scales, including foresight, with stakeholders.

3.2.2 *Communicating for Impact*

The EEA will continue to actively reach and engage key communities with EEA-Eionet environment and climate knowledge in the coming years. To ensure high impact we will deliver relevant knowledge at moments crucial to decision-making processes and to our users through appropriate tools and outreach channels, ranging from European and national policymakers and research communities to citizens across Europe. This will entail refining our content and improving its accessibility, availability, and use.

In the timeframe covered by this SPD, emphasis will be given to stronger reputation management and branding of the EEA/Eionet and making sure that EEA knowledge stays relevant and trustworthy in an ever more complex world. This will entail continued investment in the EEA online presence as the key knowledge management tool, in particular its coherence, timeliness, audience focus. As we grow as an organisation, we will widen and deepen our reach by empowering our experts to take an active role in communications. We will continue to strengthen the communication partnership and engagement with Eionet including the ETCs and beyond, and to strive further in integrating Copernicus communications. Focus will be put on delivering innovative and targeted products that help our stakeholders make informed decisions, while further strengthening the visual and audio-visual aspects and unlocking the communication potential of our data. 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. In 2024, the European Parliament elections will provide an important context in which we expect our knowledge to be relevant.

3.2.3 Eionet – The European Environment Information and Observation Network

The 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 with 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' inputs 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. Stronger cooperation with other relevant environmental networks, particularly the Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA) Network, is expected to continue 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 cocreation with Eionet and, with further developments of new digital infrastructure, will facilitate communication and cooperation within the network. To strengthen the positioning of the restructured Eionet as one of the key networks supporting the implementation of the EGD and 8th EAP, the EEA will build on the modernisation process and outcomes and conclusions of the 2023 network conference.

The EEA will continue cooperation with Western Balkans countries with support from the IPA with funding for 2023-2025. The EEA will continue supporting Eionet cooperation in line with the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, with the overall goal of integrating Western Balkan partners into the work of the EEA. The strategic objective is to *support the beneficiaries in the approximation process with a view to 'technical readiness' for EEA membership*. For the work on supporting the implementation of the adapted Governance Regulation, the strategic objective is for the EEA to support the Western Balkan partners in fulfilling its responsibilities.

3.2.4 Partnering with key science for policy actors

To achieve the EEA mission and the objectives of the EEA-Eionet strategy to 2030, the EEA will strengthen its network through more active engagement at the country level and work with other leading organisations to facilitate the sharing and dissemination of knowledge and expertise. Sustainability challenges and increasingly systemic and transformative policy responses, coupled with the desire to promote and navigate transition processes across society, create substantially new opportunities and demands for knowledge.

The EEA will engage in constructive and structured dialogue with key stakeholders and partners, aimed at highlighting the importance of the coordination and sharing of responsibilities with other EU environment knowledge/science providers (e.g. the Joint Research Centre, DG

Research and Innovation and Eurostat, and other agencies). With the objective of combining competences, integrating knowledge, enhancing synergies and efficiencies and avoiding duplication, e.g. regarding the development of new metrics (indicators and monitoring frameworks).

In particular, the partnership on the science policy interface builds a strategic approach linking relevant research organisations with policymaking institutions, and designs policies based on robust scientific evidence. In this context, the partnership strategises and cooperates with relevant EU institutions beyond the agency's own networks (scientific committee, Eionet, EPAs) and builds a new nexus science for policy. On the EU institutional level, especially in connection to DGs JRC and RTD, this approach is further articulated by EU ANSA, the EU Agencies Network on Scientific Advice.

The partnership brings together all relevant 'science for policy' interface actors on sustainability knowledge and research, with the following objectives: (1) mutualising and cross-fertilising knowledge activities within a research/science/policy ecosystem, called for by the EGD; (2) exploring rising science-based evidence opportunities; (3) developing novel knowledge delivery models, and redesigning and rethinking cooperations, and (4) empowering the transition to a sustainable Europe in relation to trusted and actionable knowledge.

To this effect, the EEA intends to build further on ongoing strategic partnerships:

- synergies with the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon Europe, EU Missions, Partnerships) should be pursued to ensure the systematic uptake, dissemination and use of research outputs by the EEA;
- a similar and intensive outlook is offered by the new organisation of JRC science and knowledge activities in portfolios, which form the main building blocks of their revised work programme in managing operational relationships with external partners, such as the EEA;
- instalment with EPA Network of an Interest Group on sustainability research to translate EPA – EEA knowledge 'services' on sustainability into strategic action for the European Green deal (EGD).

These extended cooperations are designed in the context of new guidance from the European Commission on '*Better use of scientific knowledge for policymaking*' (EC, October 2022), which lays out the rationale for building capacity for science for policy, identifies key challenges, and presents EU and national policies, initiatives, instruments, and good practices (e.g. analytics, access/diffusion).

3.2.5 Improving information delivery through the digitalisation framework

A set of activities and digital solutions will be implemented in 2024-2026 across the work areas in line with an updated IT strategy and the EEA-Eionet 2030 digitalisation framework with measurable operational objectives and actions:

- The EEA data infrastructure, including the underlying general ICT infrastructure, will be continuously upgraded and cybersecurity will be enhanced. This shall enable a modern digital workplace and support effective and user-friendly data management, visualisation and dissemination.
- Reportnet will be further deployed incorporating a new data storage approach and additional functionalities as of version 3.3 and beyond, together with further migration



of existing reporting dataflows previously handled by the former 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 data exchange with Member Countries will be further extended in line with the ambitions around European data centres and the new Open Data legislation on High Value Datasets.
- Fully implement the new EEA data management framework.
- Further user-friendly data management and visualisation tools (targeted dashboards) will be launched from the EEA common workspace to enhance users' experience.
- An improved 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 improvements will be launched. These new projects are recorded and monitored as part of the digitalisation roadmap.
- After the launch of the new EEA website and a first version of the EEA data hub in 2023, the data hub will be enhanced with analytical capabilities. Other modernisation activities include the integration of thematic information portals to improve the linking of data, content and communication.
- 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 ability 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.
- Through SOER 2025, digital, environment and climate policy knowledge will be disseminated in a new and efficient way to our stakeholders and new knowledge services will be developed under the European Environmental Situation Room, to support accelerated efforts towards long-term policy ambitions under the EGD.
- In addition to technical- and content-related measures, digitalisation opportunities will be taken 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, will contribute to the EGD data space and the Destination Earth initiative.
- All the above will be underpinned by continued 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 among the measures to be taken.

3.2.6 Working with the European neighbouring regions

As of January 2023, the EEA initiated the start of a dedicated project to support the implementation of EU reporting requirements on climate and energy under the Energy Community Treaty, covering three Eastern Partnership countries (Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), as well as the Western Balkans. This is in line with the current support provided by the EEA to Member States and the EC for the implementation of the Regulation on the Governance

of the Energy Union and Climate Action (Governance Regulation). The planned work for the next 3 years with the Eastern countries and the Western Balkans covers specific 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 further reporting on renewable energy and energy efficiency at a later stage. This project-funded activity is parallel to the continued support to the Western Balkan partners on the implementation of the Green Agenda for the period 2023-2026.

In order to stay up to date with the developments in the East, EEA will take part in the special task force on environmental damage assessment in Ukraine, coordinated at Commission level by DG ENV. Planning of potential EEA input in the post-war period would be based on EEA/Eionet knowledge on environmental data and information, indicator management and environmental assessments, relating to identified thematic priorities, potentially including but not limited to land cover, forestry, water/air pollution and/or biodiversity in protected areas, building on previous engagement in the region under ENI funding.

As regards to the cooperation with the Mediterranean region in the coming period, the strategic partnership between the EEA and UNEP/MAP will continue exploring convergence points and cooperation pathways for achieving common objectives in line with the Joint Work Plan for the 2022-2030 period. Considering the ambitions of the EGD and the renewed partnership of the EU with the Southern Neighbourhood, as proposed in the new agenda for the Mediterranean³ as well as in the Union for the Mediterranean post-2020 environment and climate action priorities, the work on regional indicators, assessments and data needs in the Euro-Mediterranean context will be taken forward in view of planned joint assessments in the coming years (e.g. the Sustainability Gap report and Foresight MED2050 reports).

3.2.7 EEA International engagement

The focus of EEA activities internationally will continue to be on providing support for EU/MS engagement³ in the international context, in close dialogue and cooperation with international organisations, UN bodies, and, when relevant, global and regional conventions. This will be done via EC/EU delegations taking part in international processes as well as through direct engagement with international partners on topics of mutual benefit.

The environmental ambition of green transformation requires Europe to work closely with European neighbours and partners beyond Europe, in line with the EU policies and priorities of the EGD. The international cooperation activities of the EEA will be undertaken in the context of the revised international framework aligned to the EEA-Eionet strategy 2021-2030. 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 UN led processes; and in technically assisting the EU position in international fora, particularly in the follow-up and implementation of agreed resolutions at the fifth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) , as well as in supporting EU/MS in preparation of UNEA-6, scheduled for February 2024.

³ in line with Article 15 of the EEA/Eionet Regulation and priorities of the European Commission 'A stronger Europe in the world'.

The EEA will continue to support the EU in implementing the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and EU input to the SDGs, UNFCCC and CBD COPs and subsidiary bodies and processes. Towards 2024-2025, the EEA will stay closely engaged with the preparation for a global, binding agreement to end plastic pollution, supporting the process towards the Global Environment Outlook (GEO-7) assessment and linking this to the SOER2025 development process (as both will be digital and follow a similar timeline), as well as staying engaged in discussions towards establishing a Science-Policy Panel on chemicals, waste and pollution. Providing input to the EU position in the context of UN Decades on ocean science and ecosystem restoration, as well as preparation for the IRP assessment, will also continue and the EEA will support the monitoring and reporting obligations under the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and explore it for the BBNJ Treaty. An elaborated list of activities and processes to be supported in the coming period is presented in Annex 12 and aligned according to the four prioritised clusters of work identified in the international framework mentioned above.

The consequences of Russian aggression against Ukraine, the world's economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic, combined with inflation, food security, energy security and further supply-chain pressures, are among the many challenges policymakers worldwide must tackle in the coming period; the EEA will contribute to EC efforts in line with its mandate and available resources.

3.2.8 Support to the EU's space programme – Copernicus

Under the new Copernicus contribution agreement 2021-2028, for the period 2024-2026 of the Commission delegated tasks to the EEA, the work plan 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, going over basic processing steps towards the more complex products for the entire mapped area, and finally focusing on prioritised areas of interest across Europe. In collaboration with the JRC, which is in charge of the global component, a joint roadmap will be developed to share common processing workflows with some of the global products.

The CLMS portfolio for the period will cover:

- very high-resolution satellite image mosaics, in situ and reference data;
- biophysical monitoring at pan-European level (e.g. high-resolution phenology and productivity, snow and ice monitoring);
- 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 (e.g. urban atlas, riparian zones, Natura 2000 sites, coastal zones); and
- European Ground Motion Service.

The new thematic hubs aim to provide single, thematic access points to those parts of the Copernicus programme that are relevant for the user on a specific theme, in a cross-service context. The EEA has been identified as the Entrusted Entity that can take the lead in the thematic hub on Biodiversity. In the coming period, the implementation of a first version of this thematic hub will be started. In parallel, contacts with other Entrusted Entities responsible for

the development of other thematic hubs, such as Mercator Ocean international (MOi) for the Arctic and Coastal thematic hubs and European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) for the Energy and Health thematic hubs, will be established to ensure cross-service coordination. Contributions from CLMS to the aforementioned or future thematic hubs will be considered and provided upon request from other services.

User uptake and communication activities are an important part of the new contribution agreement. For 2024-2026, a communication and user uptake strategy for the whole duration of the contribution agreement will be developed and agreed with the Directorate-General for Defence Industry and Space DEFIS, with the input from the JRC and other entities such as the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA). Additional user uptake activities will centre around boosting the user uptake in Member States via a national collaboration programme that was launched in 2022 and which includes products from the Global Land Monitoring Service (managed by the JRC). The goal of the national collaboration programme is to increase the uptake of current and future products by offering trainings that aim to increase Member States' capacity while also gathering feedback from participants on the different products offered. This feedback will be taken into consideration as the service evolves. The national collaboration programme will be tailored to the needs of each participating Member State after establishing a dialogue with them.

Finally, user uptake activities for each of the products will be developed and will include specific training sessions, webinars and information sessions.

The communication activities specific to Copernicus have been embedded as part of the communication programme at the EEA, with the goal of increasing the alignment between both. Communications activities will include a stronger online presence for Copernicus at the EEA and the organisation of land user events, together with the JRC, and trainings.

Under the new Copernicus Contribution Agreement mentioned above, the EEA is also in charge of the Cross-Cutting Coordination of Copernicus Access to In Situ Data, namely those activities where a coordinated approach to accessing in situ data are required at a programmatic level. For 2024-2026, the activities will cover (i) maintenance and update of the overview of Copernicus' in situ requirements, uses and challenges; (ii) provision of selected in-situ data in accordance with the needs of Entrusted Entities ; (iii) engagement with networks of in situ data providers (such as EuroGeographics and Eumetnet); and (iv) provision of support and advice to the Commission and Entrusted Entities regarding in-situ data activities.

3.2.9 Support to the Group of Earth Observation Systems of Systems – GEO/GEOSS

Over the years, the EEA has cooperated with the Group of Earth Observations (GEO) in building the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), with a specific focus on facilitating the sharing and accessibility of in-situ data. In 2021-2023 the EEA 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. This collaboration with DG RTD has been renewed for the period 2024-2026 through a second SLA, which will start in early 2024 and will be focused on enhancing the access to in situ Earth Observation data in support of climate change adaptation policies and activities.

The second SLA will build on the outcomes of the first SLA, including the implementation and follow-up of the In Situ Data Strategy for GEO, the promotion and implementation of the GEO Data Sharing and Management Principles for in situ data, and a series of showcases about in situ data on climate adaptation. The SLA activities will contribute to the accessibility and integration of in-situ data relevant for the implementation, inter alia, of the planned Digital Twin on Climate Adaptation. The SLA will also serve to underpin in-situ related activities within the EuroGEO initiative, the European node of GEO, coordinated by DG RTD. Furthermore, in this period the EEA will participate in relevant GEO working groups (Data Working Group, Climate Change Working Group) and initiatives, including, if appropriate, the renewal of the membership of the GEO Programme Board. Finally, EEA will build on its leading role in the Cross-Cutting Coordination of Copernicus Access to In Situ Data to facilitate synergies between Copernicus and GEO related activities.

In the context of this SLA, in 2024 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).

3.2.10 Support to Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy

The EEA continues 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 be completed in 2024 when EEA will deliver 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; and
3. providing tailored information and data on air pollution, industry and environment based on data reported under the EU and international reporting obligations.

3.2.11 Legal frameworks supported by multi-annual activities

Table 5 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
Chemicals strategy for sustainability towards a toxic-free environment (COM (2020) 667	1, 3, 4
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 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 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
General Union Environmental Action Programme to 2023 (8th EAP) (COM (2020)652)	1,2,3,4,5
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
Fisheries and Ocean Package – Marine Action Plan (COM/2023/102, COM/2023/100)	1,2
Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)	1, 2
Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (2014/89/EU)	1, 2
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) 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
Serious cross-border threats to health regulation (2022/2371)	2, 3
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
Zero pollution action plan (COM (2021) 400)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

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>).

3.2.12 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 6 provides a multiannual overview of the reporting cycle for reporting obligations managed by the EEA and dataflows.

Table 6 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 2023	2024	2025	2026
Air Quality Directive IPR	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/650	14	14	14	14
Birds Directive 2009/147/EC	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/658	3	2	3	2
CO ₂ emissions from new light commercial vehicles	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/648	2	2	2	2
CO ₂ emissions from passenger cars	https://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	2	2	2	2
EEA-Eionet regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/499	10	8	8	7
Emissions Trading Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/593	1	1	1	1
Environmental Noise Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/585	7	3	3	2
Environmental Quality Standards Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/634	1	1	1	1
E-PRTR regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/615	1	1	1	1
EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/694	2	0	0	0
EU Forest Strategy for 2030	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/695	1	1	1	1
F-Gas Regulation 2014	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/657	3	3	3	3
Floods Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/630	4	1	1	1
Fuel Quality Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/537	2	2	2	2
Greenhouse gas Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (MMR)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/652	4	3	3	3
Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/560	3	2	3	2
HDV Monitoring and Reporting Regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/676	2	2	2	2
Industrial Emissions Directive (IED)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/654	3	1	2	1
Marine Strategy Framework Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/631	7	4	2	2
Medium Combustion Plants (MCP) Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/659	2	0	0	1



Mercury Regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/677	4	2	4	2
New Bathing Water Directive (consolidated)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/609	2	2	2	2
New Drinking Water Directive (consolidated)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/545	1	1	0	0
Nitrates Directive (consolidated)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/257	1	1	0	0
Regulation on invasive alien species	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/660	1	0	1	0
Regulation on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS Regulation)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/554	1	1	1	1
Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/690	14	6	14	6
Revised NEC Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/675	10	3	8	6
Seveso Directive III	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/661	2	0	0	2
Sewage Sludge Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/514	1	1	1	1
Union Space Program Regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/693	6	6	6	6
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (consolidated)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/543	3	3	1	3
VOC Paints Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/647	1	0	0	1
Waste Framework Directive	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/643	1	1	1	1
Water Framework Directive (consolidated)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/516	4	1	1	1
Water Reuse Regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/obligations/831	new			
Bern Convention (international)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/564	2	1	2	1
CLRTAP (international)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/578	6	3	5	3
Energy Community reporting on the adapted Governance Regulation	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/682	4	2	14	3
UNFCCC (international)	https://rod.eionet.europa.eu/instruments/411	1	1	1	1

Notes:

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



3.2.13 EU submissions to international bodies managed by the EEA

Table 7 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.

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

Table 8 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)	-



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	-
Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (assigned revenue)	CLMS	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	-
'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	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 ' <i>Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change</i> ' (COM (2012)82 final)	y
European Climate and Health Observatory		SANTE CLIMA	Communication from the Commission final <i>Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change</i> (COM (2012)82 final)	
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 System for Europe	FISE	ENV	Communication From the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM (2021)572 final)	-
European Environmental Health Atlas and index		ENV SANTE	Zero pollution action plan	-
European Industrial Emission Portal (formerly European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register)	IEP	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
Seveso Industrial	To be defined	ENV	Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on the control of	Y



Accidents online platform (working name) – to be developed in the period of this SPD			major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances	
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
Mission on adaptation pages including mission hub		CIMA RTD	Communication from the Commission final Forging a climate-resilient Europe – the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM (2012)82 final)	
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

Note:

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

3.3 Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2024-2026

3.3.1 Overview of the past and present situation

Under the current MFF, the Commission has via legislative acts requested the EEA to take on several new tasks from 2021 to 2023. The legislative acts have included finance fiches, giving the EEA additional resources to deliver these new tasks.

The legislative acts are as follows:

- 8th EAP (2021);
- European Climate Law including the establishment of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change (2022);
- Seveso III Directive (2023).

The new tasks are described Section 2.2 *Development of new tasks* and the breakdown of the additional human and financial resources are provided in Tables 9 and 10 below.

The EEA's original 2023 budget included resources to deliver new tasks under the proposed EU Nature Restoration Law, which was due to be adopted in mid-2023. This was delayed; political agreement in principle was reached in November 2023 and adoption is anticipated by the end of 2023 or in early 2024. The Commission has therefore removed the earmarked 2023 budget for the EEA that they had held in reserve, triggering the need for the EEA to amend its budget accordingly to remove these resources (highlighted in red in Tables 9 and 10). The resources included in the draft 2024 budget will only be made available to the EEA once the legislation has been adopted.

3.3.2 Outlook for the years 2024-2026

In addition to the new tasks outlined above, the Commission has proposed four legislative acts giving the EEA further new tasks and resources in 2024, as follows:

- LULUCF regulation;
- E-PRTR regulation (recast);
- Zero Pollution Package;
- Carbon Removals and HDVs.

Furthermore, the Commission has proposed new tasks and resources for the EEA from 2025 to support Green Claims.

The new tasks are described in Section 2.2 *Development of new tasks* and the breakdown of the additional human and financial resources are provided in Tables 9 and 10 below. The LULUCF regulation has already been adopted; the tasks and resources are therefore already confirmed for the EEA's 2024 budget. All other new tasks and resources are subject to political agreement and adoption of the legislative acts.

In the 2024 Budget Circular, the Commission has specified a 2% annual indexation for the EEA's EU subvention for its baseline work programme. This is in accordance with the specification for the MFF 2021-2027, which envisaged 'stability in real terms' for the EU contributions for decentralised agencies.

However, the current inflationary environment significantly exceeds 2% and in the Budget Circular, the Commission has forecasted a salary update of +4.4% from 1 July 2023, and +3.4%

from 1 July 2024. The EEA has forecasted its salary budget based on this guidance and has used an average inflation rate of 4% from 2023 to 2024 for other expenditure. The inflationary increases in the EEA's Title 1 and Title 2 budgets therefore exceed the 2% annual indexation, placing pressure on its Title 3 operational budget.

A breakdown of the revenue and expenditure budgets are provided in Annex 3, *Financial resources 2024-2026*.

3.3.3 Resource programming for the years 2024-2026

Tables 9 and 10 below give the proposed development in the EEA's financial and human resources, giving a breakdown of the resources for the baseline work programme, and the additional resources specified in legislative acts in the current MFF.

Table 9 Development in the EU Subvention

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Baseline Work Programme	43,055,000	44,808,340	45,704,683	46,618,777	47,551,152
8th EAP	3,236,000	3,287,000	3,338,000	3,390,000	3,443,000
European Climate Law	3,391,516	3,459,546	3,528,533	3,599,604	3,671,086
SEVESO		495,570	935,763	970,678	870,892
LULUCF			2,297,000	3,343,000	2,389,000
E-PRTR Regulation (recast)			649,816	558,412	497,180
Nature Restoration		2,301,604	2,954,112	3,010,834	3,067,391
Zero Pollution Package			1,187,476	2,042,851	1,871,308
Carbon Removals & HDVs			379,034	835,058	789,759
Green Claims			0	274,986	432,172
EU Subvention	49,682,516	54,352,060	60,974,417	64,644,199	64,582,940
Third Countries & Other Contributions	6,199,261	6,270,733	7,559,179	7,835,492	7,831,030
General Revenue (EUR)	55,881,777	60,622,793	68,533,596	72,479,691	72,413,970

Table 10 Development in human resources

Development in Human Resources		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Baseline Work Programme	TA	131	132	131	131	131
	CA	74	74	74	74	74
8th EAP	TA	9	9	9	9	9
	CA	6	6	6	6	6
European Climate Law	TA	10	10	10	10	10
	CA	6	6	6	6	6
SEVESO	TA		3	3	3	3
	CA		1	1	1	1
LULUCF	TA		4	8	8	8
	CA		1	3	3	3
E-PRTR Regulation (recast)	TA			2	2	2
	CA			0	0	0
Nature Restoration	TA		7	7	7	7
	CA		5	5	5	5
zero pollution package	TA			5	5	5
	CA			3	3	3
Carbon Removals & HDVs	TA			1	1	1
	CA			3	4	4
Green Claims	TA				1	1
	CA				1	1
Temporary Agents (TA)		150	165	176	177	177
Contract Agents (CA)		86	93	101	103	103
Seconded National Experts (SNE)		20	20	20	20	20
TOTAL STAFF		256	278	297	300	300

3.3.4 Strategy for achieving efficiency gains

The EEA continues to achieve efficiency gains through the implementation of the five strategic objectives of its current strategy, as described in section 3.1.1 and how this in turn influences activities under the five work areas described in section 3.2.1.

Most notably, EEA invests continuously in the modernisation of its IT infrastructure to enhance the overall effectiveness of its internal workings, as well as to contribute to the modernisation of Eionet.

Efforts continue to improve the functioning and capacity of its e-reporting platforms such as Reportnet, so as to enable the integration and delivery of many more policy-specific data flows, per euro spent, from countries to the European level.

During 2022, the centralisation of EEA data sets into a data hub has enabled the EEA to make available its relatively large data holdings in a more accessible and usable way to experts,

thereby enabling greater value to be derived from the substantial investments made by countries and Copernicus in gathering environmental and climate data to support EU policies.

The EEA has also further enhanced 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 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.

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.

Online meetings continue to be a central feature, post-Covid, of EEA's interactions with Eionet and the many other existing and new stakeholders with whom it engages to support the implementation of the EGD. The meetings budget remains at 50% of pre-Covid levels, while engagement through meetings overall has increased substantially.

Efficiency gains also continue to be achieved through the no-print policy for EEA publications, which has in turn led to reductions in the operational costs of printing and storing EEA reports.

3.3.5 Negative priorities/decrease of existing tasks

This SPD essentially covers the mid-years of the EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030. The 8th EAP and the European Green Deal have brought many new knowledge priorities and resources to EEA. This has in turn led EEA to reflect, three years into its current strategy, on its knowledge priorities for 2024-2026 and how it distinguishes between areas of growth, areas where efforts will be maintained, areas where there are opportunities to either scale down efforts or further integrate knowledge, and areas where new demands are emerging.

The picture in Table 11 shows how the EEA knowledge response to policy demands is continuously evolving. It also highlights (in column 3) the efforts being made to integrate activities and knowledge in line with policy priorities.



Table 11 2024-26 knowledge investment priorities

Activity 1: Biodiversity and ecosystems			
Grow	Maintain	Scale down or integrate	Emerging
Work on nature restoration as outlined in the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the forthcoming Nature Restoration Law. Develop integrated water reporting in line with amendment to Water Framework Directive on groundwater and EQSD (and UWWT), if/when adopted. Support for reporting under Water Reuse Regulation (including the portal), the recast Drinking Water Directive, and the Nitrates Directive (SLA signature pending). Develop support for the water resilience agenda, including on climate change issues. Work on protection as outlined in the EU. Biodiversity Strategy. Assessment of maritime sectors (e.g. transport, fisheries, offshore RES) and input to maritime spatial planning. Greening the bioeconomy	Support for policy implementation including data flows and state of the environment assessments for nature, freshwater and marine. Support for key European Green Deal initiatives relating to nature, freshwater and marine.	Integrate and harmonise updated design elements to strengthen user-friendliness across the Information Platforms for biodiversity, freshwater, marine and forests.	Socio-economic dimensions of nature-based solutions. Anti-microbial resistance (AMR) and the environment. Strengthened cooperation with regional and economic institutions. Work on soil as outlined in the Soil Monitoring Law (which is out for consultation).



(agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry).			
Information to support ecosystem-based management and nature as a solution.			
Activity 2: Climate change mitigation and adaptation			
Grow	Maintain	Scale down or integrate	Emerging
Policy support in the area of climate risks, measuring progress on adaptation at national and EU level, and adaptation solutions at subnational level (including urban level) and for human health. Supporting the development of climate and energy data reporting in the Energy Community. Policy support in the area of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals in the agriculture and LULUCF sector (MRV, MS capacity building, assessments) to support implementation of the LULUCF regulation and the carbon removal certification framework).	Providing and policy relevant data and information for supporting implementation of adaptation solutions through updated climate adaptation platform. Providing climate and energy data and information to support implementation of the EGD and the European Climate Law. Assessing progress towards climate and energy targets. Analysing the effects, trade-offs and synergies of policies and measures in specific sectors. Supporting international negotiations and review activities under the UNFCCC.		Opportunities for linking EU digital agenda (notably Destination Earth initiative), Horizon Europe programme (notably its Missions) and climate change adaptation.
Activity 3: human health and the environment			



Grow	Maintain	Scale down or integrate	Emerging
Reporting on industrial accidents (Seveso) and reinforcement of industry reporting. Further development of work on the environmental burden of disease, in support of the zero pollution action plan and DG SANTE's efforts to beat cancer. Policy support to DG ENV on air quality, in light of the revision of the air quality directive and the allocation of two additional TA posts to EEA from 2024 onwards. Assessment of the systemic use of chemicals and impacts on environment and health, in support of the chemical strategy for sustainability. Support to DG SANTE under the strategy for a sustainable food system, due end of 2023.	Support for the implementation of policies on air quality, emissions to air and noise, including reporting, data management and regular assessments. EEA role under the Horizon Europe Partnership for the risk assessment of chemicals, in support of the chemical strategy for sustainability.	Potential integration of work on emissions of air pollutants under the NECD and LRTAP Convention with work on industrial emissions under the IED, in order to maximise internal synergies across these files with respect to data management and visualisation.	Under the Regulation on serious cross-border threats to health, a role is foreseen for the EEA to deliver risk assessments on cross-border threats to health of an environmental or climate origin. The EEA will further collaborate with EFSA, EMA, ECDC and ECHA to develop a common understanding of One Health approaches and establish concrete lines of cross-agency collaboration on One Health.
Activity 4: Circular economy and resource use			
Grow	Maintain	Scale down or integrate	Emerging
Support policy implementation in the area of CE by effective monitoring and assessment. Interlinkages of CE policies with Biodiversity, Climate and Env and Health agendas.	Assessments of resource use. Regular updates of country profiles on CE, waste management and waste prevention policies.	Specific efforts on key-product value chains where the policy cycle is not active.	Role of biomaterials in the CE transition. Consumer and product policy, with a focus on environment claims.



Support to policy implementation in the area of waste.			Resource nexus of the food system.
Activity 5: Sustainability trends, prospects and responses			
Grow	Maintain	Scale down or integrate	Emerging
Foresight methodologies and applications in support of SOER 2025 and EU long-term policy ambitions. Social and economic dimensions of sustainability transitions – enablers and just transition. European Environment Situation Room. Innovative indicators and indexes for EGD/8EAP and SOER 2025 e.g., transition indicators.	Monitoring under the 8th EAP. Eionet co-creation for SoE reporting and foresight. Sustainability measurement and assessment in SOER 2025. Support for the EU Sustainable Finance Agenda.	Integrate urban/local data with Copernicus data to provide data-driven analytics and foresight. Integrate foresight across the five work areas. Integrate sustainable finance in financing the transition across thematic areas.	User-focused services in the Situation Room. Revisiting global perspectives in the light of multiple crises – megatrends, reshoring, trade.

4 Annual work programme 2024

4.1 Executive summary

The annual work programme is structured around the five work areas of the EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030. EEA support for EU environment and climate policies determines the activities undertaken in each work area and in turn the range and types of outputs the Agency produces each year.

The focus on policy support also provides predictability around these outputs since many policies set down clear demands and timelines for knowledge support, over several years and sometimes decades. This in turn enables EEA to provide the information in Table 12, which covers those outputs where we have clear policy demands or obligations under the EEA Regulation e.g. on data and SOER, and where we are confident that they will be delivered within available resources.

The outputs in this table may change through the consultation process, as, for example, the priorities for the European Commission 2024 work programme become clearer during autumn 2023.

Table 12 2023 Summary of preliminary planned knowledge outputs for 2024

Publications	Activity area	Indicative timing 2024
European bathing water quality 2023	1	June
State of water	1	June
Joint EEA-EMSA 2024 European Maritime Transport Environmental Report	1	September
Beyond biodiversity strategy – success criteria for curbing biodiversity loss	1	September
Trends and projections in Europe 2024	2	October
Annual EU greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2022 and inventory report 2024	2	November
State of transport	2	December
State of energy	2	November
Land based carbon dioxide removals		November
Confidential F-gas report	2	16 September
Confidential ODS report	2	8 September
European climate risk assessment	2	April
Addressing the impacts of altered water quantity and quality on human health under the changing climate	2	May
Urban adaptation in Europe	2	May
Status of air quality in Europe 2024	3	24 April



Air pollution in Europe: National emissions reduction status 2024	3	30 June
Health impacts of air pollution	3	14 November
Annual EU air pollutant emission inventory 1990-2022	3	30 June
Impact of air pollution on ecosystems	3	14 November
2 nd zero pollution monitoring assessment	3	12 July
Joint EEA-ECHA Chemicals strategy for sustainability – indicator framework and synthesis	3	11 April
PFAS contamination in Europe	3	10 September
Environment, noise and children's health	3	20 November
Environmental determinants of respiratory disease	3	25 September
The transition to a circular economy in facts and figures – the Circularity Metrics Lab	4	September
The plastic value chain in numbers	4	June
Early assessments for Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (country factsheets)	4	1 June
Waste prevention (country factsheets)	4	July
Buildings and the environment: an integrated European assessment	4	15 June
Amounts and destruction of returned and unsold textiles in Europe's circular economy	4	March
8 TH EAP monitoring report	5	December
Sustainability transition outline	5	April
Just transition		October
Consolidated annual activity report (CAAR) 2023	-	June
EEA single programming document (SPD) 2025-2027	-	December
EEA Signals 2024	-	June
Eionet core data flows 2024	-	June

Core data flows	Activity area
Bathing Water Directive - Monitoring and Classification of Bathing Waters	1
Corine Land Cover	1
MSFD - Article 4 - Spatial data	1
Nationally designated areas (CDDA)	1
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive - Implementation	1
WISE SoE - Biology data (WISE-2)	1
WISE SoE - Water quality (WISE-6)	1
WISE SoE - Water Quantity (WISE-3)	1
Greenhouse gas inventories	2
(E1a) Information on primary validated assessment data - measurements (Article 10)	3



(E2a) Information on primary up-to-date assessment data -measurements (Article 10)	3
E-PRTR and LCP integrated data reporting	3
EU Registry on Industrial Sites	3
LRTAP Convention - National emission inventories	3

Information platforms	Activity area
EEA website	-
SOER 2025 digital	-
EEA data hub (analytical functions)	-
Eionet 2.0 platform	-
Copernicus Land Monitoring portal	-
Reportnet 3 (function extension)	1,2
Integrated information systems (BISE, FISE, WISE Freshwater, WISE Marine)	1
Climate and energy website	2

Indicators	Activity area
Heavy metal emissions in Europe	3
Persistent organic pollutant emissions	3
Exceedance of air quality standards in Europe	3
Exposure of Europe's ecosystems to ozone	3
Emissions of the main air pollutants in Europe	3
Premature deaths due to exposure to fine particulate matter in Europe	3
Unequal exposure to environmental risks – air pollution	3
Global and European temperatures	3
Arctic and Baltic Sea ice	2
Global and European sea-level rise	2
European sea surface temperature	2
Economic losses from climate-related extremes in Europe	2
Ocean acidification	2
Hydrofluorocarbon phase-down in Europe	2
Consumption of ozone-depleting substances	2
Total greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe	2
Atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations	2
Greenhouse gas emission intensity of fuels and biofuels for road transport in Europe	2
Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture in Europe	2
Greenhouse gas emissions from land use, land-use change and forestry in Europe	2
Progress towards national greenhouse gas emission targets in Europe	2
Greenhouse gas emissions from energy use in buildings in Europe	2
Progress in emission reductions in the EU Emissions Trading System	2



Use of the EU ETS Auctioning Revenues	2
Primary and final energy consumption in Europe	
Share of energy consumption from renewable sources in Europe	2
Greenhouse gas emission intensity of electricity generation in Europe	2
Industrial pollutant releases to air in Europe	2
Industrial pollutant releases to water in Europe	3
Emissions and energy use in large combustion plants in Europe	3
Land take in Europe	3
Progress in management of contaminated sites	1
Landscape fragmentation pressure and trends in Europe	1
Drought impact on ecosystems in Europe	1
Soil moisture deficit	1
Hazardous substances in marine organisms	1
Trends in marine non-indigenous species	1
Marine protected areas in Europe's seas	1
Nutrients in transitional, coastal and marine waters	1
Chlorophyll in transitional, coastal and marine waters	1
Status of marine fish and shellfish stocks in European seas	1
Changes in fish distribution in European seas	1
Oxygen concentrations in European coastal and marine waters	1
Abundance and distribution of selected species in Europe	1
Nationally designated terrestrial protected areas in Europe	1
Natura 2000 sites designated under the EU Habitats and Birds Directives	1
Ecological Footprint of European countries	1
Greenhouse gas emissions from transport in Europe	1
Emissions of air pollutants from transport	2
Exposure of Europe's population to environmental noise	3
CO ₂ performance of new passenger cars in Europe	2
Use of renewable energy for transport in Europe	2
New registrations of electric vehicles in Europe	2
CO ₂ performance emissions of new vans in Europe	2
CO ₂ performance emissions of new heavy-duty vehicles in Europe	2
Health impacts of exposure to noise from transport	3
Share of collective transport and non-road modes in total passenger and freight transport	2
Use of freshwater resources in Europe	2
Oxygen consuming substances in European rivers	1
Nutrients in freshwater in Europe	1
Water intensity of crop production in Europe	1
Water abstraction by source and economic sector in Europe	1
Pesticides in rivers, lakes and groundwater in Europe	1
Waste generation in Europe	4
Waste recycling in Europe	4



Diversion of waste from landfill in Europe	4
Europe's material footprint	4
Europe's consumption footprint	4
Circular material use rate in Europe	4

4.2 Activities

4.2.1 Biodiversity and ecosystems activity

The actions in focus for 2024 are:

- Action 1: Monitoring and reporting in support of EU policies on nature, freshwater and marine
- Action 2: Assessments, solutions and sustainability challenges for nature and ecosystems protection and restoration

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 actionable knowledge contributing to the maintenance and restoration of good ecosystem condition and halting 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, natural resources and ecosystem-based management in economically and societally relevant sectors, systems and policies. It includes: • Supporting monitoring, reporting and implementation of key legislation on biodiversity, nature, marine and freshwater and exploring the full potential of innovative monitoring, digitalisation, shared observation systems that allow changes in environmental status and condition, ecosystems 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 Green Deal and environmental acquis related to nature, freshwater and marine ecosystems, including the protection and restoration agenda of the 2030 biodiversity strategy, the zero pollution action plan, the farm-to-fork strategy, and the nature, freshwater and marine directives. 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.



	Knowledge on state of ecosystems, impacts by sectors, and solutions to environmental impacts from a systems and sustainability challenges perspective. In this context, focus will be given to the bioeconomy and the maritime sectors, 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	- 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, the EU Climate Law and the EU's missions on ocean and waters and on soil are important policies and initiatives to regulate pollution and climate change impacts on ecosystems. - The environmental acquis on nature, freshwater and marine is extensive, with key legislative instruments such as the habitats and birds directives, the Water Framework Directive, three industry directives (UWWTD, BWD, DWD) and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Support to the implementation of the environmental acquis is key to strengthening its implementation. A new proposal amending the Water Framework Directive in the areas of groundwater pollution and environmental quality standards will, if adopted, lead to the development of integrated water reporting. - The understanding of and links to other sectoral policies such as the common agricultural policy, the integrated maritime policy and maritime sectors, the common fisheries policy, the EU forest strategy, and the bioeconomy 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.
Expected results	- 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 the condition of, combined pressures on 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).
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Activity 1: Key performance indicators

KPI	Target 2024 (%)	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

Note: Delays in the roll out of Eionet tools modernisation has impacted the ability to collect and process coherent data with robust baselines on Eionet performance. The revised project roll-out timeline foresees richer data to be available to support improved KPIs on Eionet in 2024.

Activity 1	Biodiversity and ecosystems outputs
2024 output type	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	Outputs will specifically address the following topics: • The state of water bodies in Europe (WFD Art.18), primarily based on the WFD 3rd RBMPs reporting, and ecosystem-based solutions from an integrated water management perspective. • The ecosystem contribution (freshwater, marine, soil) to the 2nd Zero Pollution Action Plan Monitoring Report. • The delivery of the 2nd European Maritime Transport Environmental Report (EMTER 2.0) in cooperation with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). • The delivery of briefings (e.g. transition to sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture, harmful subsidies, bioeconomy and the five key drivers of biodiversity loss) as building blocks to the 2025 State of the Environment and Outlook Report.
Monitoring	Outputs will focus on: • Assessment of progress towards biodiversity targets at EU and country level. • Water data reported under the WISE workflows, the Bathing Water Framework Directive and UWWTD, the Drinking Water Directive and Water Reuse Regulation. If the amended Water Framework Directive proposal is adopted, an integrated water reporting will be developed. • Marine data reported under the 2024 MSFD reporting process and WISE-Marine.



	• Supporting strategic management of marine and maritime data. • Species and habitat data reported under the nature directives.
Enhancing network capabilities	Outputs will focus on: • Leading the Eionet Group on Biodiversity as well as the four sub-thematic groups with a view to exchange and provide information relevant to the assessment work, and pursuing co-creation opportunities. • Strengthening the coordination and exchange of data and information with the Regional Sea Conventions and other relevant marine and maritime organisations (e.g. ICES). • Strengthening the coordination and exchange of data with key economic institutions (EIB, ECB, OECD).
Information systems	Outputs will be focus on: • Further developing the integrated information systems for Europe (working with integrating the existing biodiversity, forest, freshwater and marine information systems).

Action 1 Monitoring and reporting in support of EU policies on nature, freshwater and marine

Description	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. 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. 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. These activities (applicable to both land and sea) relate to developing information and knowledge on ecosystem condition and restoration and will include: • supporting the reporting activities under the EU key legislation and evaluation/review processes (e.g. MSFD); • delivering on the assessment of ecosystem condition and combined pressures and impacts on terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems;
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	• 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. • 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; and • 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 2	
Assessments, solutions and sustainability challenges for nature and ecosystems protection and restoration	
Description	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 affect 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: • Pollution and chemicals impacting ecosystem conditions and their biodiversity, with a view to supporting the 2nd zero pollution action plan monitoring report, including knowledge on pressures stemming from sectors and pollution-related restoration targets under the biodiversity strategy for 2030. • The maritime sectors (e.g. transport, offshore renewable, fisheries) with a view to informing about sectoral impacts on the marine environments (e.g. in terms of air pollutants, GHGs emissions, release to water, waste generation and impacts on the marine biodiversity) and the ecosystem-based solutions to restore and strengthen the resilience of the marine environment. • The state of water bodies in Europe (WFD Art.18), primarily based on the WFD 3rd RBMPs reporting, and inform about ecosystem-based solutions from an integrated water management perspective.



	• 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, for example the 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.
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4.2.2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation activity

The actions in focus for 2024 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	Deliver data, information and actionable 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: • collecting, quality-checking, compiling and reporting relevant data and information on climate change mitigation, as well as climate change impacts, vulnerability, risks, and adaptation in Europe. • 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 of 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. • contributing to international negotiations and reviews on climate change, and monitoring of climate and energy progress in the Energy Community Contracting Parties; • supporting the various tasks of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, as described in European Climate Law.
Changing strategic context	• 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. This includes monitoring of the new, more ambitious targets set through the 'Fit for 55' package and RePowerEU plan, as well as in the European Climate Law. • The increased role of carbon removals in the agriculture and LULUCF sectors to ensure reaching climate targets. • In 2024, the Commission will propose a 2040 target and a 2030-2050 greenhouse gas emission budget, and the European Climate Law will be reviewed. • 2024 will also see Member States' submission of their second National Energy and Climate Plans, which describe their pathways to achieving the more ambitious targets for 2030, climate neutrality by mid-century, and their climate resilience. • In addition, EEA will support climate change policies and their implementation by: ○ providing relevant inputs to the Horizon Europe Mission for Adaptation to Climate Change; ○ preparing European climate risk assessment for supporting actions under the EU adaptation strategy; and ○ contributing to 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	• Assessment on climate risks to Europe due to be published in spring 2024; • Updated and upgraded Climate-ADAPT, European Climate and Health Observatory and knowledge and information for Horizon Europe's Mission on adaptation and its implementation;



	• Set up of a quality control system and a MS emission inventory improvement programme, to ensure that reliable data on agriculture and LULUCF emissions and removals become available for policymaking and compliance checking. • Assessment on urban adaptation in Europe due to be published in spring 2024; • Assessment addressing climate change adaptation and human health, with the focus on water related aspects, due to be published in spring 2024; • Mission on climate adaptation portal prepared and populated with information and mission pages for mission implementation platform prepared; • 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; • Assessment of the State of Europe's Energy Systems; • Assessment of the State of Europe's Mobility Systems; • Assessment of developments in climate finance and the contributions of the financial sector to mitigating climate change; • Assessments to identify options to increase carbon removals which ensure long-term storage without compromising other environment and climate targets; • Closer collaboration with Eionet member countries on mitigation and adaptation policies and measures; and • Adequate support provided to the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change.
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Activity 2: Key performance indicators

KPI	Target 2024 (%)	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

Note: Delays in the roll out of Eionet tools modernisation has impacted the ability to collect and process coherent data with robust baselines on Eionet performance. The revised project roll-out timeline foresees richer data to be available to support improved KPIs on Eionet in 2024.



Activity 2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation outputs	
2024 output types	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	Outputs will address specifically the following topics: • Comprehensive assessment of climate risks in Europe; • Assessment of climate adaptation solutions at urban scale; • Assessment of adaptation and human health with focus on water; • Implementation of mission on adaptation knowledge hub; • Assessment of the State of Europe's Energy Systems; • Assessment of the State of Europe's Mobility Systems; • Recent knowledge development on Climate Finance; and • Carbon removals in the land use sector and monitoring thereof (LULUCF, carbon farming).
Monitoring	Outputs will focus on: • Assessment of progress towards climate, energy and transport targets at EU and country level. • Improved use of geographic information on the MRV of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon removals.
Enhancing Network capability	Outputs will deliver on: • Enhanced cooperation with the EIONET, DG CLIMA, DG ENV, DG AGRI, DG MOVE, DG RTD, DG SANTE, DG CONNECT, DG NEAR and DG JRC, and the European Parliament; and • Support to the Energy Community will also further build the network in the West Balkans and Eastern Partnership regions.
Information systems	Outputs will be delivered by: • Upgraded and updated Climate – ADAPT; • Updated European Climate and health observatory; • Updated and upgraded mission portal under the mission on adaptation; and • Updated climate and energy platform.

Action 1 Monitoring and reporting on progress towards climate neutrality	
Description	The EEA will continue to work with the Commission on decarbonisation and energy efficiency dimensions to comply with the Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action (Governance Regulation), as defined in Article 42 of the same. This includes assisting with regular reporting activities (collecting, quality-checking, compiling data and preparing estimates) on climate and energy policies and measures, greenhouse gas inventories and projections, as well as approximated greenhouse gas inventories. The EEA will also carry on with its regular reporting activities concerning 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. To support the dissemination of data and information reported under the Governance Regulation and other climate-related regulation, the EEA will continue to provide climate and energy data and information via its online platform and its policies and measures database on the EEA website. 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 2024 State of the Energy Union report. Generation of renewable energy and energy efficiency estimates will continue to support the ongoing assessment of progress towards targets. The EEA will continue to support monitoring of the trends in carbon emissions from cars, vans and heavy-duty vehicles in Europe. This includes monitoring the gap between vehicle emissions tested in the laboratory and real-world emissions. The EEA will continue making the adaptations needed in light of the revised regulations on ozone depleting substances and F-gases, for example enhanced electronic verification related to F-gases. • The EEA will expand the 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. • In partnership with its country network, the EEA will continue developing knowledge on the transition of the energy and mobility systems towards climate neutrality and sustainability.
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Action 2 Monitoring and reporting on climate change impacts and adaptation	
Description	The EEA will work with the European Commission, the 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 risks 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: • Analysing the reported information and updating country profiles on Climate-ADAPT as needed; • Publishing comprehensive assessments on climate change risks in Europe; • Publishing climate change adaptation assessments with a specific focus on adaptation solutions and cases studies at subnational level (incl. urban areas) and the nexus climate change adaptation, human health and water; • Collecting climate hazards, impacts and vulnerability information in Europe, in collaboration with Copernicus services; • Performing assessments of the impact of climate change on the amount and permanence of carbon removals in the land use sector; • Performing assessments of nature-based solutions for mitigating the climate impacts and risks; • Supporting monitoring and reporting on adaptation at regional scales within the mission on adaptation, in particular developing the mission portal hosted by Climate-ADAPT and supporting activities related to mission implementation platform; • Further updating the European Climate and Health Observatory with a focus on water, climate and health, heat and diseases, climate and health literacy among others.
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Action 3 Assessing solutions for the transition towards climate neutrality and resilience	
Description	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: • Assessing climate resilience at urban and regional levels by preparing assessments of urban adaptation actions; • Assessing solutions to decrease climate risks in Europe and preparing European climate risk report; • Assessing solutions for human health in the context of adaptation; • Upgrading Climate-ADAPT platform to the new content management system and with new languages. Updating the Climate-ADAPT platform content and presenting good practice examples at, for instance, subnational level, and information from other sources such as Copernicus Climate Change Service, Destination Earth and mission on adaptation; • Assessing the role of biomass in Europe, in particular in reaching climate and biodiversity targets;



	- Assessing options to increase removal of carbon in the land use sector that do not compromise reaching other environmental and climate targets. - Providing continued and improved access to information, as well as knowledge sharing, on policies and measures applied by European countries towards climate change mitigation and energy targets.
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Action 4 Supporting the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change	
Description	The EEA will host a new secretariat to support the new European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change. 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.

4.2.3 Human health and the environment activity

The actions in focus for 2024 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	Activity 3 covers the following work areas: - Supporting countries and the European Commission with the reporting of data flows and information on environmental pressures on human health, including on air quality, air pollutant emissions, environmental noise, and industry (Industrial Emission Portal, Industrial Emissions Directive, industrial accidents involving dangerous substances (Seveso), and Mercury Regulation). - Assessing progress towards relevant policy objectives, including those of the zero pollution action plan and the 8th EAP. In particular, the EEA will deliver the second indicator-based assessment in early 2024. The EEA will continue to



	coordinate closely with the JRC and DG ENV in the context of the zero pollution outlook work. • Managing information on air quality as reported under the air quality directives, assessing human exposure to air pollutants against EU standards and World Health Organisation (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, the European City Air Viewer, and the European Environmental Health Atlas and Index. • Managing reported information on human exposure to environmental noise and estimating associated health impacts. • 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 vulnerable groups. • Improving understanding of the benefits to health and well-being in Europe provided by access to high quality environments, particularly in urban contexts. • Producing updated assessments of the burden of disease associated with exposure to environmental stressors in Europe, and making this information accessible to stakeholders and the public. • Assessing the exposure of the environment and humans to chemicals and the associated impacts on ecosystems and human health. Supporting the development of the chemical policies agenda, with a particular focus on assessing progress under the chemical strategy for sustainability. • Exploring the interlinkages, synergies and tensions between environmental pollution/health and other factors such as climate change and ecosystem health/biodiversity loss. • Working closely with countries through our Eionet groups to utilise the experience and knowledge available within member countries, in particular their contributions to EEA assessments and reports (e.g. sharing country experiences through case studies and relevant national level initiatives). • Delivering on the EEA's role in prioritising research work under the Partnership for the Assessments of the Risks of Chemicals (PARC) within Horizon Europe, in partnership with EFSA and ECHA, and in supporting the development of guidelines around approaches that are safe and sustainable by design.
Changing strategic context	The implementation of key elements of the EGD will significantly shape EEA work on human health and the environment including in particular: • the zero pollution action plan and accompanying legislative proposals for air, water and soil, as well as the EEA role in delivering the zero pollution monitoring assessment;



	• the chemicals strategy for sustainability and the related legislative initiative on chemical safety – better access to chemicals data for safety assessments, as well as the revision of REACH expected in late 2023; • a revised EU industrial strategy and expected 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, the biodiversity strategy and the circular economy action plan. In particular, EEA will support the ongoing revision of the air quality directive, with work on air quality to be expanded going forward enabled by two additional posts to be established from 2024 onwards. Additional ambitions, as a result of Commission proposals, with regard to the Industrial Emissions Directive, the E-PRTR – now called the 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 of the routine work of Activity 3. Under the Regulation on serious cross-border threats to health, a role is foreseen for the EEA in delivering risk assessments on cross-border threats to health of an environmental or climate origin. In 2023, EEA will engage in dialogue with DG SANTE to further clarify expectations regarding the scope and outputs of this role and to define the EEA contribution for 2024. EEA will continue to support the implementation of the NEC Directive, the Industrial Emissions Directive, the E-PRTR, the Noise Directive, the Water Framework Directive, the Floods Directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, and relevant chemicals legislation including the Mercury Regulation. 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.
Expected results	• Updated and more timely knowledge of environmental pressures relevant to human health, and progress toward relevant policy objectives. • Improved understanding of the burden of disease arising from combined exposure to different environmental stressors.



	• The provision to citizens of 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.
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Activity 3: Key performance indicators

KPI	Target 2024 (%)	Means of verification
Eionet data submission – Eionet data flows	90	Annual KPIs
Work programme delivery - indicators updated	90	Annual KPIs
	90	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs

Note: Delays in the roll out of Eionet tools modernisation has impacted the ability to collect and process coherent data with robust baselines on Eionet performance. The revised project roll-out timeline foresees richer data to be available to support improved KPIs on Eionet in 2024.

Activity 3	Human health and the environment outputs
2024 output types	Indicator-based assessments, indicators, briefings, web products, a dedicated app, input to research under Horizon Europe, support to the Commission on specific files.
Expanding the knowledge base	EEA will build knowledge on the following topics: • Environmental health, the environmental burden of disease and vulnerable groups; • Air quality and impacts on health and ecosystems; • Emissions to air, industrial emissions and industrial accidents; • Systemic use of chemicals and impacts on environment and health; and • Exposure to environmental noise and impacts on health.
Monitoring	EEA will manage the follow flows of monitoring data: • Air quality data reported under the air quality directives; • Emissions data reported under the NECD and Air Convention; and • Noise data as reported under the END.
Enhancing network capability	Key networking activities include: • Collaborating with our Eionet partners on environment and health to exchange information, build capacities and co-create knowledge; • Engaging with stakeholders in the environment and health communities to disseminate EEA knowledge and multiply our messaging, including NGOs, industry federations, health practitioners and the research community;



	• Delivering the EEA role as a partner in the partnership for the risk assessment of chemicals (PARC), in collaboration with ECHA and EFSA; • Working with EFSA, ECHA, EMA and ECDC to deliver a common approach to One Health across EU agencies; and • Promoting the use of Copernicus data in EEA products, including Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring data and Corine Land Cover data.
Information systems	EEA will make the following information systems available: • European environmental health atlas; • The NOISE Observation & Information Service for Europe; • Noise portal; • European air quality index; • European city air viewer; • Air quality portal; • EEA will also continue to coordinate modules under IPCHEM and to support development of the Common Data Platform on chemicals, led by ECHA.

Action 1 Health-related environmental pressures	
Description	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. In particular, the EEA will receive additional resources and will provide support to DG ENV in the context of the revised ambient air quality directives, which are expected to be finalised in 2024. This includes additional support for the monitoring, reporting and assessment of air pollutants of emerging concern and for the reporting of air quality plans. Following agreement on the air quality directive, EEA expects to provide support for the revision of the implementing decision regarding the reciprocal exchange of information and reporting on ambient air. Progress towards policy objectives for the mitigation of emissions of pollutants will be evaluated. This includes supporting the reporting of emissions data and delivering assessments of progress under the National Emission reduction Commitments Directive and the UNECE Air Convention, in particular delivery of the EU annual emissions inventory report.



	Assessment of progress towards policy objectives and management of exchanges of data in the context of industrial activities, comprising: 1) industrial emissions covered by the Industrial Emission Portal Regulation; 2) regulatory data relevant to the Industrial Emissions Directive; 3) energy input and emissions from Large Combustion Plants; 4) reportable information under the Mercury Regulation; and 5) information on sites under the scope of the Seveso Directive as well as reporting of individual accidents involving dangerous substances.
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Action 2 Environmental impacts on human health and well-being	
Description	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. The European Environmental Health Atlas, first launched in 2023, will be updated with the latest data. The atlas is an online platform displaying spatial data on environmental pollution, impacts on health and social factors. Aimed at citizens and other key stakeholders, the tool includes a ‘check your place’ function to allow people to explore the quality of their local environment. The Atlas is complemented by an Environmental Health Index, providing a single measurement of environmental health by country. The Atlas is also closely linked to the Climate and Health Observatory, with some common issues addressed across both platforms. Further synergies between the Atlas and the Climate and Health Observatory will be explored, along with potential synergies with the JRC cancer inequalities registry. 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. Another line of work documents the environmental determinants of specific diseases, with a focus on respiratory disease in 2024. An assessment of the environmental burden of disease in Europe will be produced, focused on the environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease in Europe. EEA will continue to explore the role of socio-economic status, demographics and behaviours as determinants in environmental health and well-being across Europe. Regarding the social distribution of the health impacts of pollution, the EEA will publish a report on children and environmental health in 2024, in support of the call for evidence of the effects of pollution on vulnerable groups in zero pollution action plan.

Regarding chemicals, in early 2024 EEA will publish in partnership with ECHA, the framework of chemical indicators to measure progress under the chemical strategy for sustainability. The online indicator framework will be complemented by a policy-relevant synthesis report summarising key messages and identifying data gaps.

EEA will also continue to assess the systemic use of chemicals in Europe, the presence of chemicals both in the environment and in the European population, and the resulting impacts on ecosystems and health. Drawing on human biomonitoring data produced under the Horizon 2020 project HBM4EU, EEA will generate qualitative estimates of the burden of disease attributable to human exposure to chemicals in Europe, to publish in 2024.

EEA will also help to steer, in collaboration with ECHA and EFSA, the development of new knowledge on chemicals under the Horizon Europe project PARC. This includes ensuring that PARC delivers data and knowledge relevant in the context of the chemical strategy for sustainability, including data on exposure and health impacts that can be used in the indicator framework and options for delivering safe and sustainable chemicals by design. EEA will also enable the communication and dissemination of PARC results.

EEA will continue to support the Information Platform for Chemical Monitoring (IPCHEM), as module coordinator on environmental and human biomonitoring data. The proposed chemicals regulation under the one substance one assessment initiative (expected in 2024) will also provide additional resources and responsibilities to the EEA including supporting the development of the common data platform for chemicals (coordinated by ECHA), coordinating the collection of human biomonitoring data from Member States and developing an early warning system for chemicals. This will require increased collaboration with other agencies including ECHA and EFSA.

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.

The benefits of access to biodiverse environments will be assessed, with a focus on the efficacy of green solutions to improve health and well-being in urban areas.

Work on joint activities with partner EU agencies, including ECHA and EFSA, other EU institutions, and the Copernicus Atmospheric Monitoring Service service will continue. EEA will provide support to the Regulation on serious cross-border threats to health, developing



capacity to prepare rapid risk assessments in response to relevant events (of environmental/climate origin), again working closely with other agencies such as EFSA, ECHA and ECDC.

4.2.4 Circular economy and resource use activity

The actions in focus for 2024 are:

- Action 1: Monitoring and assessment of the transition to a circular economy
- Action 2: Supporting implementation of EU waste legislation
- Action 3: Interlinkages of circular economy with EU biodiversity, climate neutrality and well-being objectives

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: • 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; • Contributing to the follow up of implementation of policies at national level in connection to existing processes such as the environment implementation reviews performed by the European institutions; • Identifying co-benefits and trade-offs brought about by the implementation of a greater circular economy in Europe for the biodiversity, zero pollution and climate neutrality ambitions; • 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); and • Analysing material flows, resource efficiency, critical raw materials and the environmental and climate aspects of these.
Changing strategic context	The EGD has transformed the orientation of policies around resource use, industrial ecosystems and the circular economy. The implementation of the 2020 circular economy action plan is now well under way, and a set of proposals have either already been adopted, are being read by the co-legislators or are 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.

	Since 2023, increasing priority is given to the interface between circular economy and zero pollution, climate neutrality and biodiversity ambitions. 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 into a circular, climate-neutral model. In coordination with other actors, particularly Eurostat and the JRC, and complementing the European Circular Economy Monitoring Framework, this strand of work at EEA delivers interpretation and further detail on the systemic transformations necessary to achieve the goals of this policy area. In a context of adoption of substantial strategies and EU law on this theme, supporting policy implementation at national level is an aspect of particular emphasis in the years to come. EEA is committed to cooperating directly with existing processes, such as the Environment Implementation Reviews, by providing systematic monitoring of national strategies and initiatives at country level.
Expected results	• 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, well-being and biodiversity; and • Improved knowledge on circular economy aspects that relate to socio-economic, business models and citizen behaviour.

Activity 4: Key performance indicators

KPI	Target 2024 (%)	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

Note: Delays in the roll out of Eionet tools modernisation has impacted the ability to collect and process coherent data with robust baselines on Eionet performance. The revised project roll-out timeline foresees richer data to be available to support improved KPIs on Eionet in 2024.



Activity 4 Resource use and circular economy outputs	
2024 output type	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	Outputs will address the following topics: • Complementary metrics on the circular economy transition by further enhancing the Circularity Metrics Lab; • Updated overviews of national state of play on waste prevention, waste management and circular economy policies in view of the Environment Implementation review; • Enhanced understanding of interlinkages between the circular economy transition and zero pollution, climate neutrality and biodiversity ambitions; and • Finalising the briefing series on key-product value chains with a focus on textiles, plastics and buildings.
Monitoring	Outputs will focus on: • Complementary metrics on the circular economy transition by further enhancing the Circularity Metrics Lab; and • Continued investment on innovative metrics and innovative approaches to derive metrics.
Enhancing network capability	Outputs will focus on: • Cooperation with DG RTD, JRC and ESTAT in relation to circular economy uptake and its measurement; • Cooperation with UNEP's International Resource Panel in relation to the Global Resource Outlook 2024; and • Mainstreaming co-creation methods with Eionet in this topic area.

Action 1 Monitoring and assessment of the transition to a circular economy	
Description	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 ESTAT, and also contribute to the relevant aspects of the 8th EAP monitoring framework. After years of policy innovation at European level and subsequent legislative work, the implementation of these principles and legal obligations is increasingly a matter for the national level. In connection to that, EEA will reorient efforts to systematically compile and assess policies at national level and contribute more directly to processes such as the Environment Implementation Review. This work will build on previously successful processes, such as the More From Less series or the work to compile country profiles on specific elements of Circular Economy policies. The identification of good and best practices, and the exchange across countries facilitated by Eionet, will aim to contribute to speed up implementation.



	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 to support the International Resource Panel. In particular, in 2024 the EEA will support the launch and outreach of the IRP <i>'Global resource outlook report'</i>.
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Action 2	
Supporting implementation of EU waste legislation	
Description	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 2024 the EEA will assess the information compiled in 2023 to produce a second biennial report on waste prevention, to be published in 2025. The focus of the thematic chapter will be on food waste, as future policy revisions in this area are expected to include specific targets on this waste stream. The report will continue to broadly contribute to improving monitoring tools on waste prevention. The outcome will be included the Circularity Metrics Lab already in 2024. A monitoring framework for waste prevention was the focus of the first assessment. 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, significant investment has been made in previous years to support this process. Specific country reports coupled with briefings on the key issues identified during the process were 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 WFD. 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 material markets, environmental issues arising from waste shipments, or the challenges posed by other policy ambitions in terms of waste generation and management.

Action 3	
Interlinkages of circular economy with EU biodiversity, climate neutrality and well-being objectives	
Description	Europe's ambition to transition to climate neutrality, together with the objective to protect and restore biodiversity, are two goals to which the circular economy will contribute. Developing an improved 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.

4.2.5 Sustainability trends, prospects and responses activity

Actions in focus for 2024 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, progress evaluation, outlooks and indicators in support of EU policy needs and EEA assessments, especially in the 8th EAP EEA monitoring report and SOER 2025.
Activity description	This activity covers: • Implementation of the SOER 2025 Road Map and 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) and through supporting work of EEA assessment team; • 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 the volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous world we live in; • Developing new methodological approaches to improve further the quality and policy relevance of these assessments and their applicability for policy development; • 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; and • 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.
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 and the EU needs to accelerate to meet EGD objectives and climate neutrality by 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	• Implementation of SOER Road Map and delivery of the report through organizing and backing up assessments team for SOER2-25, including experts from all programmes and coordinating the processes; • 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; • Development of socio-economic analyses for just transition; • New methods for measuring and assessing sustainability transitions; and • Involvement and increased capacities of EIONET networks and co-creation of transition monitoring and country spaces for SOER2025.

Activity 5: Key performance indicators

KPI	Target 2024 (%)	Means of verification
Work programme delivery - publications	90	Annual KPIs
Eionet satisfaction/interactions	TBC	Annual KPIs

Note: Delays in the roll out of Eionet tools modernisation has impacted the ability to collect and process coherent data with robust baselines on Eionet performance. The revised project roll-out timeline foresees richer data to be available to support improved KPIs on Eionet in 2024.



Activity 5 Outputs Sustainability trends, prospects and responses	
2023 output types	Summary description of outputs
Expanding the knowledge base	Outputs will address the following issues: • Knowledge base for development of SOER2025 and Road Map implementation; • An integrated assessment of how Europe can achieve its long-term sustainability transitions ambitions with conclusions and policy recommendations; • Foresight analyses in support to SOER 2025, EEA needs, and the EU Strategic Foresight Initiative; • An analysis of enablers of system transitions as a contribution to SOER 2025; and • A 2nd annual indicator-based monitoring report under the 8th EAP.
Monitoring	Outputs will focus on: • Further application of the EEA Sustainability Measurement and Assessment framework focused on the summary assessment table for SOER 2025; • SOER Transition monitoring/Country Spaces and indicators of sustainability transitions at national level; • New indicators on enablers of sustainability transitions as a contribution to 8th EAP report and SOER 2025; and • Transitions indicators that compare countries' progress towards 8th EAP and EGD objectives including gaps analysis and potential solutions to close gaps
Enhancing network capability	Outputs will deliver on: • Co-creation of country-relevant knowledge outputs for SOER 2025 with the Eionet Groups on Foresight and State of the Environment reporting; and • Engaging with the EEA Scientific Committee and research networks on emerging issues for SOER 2025.

Action 1 Monitor and assess sustainability in Europe through systemic lenses and across scales	
Description	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 governance agenda and the EU SDGs. • 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, quantitative storytelling, foresight, composite indicators, dashboards, etc.). • 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 implementation of 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	• 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



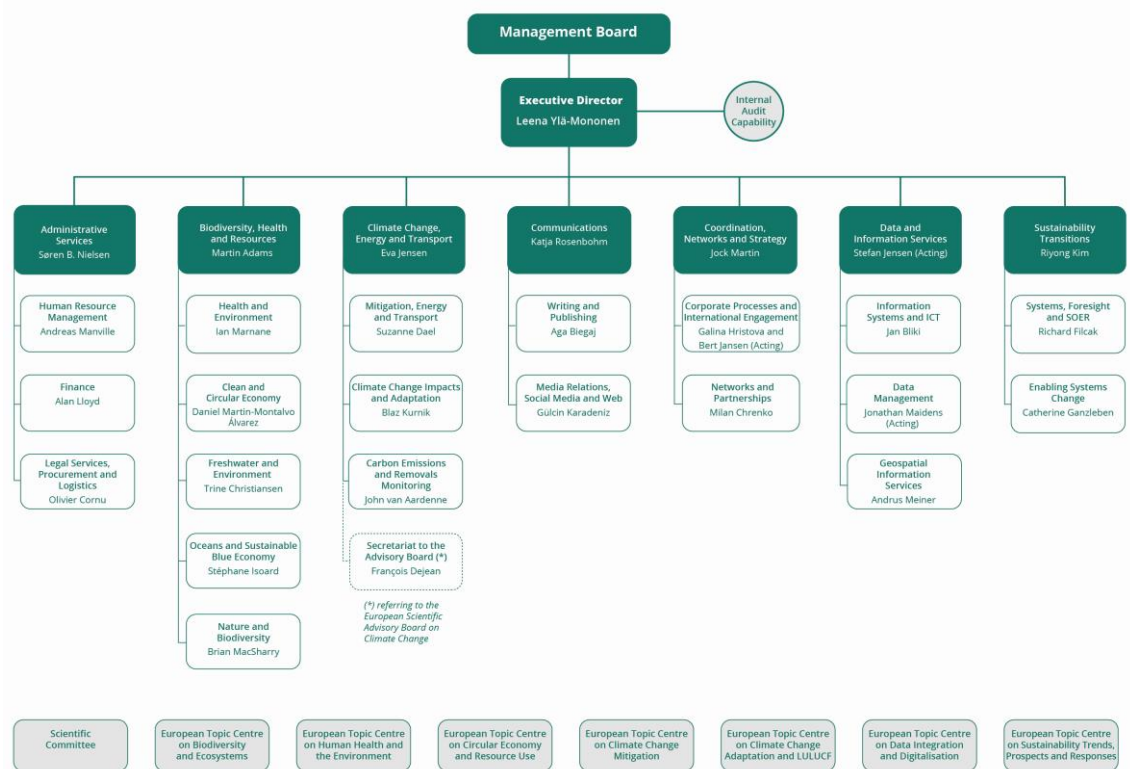
	supporting experimentation, innovation and learning, and their capacity to deliver transitions across scales. • Continue engagement and ensure timely knowledge contributions under the renewed EU sustainable finance strategy as per the EEA's roles therein. • Continue EEA's role as a permanent member in 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. • 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. • Develop knowledge on the urban dimension of sustainability, building on the previous work, 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	• 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 with the 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 into 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 in development and implementation of 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 on-line 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' dimensions of urban sustainability work in a new phase of the EEA urban stakeholders' group.
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Annex 1 Organisational Chart



Notes:

The chart presents the EEA's organisation on 1 January 2024.

Coordination, Networks and Strategy includes a Brussels Liaison Office, located in Brussels

Annex 2 Resource allocation per activity 2024-2026

Activity	2023		2024		2025		2026	
	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)	FTEs	Budget (EUR million)
1 Biodiversity and Ecosystems	80	21.0	85	23.4	85	24.6	85	23.4
2 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption	84	18.6	92	22.0	93	24.0	93	23.4
3 Human Health and the Environment	29	8.0	32	9.6	32	9.8	32	9.3
4 Resource Use and the Circular Economy	18	5.1	18	5.3	20	5.4	20	6.3
5 Sustainability, Trends, Prospects and Responses	36	7.9	36	8.2	36	8.4	36	10.0
Total	246	60.6	263	68.5	266	72.2	266	72.4

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 2023 to 2026 reflects the additional staffing and resources the EEA will receive from the following legislative acts with finance fiches assigning new tasks to the Agency:

- Nature Restoration Legislation — Activity 1 in the original 2023 budget but now delayed to 2024
- 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
- Green Claims – Activity 4 from 2025

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 2024-2026

Table A1 EEA revenue budgets

GENERAL REVENUE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2022	Original Budget 2023	Draft Budget 2024		VAR 2024 / 2023	Anticipated 2025	Anticipated 2026
			Agency Request	Budget Forecast			
1 REVENUE FROM FEES AND CHARGES							
2 EU CONTRIBUTION	49,682,516	54,352,060	60,974,417	60,974,417	12.2%	64,644,199	64,582,940
- Of which assigned revenues deriving from previous years' surpluses	235,161	171,623	251,873	251,873	46.8%	0	0
- Of which funding of European Schools Type 2	260,000	430,000	450,000	450,000	4.7%	459,000	468,000
3 THIRD COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTION (incl. EFTA and candidate countries)	4,367,869	4,394,330	5,300,867	5,300,867	20.6%	5,441,262	5,439,069
- Of which EFTA	1,240,869	1,267,330	2,173,867	2,173,867	71.5%	2,314,262	2,312,069
- 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	1,831,392	1,876,403	2,258,312	2,258,312	20.4%	2,394,230	2,391,961
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE	55,881,777	60,622,793	68,533,596	68,533,596	13.0%	72,479,691	72,413,970

ADDITIONAL REVENUE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2022	Original Budget 2023	Draft Budget 2024		VAR 2024 / 2023	Anticipated 2025	Anticipated 2026
			Agency Request	Budget Forecast			
Additional EU funding stemming from grant agreements (FFR Art. 7)	3,247,000	0	0	0		0	0
Additional EU funding stemming from contribution agreements (FFR Art. 7)	25,648,000	35,524,460	27,151,000	27,151,000	-23.6%	25,039,000	28,633,000
Additional EU funding stemming from service level agreements (FFR Art. 43.2)	8,081,000	2,880,000	0	0		0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL REVENUE	36,976,000	38,404,460	27,151,000	27,151,000	-29.3%	25,039,000	28,633,000

TOTAL REVENUE (EUR)	92,857,777	99,027,253	95,684,596	95,684,596	-3.4%	97,518,691	101,046,970
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Notes:

The EU CONTRIBUTION in the Original Budget 2023 includes EUR 2.3 million for the Nature Restoration Law, which will be removed in the final amended budget.

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 2022 to 2026, 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 2024-2026*.

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

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

CORE EXPENDITURE (EUR)	Executed Budget 2022	Original Budget 2023	Draft Budget 2024		VAR 2024 / 2023	Anticipated 2025	Anticipated 2026
			Agency Request	Budget Forecast			
Title 1 Staff Expenditure	33,313,093	36,723,793	42,748,596	42,748,596	16.4%	45,497,691	46,308,970
11 Salaries & allowances	31,650,614	34,548,793	40,256,596	40,256,596	16.5%	43,173,691	44,152,970
- of which establishment plan posts	22,507,870	23,096,991	27,926,596	27,926,596	20.9%	29,907,943	30,621,970
- of which external personnel	9,142,744	11,451,802	12,330,000	12,330,000	7.7%	13,265,749	13,531,000
12 Expenditure relating to Staff recruitment	413,720	750,000	900,000	900,000	20.0%	700,000	500,000
13 Mission expenses	313,000	300,000	450,000	450,000	50.0%	459,000	468,000
14 Socio-medical infrastructure	367,916	460,000	467,000	467,000	1.5%	476,000	485,000
15 Training	553,843	650,000	650,000	650,000	0.0%	663,000	676,000
16 Social services	14,000	15,000	25,000	25,000	66.7%	26,000	27,000
Title 2: Infrastructure and administrative expenditure	5,662,945	6,214,000	6,396,000	6,396,000	2.9%	6,203,000	5,911,000
21 Rental of buildings and associated costs	4,454,819	4,365,000	4,514,000	4,514,000	3.4%	4,292,000	4,171,000
22 Movable property and associated costs	320,475	780,000	752,000	752,000	-3.6%	761,000	570,000
23 Current administrative expenditure	721,299	796,000	887,000	887,000	11.4%	903,000	919,000
24 Postage / Telecommunications	6,885	13,000	13,000	13,000	0.0%	13,000	13,000
25 EEA Governance	155,513	220,000	220,000	220,000	0.0%	224,000	228,000
26 Environmental management of the EEA	3,954	40,000	10,000	10,000	-75.0%	10,000	10,000
Title 3 Operational expenditure	16,905,739	17,685,000	19,389,000	19,389,000	9.6%	20,779,000	20,194,000
33 Resources	15,332,255	15,830,000	17,263,000	17,263,000	9.1%	17,610,000	17,961,000
35 Areas of Work	1,573,484	1,855,000	2,126,000	2,126,000	14.6%	3,169,000	2,233,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	55,881,777	60,622,793	68,533,596	68,533,596	13.0%	72,479,691	72,413,970

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 2022 to 2026 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 11 and 12 in Section 3.3 *Human and financial resource outlook for the years 2024-2026*, and descriptions of the new tasks are provided in Section 2.2.2 *Foreseen new tasks in 2024-2026*.

Secondly, the impacts of inflationary increases: the Commission's guidance for budget development given for MFF 2021-27 had defined a 2% annual indexation for the EEA's EU subvention to give 'stability in real terms' and the Commission confirmed this instruction for the 2024 budget in the Budget Circular. However, this is not sufficient in the current inflationary environment. Therefore, for 2023 the EEA is offsetting the inflationary increases in its Title 1 and 2 budgets by reducing certain operational expenditure in its Title 3 budget. Whilst a gradual reduction in inflation is forecast from 2024 to 2026, inflation is anticipated to still exceed the annual indexation over this period, placing continued pressure on the operational budget.

Some of the main expenditure developments are as follows:

- Chapter 11: The overall salary increase from 2022 to 2023 was 7.3%; this comprised 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% was complemented by a slight increase in the correction coefficient for remuneration for Denmark, from 134.2% at the end of 2022 to 134.7%, hence resulting in an overall salary increase of 7.3%. All rappels are applied with a six-month back-dated effect. For the 2024 budget, the Commission's forecast in the Budget Circular of a 2023 year-end rappel of 4.4% and 2024 year-end rappel of 3.4%. These increases have been applied to determine the 2024 salary budgets, with no change assumed to the correction coefficient for remuneration for Denmark. The overall increase of 16.7% in Chapter 11 from 2023 to 2024 is driven by these rates increases and the additional posts for new tasks, as outlined in Section 3.3. The salary budgets for 2025 and 2026 have been calculated using a 2% annual increase to align with the MFF guidance, though this is probably too low.
- The budget for recruitment expenditure (Ch. 12), which includes installation allowances, is high in 2023 and 2024 as a result of the recruitment of the additional staff to deliver the EEA's new tasks, and is anticipated to reduce in 2025 and 2026.
- As part of the EEA's plan to achieve climate neutrality, it has significantly reduced its 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). However, the initial mission budget for 2023 proved to be insufficient because of significant increases in flight and accommodation prices. The budget was therefore increased during the year and the 2024-26 budgets reflect this.

- 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. Most refurbishment will be completed at the end of 2024, resulting in the reduced budget for these chapters in 2025 and 2026.
- The largest component of Ch. 33 is the budget for the EEA’s European Topic Centres (ETCs), which was EUR 8.8m in the original 2023 budget, but then reduced because of the delay to the Nature Restoration Law. The budget for 2024 is EUR 9.3 million, the increase is to deliver new tasks, with the budget available to continue previous tasks reducing in real terms. The other components of Ch. 33 are the IT and communications budgets. They will increase from EUR 6.5 million in 2023 to EUR 7.3 million in 2024, the increase being primarily to deliver new tasks.
- Ch. 35 comprises the EEA’s direct contracting in its thematic areas of work; the budget increase from 2023 to 2024 and again in 2025 stems from the Finance Fiche for LULUCF.

Table A3 Budget outturn and cancellation of appropriations 2020-2022

Budget outturn	2020	2021	2022
Reserve from the previous years' surplus (+)			
Revenue actually received (+)	61,169,120	66,608,472	85,374,306
Payments made (-)	-64,118,346	-57,559,461	-65,607,077
Carryover of appropriations (-)	-27,834,239	-28,102,672	-36,737,126
Cancellation of appropriations carried over (+)	203,867	160,082	250,600
Adjustment for carryover of assigned revenue appropriation from previous year (+)	30,805,060	21,230,293	15,986,712
Exchange rate differences (+/-)	9,700	-4,218	- 15,543
Adjustment for negative balance from previous year (-)		-2,160,873	
TOTAL	235,162	171,623	251,873

Annex 4 Human resources quantitative

Table A4 Staff population and its evolution: overview of all categories of staff 2022-2026

A. Statutory staff and seconded national experts

Human Resources	2022			2023	2024	2025	2026
	Authorised Budget	Actually filled 31/12/2022	Occupancy rate (%)	Authorised Budget	Envisaged	Envisaged	Envisaged
Administrators (AD)	90	88	97.8%	104	120	120	120
Assistants (AST)	60	58	96.7%	61	56	57	57
Assistants/Secretaries (AST/SC)	0	0		0	0	0	0
ESTABLISHMENT PLAN POSTS	150	146	97.3%	165	176	177	177
Contract Agents (CA)	86	84	97.7%	93	101	103	103
Seconded National Experts (SNE)	20	13	65.0%	20	20	20	20
TOTAL STAFF	256	243	94.9%	278	297	300	300

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	2023 Authorised	2024 Envisaged	2025 Envisaged	2026 Envisaged
PARC	RTD	2	2	2	2
Copernicus Contribution Agreement	DEFIS	12	12	12	12
IPA III - Green Agenda & Energy Community	NEAR	5	7	7	7
NDICI - Governance of the Energy Community	NEAR				
EuroGEO	RTD	2	2		
Climate & Health Observatory	SANTE	1	1	1	
Regional & Urban Env Indicators	REGIO	2	2		
LULUCF	CLIMA	0			
Mission on Adaption to Climate Change	CLIMA	4	4	4	
European Climate Risk Assessment	CLIMA	2	2		
EEA - Eurostat Cooperation	ESTAT	3	3	3	3
Nitrates Directive	JRC	2	2	2	
International Resource Panel	UNEP	1			
TOTAL		36	37	31	24

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; **Eurostat/ESTAT**, Statistical Office of the European Union; **UNEP**, United Nations Environment Programme; **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.

C. Other human resources (intra muros)

Structural Service Providers	FTEs actually in place as of 31/12/2022
Security	3
Canteen	5
Cleaning	5
IT	4

Interim Workers	Total FTEs in year 2022
Interimaires	4
Blue Book trainees	6

Table A5 Multiannual staff policy plan 2022-2026

Function group and grade	2022				2023		2024		2025		2026	
	Amended Budget		Actually filled as of 31/12/2022		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		3		3		3
AD 13	1	6		3	1	5	1	5	1	6	1	7
AD 12		16	1	2		10		8		10		10
AD 11		10		9		13		14		14		14
AD 10		11		15		14		14		14		14
AD 9		9		10		10		10		11		13
AD 8		6		5		10		12		14		13
AD 7		11		18		15		22		21		21
AD 6		17		24		23		30		26		24
AD 5												
AD TOTAL	1	89	1	87	1	103	1	119	1	120	1	120
AST 11		2				1		1		1		1
AST 10	1	5	1	2	1	4	1	3	1	3	1	3
AST 9	2	11	1	5	2	8	2	7	2	7	2	7
AST 8		11		7		10		9		11		11
AST 7		11		5		10		9		10		10
AST 6		10		13		10		11		11		11
AST 5		7		10		9		7		5		5
AST 4				8		5		4		3		3
AST 3				5		1		2		2		2
AST 2				1								
AST 1												
AST TOTAL	3	57	2	56	3	58	3	53	3	53	3	53
AST/SC 6												
AST/SC 5												
AST/SC 4												
AST/SC 3												
AST/SC 2												
AST/SC 1												
AST/SC TOTAL												
TOTAL	4	146	3	143	4	161	4	172	4	173	4	173
GRAND TOTAL	150		146		165		176		177		177	

Contract Agents	2022 Authorised	Recruited as of 31/12/22	2023 Authorised	2024 Envisaged	2025 Envisaged	2026 Envisaged
Function Group IV	64	67	70	83	85	85
Function Group III	11	11	12	16	16	16
Function Group II	11	6	11	2	2	2
Function Group I						
TOTAL	86	84	93	101	103	103

Seconded National Experts	2022 Authorised	Recruited as of 31/12/22	2023 Authorised	2024 Envisaged	2025 Envisaged	2026 Envisaged
TOTAL	20	13	20	20	20	20

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

Table A6 Recruitment forecasts for 2024, 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			AD7-AD12	AD7	
TA Expert	3	16	AD6-AD8	AD6-AD8	
CA Expert	1	13			GFIV
TA Assistant	6		AST4-AST7	AST4	
CA Assistant		4			GFIII
Officer					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, the 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 a questionnaire, 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 6-8 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 are valued, and the EEA aims to retain both. 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. 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 also includes 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)
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023		
AD 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.8
AD 6	2	1	1	1	1	2.9	2.8
AD 7	1	2	1	1	4	3.9	2.8
AD 8	1	2	2	3	1	3.9	3
AD 9	2	3	3	1	0	4.9	4
AD 10	0	1	0	1	1	5.6	4
AD 11	1	0	0	0	1	4.2	4
AD 12	1	1	1	1	0	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
AST 3	3	2	3	0	0	3.5	3
AST 4	1	3	1	4	3	5	3
AST 5	2	3	1	3	1	5.1	4
AST 6	2	2	0	0	2	5.6	4
AST 7	0	1	1	1	0	7.2	4
AST 8	1	0	0	2	0	7.0	4
AST 9	0	2	0	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 (2021)	Staff reclassified in year N-1 (2022)	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	0	Between 6 and 10
	16	1	1	3.9	Between 5 and 7
	15	0	2	4	Between 4 and 6
	14	4	2	4.3	Between 3 and 5
	13	0	0	0	Between 3 and 5
CA III	11	0	0	0	Between 6 and 10
	10	1	0	3.0	Between 5 and 7
	9	2	0	4.0	Between 4 and 6
	8	1	0	3.5	Between 3 and 5
CA II	6	2	0	3.0	Between 6 and 10
	5	3	0	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 (agency model);
- Agency model decision on administrative enquires and disciplinary proceedings;
- Decision on absences as a result of sickness or accident (awaiting Commission decision);
- Decision on employment of temporary agents TA2(a) (b) (d) (awaiting Commission decision);
- Decision on fight against sexual and psychological harassment (awaiting Commission decision and subsequent agency model).



Gender balance

Table A9 Data on gender balance as at 31/12/2022

		Official		Temporary		Contract		Grand total	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Female	Administrator level	1	33.3	30	21.3	51	49.5	82	33.2
	Assistant level (AST and AST/SC)	2	66.7	37	26.2	13	12,6	52	21.1
	Total	3	100	67	47.5	64	62.1	134	54.3
Male	Administrator level	0	0	55	39.0	35	34	90	36.4
	Assistant level (AST and AST/SC)	0	0	19	13.5	44	3.9	23	9.3
	Total	0	0	74	52.5	39	37.9	113	45.7
Grand total		3	100	141	100.00	103	100.00	247	100.00

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

	N-5 (2017)		N-1 (2022)	
	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	1.16	0	0.00	2	0.81
Belgium	12	6.98	4	5.33	16	6.48
Bulgaria	0	0.00	1	1.33	1	0.40
Croatia	2	1.16	0	0.00	2	0.81
Cyprus	1	0.58	0	0.00	1	0.40
Denmark	30	17.44	27	36.00	57	23.08
Estonia	1	0.58	0	0.00	1	0.40
Finland	4	2.33	2	2.67	6	2.43
France	15	8.72	3	4.00	18	7.29
Germany	17	9.88	3	4.00	20	8.10
Greece	5	2.91	1	1.33	6	2.43



Hungary	2	1.16	2	2.67	4	1.62
Ireland	5	2.91	2	2.67	7	2.83
Italy	8	4.65	10	13.33	18	7.29
Latvia	0	0.00	2	2.67	2	0.81
Lithuania	3	1.74	1	1.33	4	1.62
Luxembourg	1	0.58	0	0.00	1	0.40
Malta	0	0.00	2	2.67	2	0.81
Poland	9	5.23	1	1.33	10	4.05
Portugal	9	5.23	1	1.33	10	4.05
Romania	4	2.33	0	0.00	4	1.62
Slovakia	4	2.33	2	2.67	6	2.43
Slovenia	3	1.74	0	0.00	3	1.21
Spain	15	8.72	5	6.67	20	8.10
Sweden	5	2.91	4	5.33	9	3.64
Switzerland	1	0.58	1	1.33	2	0.81
The Netherlands	4	2.33	1	1.33	5	2.02
Türkiye	6	3.49	0	0.00	6	2.43
United Kingdom	4	2.33	0	0.00	4	1.62

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

Most represented nationality	N-5 (2018)		N-1 (2022)	
	Number	%	Number	%
Denmark	44	25.14	57	23.08

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 baccalaureate 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 baccalaureate 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. With the increase in students, the estimated budget for 2023 is foreseen to be in the order of EUR 430,000, with further growth in this figure expected for 2024.



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 2021-2022: -34.4%)
- energy for heating (district heating; change 2021-2022: -0.6%)
- water consumption (change 2021-2022: +1.1%)
- paper consumption (number of pages in printed reports; change 2021-2022: -100%)
- generation of waste (change 2021-2022: -6.0%)
- CO₂ emissions from business travel (change 2021-2022: -63.7%)

The [EEA's environmental statement report 2022 \(a\)](#) 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 2022 and the percentage change compared with data for the previous 5 years for all environmental aspects listed above. The EEA's environmental performance in 2022 was considerably less influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic than in 2020 and 2021. While transitioning into a post-pandemic 'new normal', most of the environmental performance indicators, such as paper consumption from in-house printing, water consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions show a slight increase compared to 2021 yet remain well below the pre-pandemic levels. 2022 marked by a 100% reduction of printed publications due to the implementation of a zero-printing policy for EEA publications in 2022.

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 2022 \(a\)](#).



Increase efforts in digitalisation of EEA products, with the implementation of a zero printing policy for EEA reports and piloting of several web reports.

Recognising the vast amounts of electronic waste at EEA in 2021 and the growing environmental issue of the short lifespans of many electronic devices, e.g. laptops and smart phones, the EEA's data and information services developed a draft sustainable green IT policy as part of the Action plan 2022. Thanks to the revitalisation of EEA internal and external donation policy, EEA gave more than 100 computer screens a second life after they were no longer in use at the EEA.

In line with the climate neutrality ambition, EEA developed staff travel guidance to support EEA's greenhouse gas reduction target and sets out principles that should be considered to avoid emissions from physical meetings.

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, Figame, and the offsets are used to support Gold Standard energy efficiency projects in Africa.

Notes: ^(a) [Becoming a climate neutral agency \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu/en/about-us/becoming-a-climate-neutral-agency)



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	
• of which office space	KN6 5,990m ² ; KN8 2,460m ²	
• of which non-office space	KN6 1,212m ² ; KN8 280m ²	
Annual rent (in EUR)	KN6: approx. EUR 2,000,000 KN8: approx. EUR 700,000 Total EUR 2,700,000	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.



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

As foreseen in the EEA founding regulation, the EEA is subject to an evaluation every five years, carried out by the European Commission.

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 covered the period mid-2012 until the end of 2016 and considered the previous evaluations of the Agency (such as that from April 2013). The evaluation followed the Better Regulation guidelines and thus included analysis of five main themes: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and European added value.

The conclusions of this evaluation, and the subsequent recommendations of the Management Board, are available on the EEA website ⁽⁴⁾. 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.

The next evaluation by the European Commission is currently ongoing and covers the period 2017 to 2021. This period includes two multiannual programmes: the Multi Annual Work Programme 2014-2020 and the EEA/Eionet strategy for 2021-2030. As previously, the evaluation follows the Better Regulation guidelines and thus includes analysis of five main themes: effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and European added value. The evaluation is not yet concluded and the single programming document will be updated accordingly once it is finalised and the conclusions and recommendations received by the EEA.

⁽⁴⁾ 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 seven 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 counter-signed 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

	General Information					Financial and HR Information				
Agreements	Start Date	Total Amount (EUR)	Duration (months)	Counterpart	Short Description		2023	2024	2025	2026
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)				
						No. of CAs				
						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)				
						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)	35,524,460	27,151,000	25,039,000	28,633,000
						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				
						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)				
						No. of CAs	4	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)				
						No. of CAs	1	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)				
						No. of CAs	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)				
						No. of CAs	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)				
						No. of CAs	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)				
						No. of CAs	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)	880,000			
						No. of CAs	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)				
						No. of CAs	2	2		
						No. of SNEs				
EEA - Eurostat Cooperation	Jan 2023	2,000,000	48	DG ESTAT	Cooperation to enrich and make increased use of ESTAT data and accounts	Amount (EUR)	2,000,000			
						No. of CAs	3	3	3	3
						No. of SNEs				
Nitrates Directive	Q4 2023	871,000	26	JRC	Technical and scientific assistance in the implementation of the Nitrates Directive	Amount (EUR)	871,000			
						No. of CAs	2	2	2	
						No. of SNEs				
Mission Ocean Monitoring	Q1 2024	2,500,000	48	DG MARE	Supporting the monitoring of the EU Mission ‘Restore our Oceans and Waters by 2030’	Amount (EUR)				
						No. of CAs				
						No. of SNEs				
CountEmissions EU	Jan 2025	1,000,000	36	DG MOVE	Quality assurance of emissions reporting across types of transport	Amount (EUR)				
						No. of CAs				
						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)				
						No. of CAs	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 budgets approved by the EEA Management Board in that year. For the Copernicus Contribution Agreement, the Management Board approves the forecasted pre-financing from DG DEFIS for that year. For all other agreements, the Management Board approves the full budget for that agreement on its commencement.

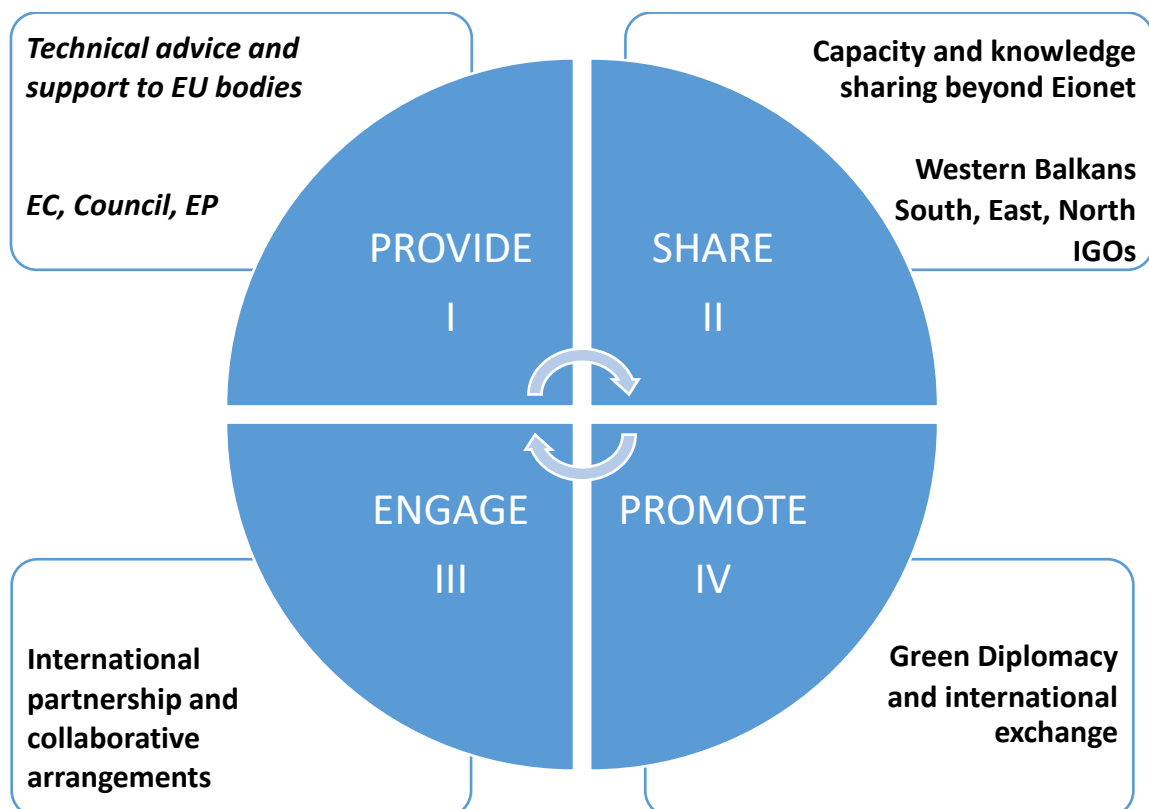
HR, human resources; **CAs**, contract agents; **SNEs**, seconded national experts; **DG**, Directorate-General; **DG CLIMA**, DG for Climate Action; **DG DEFIS**, DG for Defence Industry and Space; **DG MARE**, DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries; **DG MOVE**, DG Mobility and Transport; **DG NEAR**, 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; **JRC** Joint Research Centre; **UNEP**, United Nations Environment Programme; **ENI**, European Neighbourhood Initiative; **GHG**, greenhouse gas; **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 two overall objectives behind EEA engagement in international environmental activities are:

- **To contribute to international processes** with high quality EEA actionable knowledge that cuts across the monitoring to assessment and knowledge chain, with the aim of supporting and influencing international policy processes, solutions, and co-production of knowledge, which in turn shape the context in which the EEA operates and the international obligations member countries have to meet;
- **To strengthen the EEA knowledge base** through cooperation with international stakeholders and partners on data and indicators development, methodologies, and tools as well as integrated assessments, thereby adding value to the core work of EEA/Eionet and harvesting knowledge related to global sustainable development, megatrends and Europe's global footprint.

Key activities to deliver on EEA objectives on international engagement during the strategy period towards 2030 have been divided into four clusters, see figure below. There are strong interlinkages and interdependency between the various clusters, as they all refer to key environmental priorities, involve common actors (countries and organisations) and serve similar or related objectives.



The EEA international activities in this annex have particular focus on engagements in the period 2024-2026 and are building on the EEA core work and key thematic contributions in support of the EU international agenda, and to a large extent building on earlier activities.

The EEA international engagement for this SPD period is aligned to the priorities listed in the EEA Multi-annual Programming 2024–2026 and Annual Work Programme 2024 respectively (sections 3 & 4). The activities presented under each of the four clusters of work below are listed with newer engagement first followed by ongoing support activities which have been previously established.

Cluster I: Provide technical advice/support to EU bodies in international processes

These activities cover support to relevant EU bodies (European Commission, European Parliament, European Council/ Working Party on International Environmental Issues), EEA member and cooperating countries in fulfilling environmental and climate related obligations at international level. It also contributes feeding information, science-policy input and knowledge to relevant international debates and negotiation processes, through position papers, background documents and opinions, and through contributions with our knowledge to EU Lines-To-Take developed by the EU institutions and Member States.

- Participation in the working group meetings and events contributing to monitoring framework of 2030 Biodiversity Strategy and ensuring links to the global biodiversity policy (CBD/GBF) in cooperation with IUCN, IPBES, ICES.
- Support to the Commission on ocean related matters, including i) the 9th Our Ocean Conference to be held in Greece in 2024 (place tbd), ii) preparations for the next UN Ocean Conference in 2025 (Nice), iii) input to the UN Decades on Ocean Science and UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration and the recent legally binding UN treaty on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ).
- Support to the Commission for CBD negotiations: participation in expert groups and EU delegation to CBD COPs and subsidiary bodies sessions, as well as support to IPBES plenaries and processes
- Support to Commission in annual high-level meetings between EC-UNEP, and in particular with regards to monitoring, reporting and assessment efforts and aligning EEA activities with UN led processes.
- Support to international discussions in Council working parties, in particular to the Working Party on International Environmental Issues Global (WPIEI Global) and the Commission, on negotiations and follow-up from resolutions to be adopted at s UNEA-6 in 2024).
- Support to Commission and Member States engagement in delivering on resolutions adopted at UNEA-5.2 in 2023, in particularly on GEO-7 process, developing a legally binding agreement to end plastic pollution (envisaged to be agreed in early 2025) and the establishment of a global Science-Policy Panel on chemicals, waste and pollution (envisaged to be agreed by end 2024).
- Technical advice and support to EU bodies on ecosystem protection and restoration aspects, covering ocean governance, soil partnerships at European and global level (FAO), fisheries, forestry, and agriculture.



- Support to the Commission on the engagement with the bodies of the PRTR Protocol (UNECE) and part of the EU delegation to the Meeting of the Parties (MOPs) as well as participation in working groups on technical matters in the relevant OECD task force.
- Support to the EU task force of the Commission for UNFCCC negotiations: participation in expert groups and EU delegation to climate COPs and subsidiary bodies sessions, preparation of the EU's National Communication to UNFCCC, as well as relevant participation in UNFCCC workshops linked to the implementation of the Paris Agreement, UNFCCC Consultative Group of Experts, OECD's Climate Change Expert Group (CCXG), and EC related cooperation initiatives in 2024-2026 period.
- Regular dialogue and partnership with relevant EU bodies (DG ENV, DG CLIMA, INTRA, EEAS, JRC, Eurostat, Parliament, Council working parties) and other EU agencies (e.g. EFSA, ECHA, ECDC) on joint approach and identifying opportunities in supporting the EU international agenda in areas of EEA mandate.

Cluster II: Capacity building and knowledge sharing beyond Eionet

The EEA has a long tradition of working with countries and regions beyond EEA/Eionet membership. The range of activities carried out in this context mirrors core EEA work, while also trying to respond to the specific needs of the recipient countries. The activities under this cluster are primarily directed towards the EU neighbourhood, through support to various EU assistance programmes with Eastern and Southern neighbours, as well as engaging in dialogue, information and actionable knowledge exchange with similar organisations and bodies from other European countries and beyond.

- The EEA contributes to the special Task Force on environmental damage assessment in Ukraine, coordinated at Commission level by DG ENV, following Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine in 2022 resulting in multiple environmental damages and destroyed infrastructure. This includes potential EEA input based on EEA/Eionet knowledge on environmental data and information, indicators management and environmental assessment, together with JRC and other Commission DGs/services, potentially also through the Copernicus services, related to land cover, forestry, water/air pollution or biodiversity in protected areas.
- Support to the medium-to-long-term implementation of EU reporting requirements on climate and energy, including on greenhouse gas emissions, projections, national policies, climate adaptation and potentially new reporting on renewable energy and energy efficiency under the Energy Community Treaty, covering the three Eastern Partnership and EU accession countries; Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine as well as the Western Balkans (under dedicated externally funded project as of 2023). The EEA will be chairing a Task Force on Environment and assistance to the reporting of emission and energy input data from combustion installations by Contracting Parties to the Treaty.
- Cooperation activities under the 'Environment for Europe' process following the Nicosia Ministerial in 2022, in partnership with UNEP-Europe and UNECE (Environmental and Statistical divisions) in support of the regular environmental assessments, digital transformation and extending the implementation of the EU digital agenda. Ensure links between SOER-2025 process, UNEP World/European Environment Situation Room and GEO-7 assessment, as well as input to the process towards next pan-European assessment (due in 2027).
- Support the Euro-Mediterranean context of work through the 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 COP 22, as well as collaboration with Plan Bleu on MED 2050 foresight activity.

- Production of the annual EU inventory under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and participation in the EMEP (European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme) Steering Body.
- Technical assistance to interested partners/countries from outside EEA/Eionet – with European Neighbourhood and third countries in partnership with Eionet, also through TAEIX support – including in the context of EU-funded big 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 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), ESTAT/JRC on international indicators.

Cluster III: Engage in international partnerships and other collaborative arrangements

These activities cover the collaborative arrangements established by the EEA with international bodies and organisations, such as the regular dialogue, the data and information sharing, the joint partnerships in international activities and processes, the mutual support and enhancement in international fora and the co-creation work. In this context, UN organisations and programmes remain stable and reliable partners, not least as part of longstanding MoUs, agreements and joint work plans, along with OECD and other global stakeholders.

- Engagement with UNEP (regional office for Europe) on 'knowledge-as-a-service' as a delivery model through interactive and engaging user interfaces, particularly through the development of the European Environment Situation Room.
- Engagement in co-creation activities with international partners (e.g. OECD, UNEP, UNECE, IEA) in enhancing knowledge base in preparation of cross-cutting integrated assessments - including towards SOER 2025 - and developing sustainability knowledge on topics of common interest and international concern, e.g. foresight analysis, pollution, sustainability trends, integrated assessments, prospects, responses on policy goals in Europe and beyond, climate change, biodiversity and circular economy.
- Contribute to activities of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and of 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 related to the SDGs and Agenda 2030 and cooperation on environmental statistics with UNSD.
- Cooperation and regular exchange with UNSD, UNECE and FAO on indicator streamlining, SDG indicators, green growth, circular economy activities, cross-system and foresight activities.
- Continuous exchanges and support to the WHO Europe led European environment and health process, including air quality guidelines and generally on the burden of and mortality from air pollution, as well as on noise and chemicals.
- Continuous involvement in the PRTR Protocol bodies (supporting the EU Delegation) and maintaining the key involvement in the OECD Task Force on PRTRs.
- Cooperation with OECD with several Task Forces of the OECD on trade, circular economy and waste issues as well as Working Party on Resource Productivity and Waste and OECD's Expert Group on Best Available Techniques (BAT).

- Dialogue with relevant knowledge providers in countries and international organisations such as IPCC, UNFCCC in support of climate change and mitigation policies, and CBD in context of biodiversity actions and UN Decade of ecosystem restoration and IRP in relation to circular economy aspects.
- Contribute to the work of UNGGIM Europe: Participate as observer in the Executive Committee and in work stemming from that directly and engage in working groups based on demand and EEA interest.
- Coordination, co-creation and contribution to main working groups under FAO Forest Resource Assessment.

Cluster IV: Promote Green Diplomacy and international exchange

This cluster includes activities towards supporting the EU in promoting the high policy ambitions reflected in EGD and Digital Agenda in international settings, whereby the EEA will join forces with Eionet and EU partners to facilitate the dissemination of key messages and findings to strengthen EU/MS science-based policy positions in international debates and fora.

- Promoting the benefits of Earth observation data and information in support to the EGD objectives by showcasing the benefits of Copernicus data and information in support of various policy objectives (e.g. climate adaptation, LULUCF, GHG emissions and removals), through dedicated Copernicus activities and as part of the EuroGEO project under Horizon 2020 programme.
- Support for the EU transatlantic agenda, together with other interested EPAs through maintaining close dialogue with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on issues/environmental priorities of common interest, e.g. environmental indicators, SDGs, assessing progress towards a sustainable and resource efficient economy, environmental justice, state of environment reporting.
- Cooperation with ENVforum of Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ASEF), through EEAs membership of the steering committee, as well as contributions to the Asia-Europe Meetings (ASEM).

Annex 13 Procurement plan for 2024



CORE BUDGET 2024							
Request code	Short title	Full title/Description	Maximum contract value	Procedure type	Contract type	Maximum contract duration (Months)	Target Contract Signature Date
WORK AREA 1. BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS							
EEA-PN-2023-000051	Marine areas	Mapping fishery activity in relation to marine protected areas	70,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Direct contract	8	29 Mar 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000052	Aquaculture	Sustainability of fisheries and aquaculture	80,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Direct contract	8	29 Mar 2024
WORK AREA 2. CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION							
EEA-PN-2022-000120	Access and use of NatCatSERVICE data	Access and use of NatCatSERVICE data	15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Direct contract	15	31 May 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000046	Review of greenhouse gas inventories	Comprehensive review of greenhouse gas inventories	1,000,000	Open	Direct contract	12	1 Feb 2025
WORK AREA 4. CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND RESOURCE USE							
EEA-PN-2023-000053	Circular economy	Provision of expert assistance to support the European Environment Agency's activities on Circular economy and industrial transformation	700,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	31/11/2024
WORK AREA 5. SUSTAINABILITY TRENDS, PROSPECTS AND RESPONSES							
EEA-PN-2023-000036	SOER context	Development of framework of global drivers/barriers for sustainability transition of the EU and support to develop context for SOER2025	25,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	3	1 Apr 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000037	Development of transitions monitoring	Development of transitions monitoring	139,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	1 May 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000041	Transition economics and wellbeing economy	Transition economics and wellbeing economy	139,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	1 Mar 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000038	SOER 2025 stakeholder facilitation	SOER 2025 stakeholder facilitation	25,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	6	1 Jun 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000035	Sustainability Transitions Outlook technical support	Sustainability Transitions Outlook technical support - facilitation of launch workshop	15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Direct contract	4	15 Jan 2024



CORE BUDGET 2024							
Request code	Short title	Full title/Description	Maximum contract value	Procedure type	Contract type	Maximum contract duration (Months)	Target Contract Signature Date
WORK AREA 6. HORIZONTAL AND CORPORATE ACTIVITIES							
EEA-PN-2023-000059	Medical services to the EEA	Provision of medical services to the European Environment Agency and the European Commission Representation in Denmark	800,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	31 Jan 2025
EEA-PN-2023-000050	Moving services	Procurement of professional moving services, in particular for internal moves, scheduled and/or ad-hoc, as well as temporary storage and transport to and from the Agency, depending on needs.	120,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	48	15 Feb 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000048	Supply of office furniture	Replacement of existing furniture and purchase of new furniture for the Agency's premises as well as provision of related services (including dismantling and disposal of obsolete furniture, assembling and installation of new furniture).	300,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	15 May 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000047	Office supplies and stationary	Procurement of a wide range of general office supplies and stationary products + small IT equipments (keyboards, mouse, etc.)	120,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	48	15 Oct 2024
EEA-PN-2022-000104	Monitoring of the use of EEA products	Monitoring of the use of EEA products	120,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Single Framework contract	36	30 Nov 2024
EEA-PN-2022-000108	Graphic design & layout services	Graphic design and layout services	700,000	Open	Multiple framework contract in cascade	48	30 Apr 2024
EEA-PN-2023-000055	IT consultancy - Web Development	IT consultancy services in the area of Web Development	7,000,000	Open	Multiple framework contract in cascade	48	1 Jan 2025
EEA-PN-2023-000056	IT consultancy - Application development	IT consultancy services in the area of Application Development	7,500,000	Open	Multiple framework contract in cascade	48	1 Apr 2025
	Ad-hoc L&D courses	Ad-hoc Learning & Development courses/workshops	up to 15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Purchase order	up to 12	throughout 2024



NON-CORE BUDGET 2024							
Request code	Short title	Full title	Maximum contract value	Procedure type	Contract type	Maximum contract duration (Months)	Target Contract Signature Date
FUND CENTERS: IPA2020, IPA3							
EEA-PN-2023-000057	ETC/CM - Energy Community	Energy Community support	180,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	18	2024-08-01
EEA-PN-2022-000095	IPA III – Water	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	2024-06-03
EEA-PN-2022-000097	IPA III – Knowledge to Action	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	2024-06-03
EEA-PN-2022-000098	IPA III – Biodiversity	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	2024-06-03
Service Level Agreements							
EEA-PN-2023-000044	SANTE expert consultancy	Expert consultancy for the Climate and Health Observatory	15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Direct contract	3	2024-06-03
EEA-PN-2023-000043	SANTE indicators on climate and health	Indicators on climate and health for the Climate and Health Observatory	50,000	Negotiated (low value)	Direct contract	8	2024-06-03
EEA-PN-2023-000045	EUCRA expert consultancy	Expert consultancy for the Climate and Health Observatory	15,000	Negotiated (very low value)	Direct contract	3	2024-06-03
EEA-PN-2023-000058	PARC design	Interactive media design and communication support services for Partnership for the Assessment of Risk from Chemicals (PARC)	100,000	Negotiated (middle value)	Direct contract	24	01-12-2024
EEA-PN-2023-000026	REGIND ETC/HE	Support to the Work package 5 of the REGIND SLA	60,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	6	2024-03-04
FUND CENTER: COPERNICA							
EEA-PN-2022-000079	CLDS and WEKEO modules	Copernicus Land Data Store (CLDS) and Development of WEKEO User Interface Modules	3,100,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	2025-01-15
EEA-PN-2023-000027	ETC/DI - Support to CLMS	Support to the implementation of the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service (CLMS)	1,010,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	12	2024-07-01
EEA-PN-2023-000028	CLC+ Core	CLC+ Core Production and Provision of Ancillary Consultancy Services	1,500,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	2024-11-01
EEA-PN-2023-000031	Production of CLC 2024	Production of CLC 2024	500,000	Open	Direct contract	12	2024-12-16
EEA-PN-2022-000084	Copernicus CLC+ Conceptual work	CLC+ Conceptual work (EAGLE)	600,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Single Framework contract	48	2024-12-02
EEA-PN-2023-000030	CLC 2024	Corine Land Cover 2024	6,500,000	NP Article 5 EEA Regulation	Direct contract	12	2024-12-16



NON-CORE BUDGET 2024							
Request code	Short title	Full title	Maximum contract value	Procedure type	Contract type	Maximum contract duration (Months)	Target Contract Signature Date
EEA-PN-2023-000029	HRL NVLCC	Copernicus Land Monitoring Service High Resolution Layer – Non-vegetated Land Cover Characteristics	4,200,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	2024-11-04
EEA-PN-2023-000032	EGMS	End-to-end implementation and operation of the European Ground Motion Service (EGMS)	7,500,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	2024-05-06
EEA-PN-2023-000033	CLMS Outreach and Uptake	The provision of expert assistance on communication, awareness raising and user support for the implementation of the Copernicus Land monitoring services (CLMS) and the Copernicus crosscutting in situ data coordination	5,000,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	2024-05-31
EEA-PN-2023-000034	In Situ Coordination	Support to the EEA's implementation of cross-cutting activities for coordination of the in situ component of the Copernicus Programme	5,200,000	Open	Single Framework contract	48	2024-09-02

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



Annex 14 ETC Expected results

ETC	Expected results 2024
ETC BE	In 2024, ETC Biodiversity and Ecosystems will support EEA work by: • Providing updated indicators on terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, in the context of climate change. • Supporting data flows and data reporting under EU legislation (e.g. MSFD, BWD, UWWTD) and the voluntary WISE-SoE data call. • Exploring near real-time data viewer for freshwater. • Supporting the implementation of EU biodiversity, freshwater and marine legislation (e.g. HBD, BD2030, WFD, UWWTD, BWD, DWD, WRR, NECD, MSFD, MSPD, Marine Action Plan). • Supporting EU legislation evaluation and review processes (e.g. MSFD). • Supporting the delivery of the EEA State of Water report based on the 3rd RBMPs. • Assessing the drivers of biodiversity loss (i.e. pollution, climate change, land and sea use, natural resources over-exploitation, invasive alien species). • Progressing building blocks of the upcoming EEA State of the Marine Environment report, including the multiple pressures and cumulative effects of human activities on Europe's seas. • Supporting the transition to sustainability of the maritime sectors (transport, fisheries, offshore energy). • Progressing the assessment of socio-economic aspects (e.g. bioeconomy, harmful subsidies). • Supporting the maintenance and further development of Information Systems, including WISE-Freshwater, WISE-Marine and BISE. • Providing support to Member Country activities.
ETC CA	In 2024, ETC Climate Change Adaptation and LULUCF will support EEA work by: • updating climate impacts indicators and further developing a methodology on exposure indicators of population in future climatic hazards; • providing support to the Executive Summary of the European Climate Risk Assessment report and a follow up report on main lesson learnt from EUCRA; • providing an overview of national adaptation policies in Europe as an input to understand better different instruments driving adaptation actions within the Member States; • developing an EEA briefing on the socio-economic aspects and enablers/barriers relevant to specific nature-based solution scaling with the specific focus on forestry; • supporting the development of the draft of EEA 2025 product on just resilience; • providing inputs to the Climate-ADAPT updates and related activities, such as adaptation options, case studies and country pages including the support on promotion activities; • supporting preparing an assessments on the carbon removal potential and implementation of the LULUCF Regulation with the assessment of the long-term impacts of climate change on greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sinks; • contributing to the development of a robust knowledge base for the monitoring, reporting, and verification activities of LULUCF Regulation.
ETC CE	In 2024, ETC Circular Economy and Resource Use will support EEA work by: • Supporting the maintenance and enhancement of monitoring tools in place to track progress in the transition to a circular economy, with a focus on the Circularity Metrics Lab. • Assessment and identification of best practices and modalities to scale them up in policy making in the theme.



	- Supporting the implementation of EU waste legislation in aspects relating waste management operations. - Assess and identify best practice in preventing waste generation and monitoring progress on the topic. - Contributing to understanding Europe's material footprint, material flows and sustainable resource use. - Unpacking the interlinkages of circular economy with EU biodiversity, climate neutrality and wellbeing objectives. - Identifying solutions to transform key product value chains with a focus on textiles, buildings and plastics.
ETC CM	In 2024, ETC Climate Mitigation and Energy will support EEA work by: - Preparation for 2024 reporting under the Governance Regulation and, where relevant, preparation, quality assurance and support to countries on 2023 reporting under the Governance Regulation. This includes GHG emissions inventories, GHG projections, national policies and measures, national systems, energy efficiency, renewable energy approximated GHG inventories, use of ETS auctioning revenues and support to developing countries. - Supporting work on the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement - Calculation of LULUCF, Effort Sharing and ETS emissions based on the 2024 GHG inventory, and working with countries on improving the EMRT tool - Improving effectiveness of the Emission inventory review process and running training activities for Member states - Supporting the updating and maintenance of data visualisations of information reported under the Governance Regulation - Assisting with quality checking and updating the EU ETS data viewer on emission trends - Assisting with management and evaluation of data reported in accordance with Article 27 of the Ozone Depleting Substances Regulation and the F-gas Regulation, including identifying non-compliance issues in reporting - Drafting of reports and briefings and the EEA ODS indicator and online data viewer on Ozone depleting substances - Collecting country data on reporting under the Fuel Quality Directive, quality checking and drafting of reports on this with Eionet consultation - Further developing dashboards on energy indicators and work on the calculation of GHG emission intensity of electricity generation - Updating the database, dashboard and web report on renewable energy linked to the Green Deal - Assisting in improving understanding of past GHG emission trends in the energy sector from the demand or end-user side - Supporting the collection and quality assurance of data on vehicle emissions from cars, vans and heavy-duty vehicles, as well as "real world emissions" - Supporting users and assisting with technical updates to COPERT, calculating emissions from the road transport sector - Supporting work on the "State of Mobility" report (TERM 2024)
ETC DI	In 2024, ETC Data integration and digitalisation will support EEA by: - Coordination of ETC data managers working group, regular meetings, coordinated request for improvement actions. - Identifying the optimization potential within and across EEA dataflows, recommendations on potential efficiency gains and governance changes. - Dataflow on the Nationally Designated Areas dataset 2024, document with observations made regarding MS deliveries and selected QC results. - Support to ecosystem assessment and accounting at EU level – report describing targeted data sets and geo-spatial analysis, and progress in ecosystem extent and condition accounting.



	- Land degradation impact on carbon sequestration potential - production of databases, maps and charts on anthropogenic and climatic driven land-based carbon removals. - Using artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) for habitats mapping: to exploit GBIF data for additional EUNIS habitat observations and anomaly detection. - Applying machine learning (ML) to the problem of estimating missing data in noise maps - a full dataset with noise maps and population exposure from road traffic noise. - Capacity building to ETCs and EEA staff enabling spatial data handling on the EEA Integrated Data Platform. - Networking and outreach - support EEA in managing the new EIONET thematic working group on digitalization and collaboration of EPA network. <i>Note: ETC/DI AP2024 Work package 'Copernicus support' with 30 tasks is managed by a separate budget, based on Copernicus contribution agreement between European Commission and EEA, acting as Entrusted entity.</i>
ETC HE	In 2024, ETC Health and Environment will support EEA by: - Air Pollution/Industrial Emissions Data - Support on data reporting, publication, review and assessment, and general policy support - Support to proposed implementing and delegated acts of the Industrial Emissions Portal Regulation - Support to (existing) reporting flows on industrial emissions, and support to preparation of reporting tools under the Seveso Directive and the proposed revisions to the Industrial Emissions Portal Regulation. - Support to the development of the Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook assessment - Ambient Air Quality - Support to data collection and maintenance/development of the reporting system. - Spatial air quality mapping. - Support to the specification of the new reporting requirements under the proposed revised ambient air quality directive. - Support in preparation of regular annual assessment and other specific assessments (e.g. air quality around port areas). - Noise - Support to data collection and maintenance/development of e-reporting systems, including analysis of noise data flows. - Support in preparation of regular noise impact assessments and indicators. - Environment and Health/Chemicals - Assessment of the links between noise and health of children - Analysis and collation of relevant EU data from the IHME global burden of disease dataset. - Support in development of an assessment on the health impacts of the establishment of sustainable food systems. - Support in the development of knowledge on soil pollution and health impacts. - Exploratory assessment on the use of artificial intelligence in generating knowledge on environment and health. - Assessment of the EU burden of disease for selected chemicals based on human biomonitoring data.
ETC ST	In 2024, ETC Sustainability Transition plans to work and develop knowledge in governance of systemic change, sustainability transitions and transition monitoring, and in strategic and applied foresight: - Transition monitoring and governance of systemic change: - Explore methodologies and practice for how to evaluate sustainability transition at the national level (Support to SOER Country Spaces); - Evaluate and explore potential for novel indicators of systemic change;



	○ Develop insights into how diverse EU policy instruments and their interaction in policy mixes contribute to enabling or constraining the emergence of more sustainable production-consumption systems and the phase-out of unsustainable ones; ○ Explore the potential of measuring and assessing systemic changes in the core production-consumption systems that are driving environmental sustainability challenges. ● Socio-economic enablers of sustainability transitions: ○ Impacts of the green transition on justice transition, asking whether policies do or do not deliver equitable outcomes across social groups and so assessing whether transitions are “just”. ○ Estimating the economic costs and benefits of transitions; ○ Exploring the economics of transitions, in terms of how we fund the green transition and the specific role of sustainable finance in the EU. ● Strategic and applied foresight: ○ Finalization of the project ‘Scenarios for a sustainable Europe in 2050’ and publication of EEA report ○ Collaborations across the EEA and continuation of project ‘Targets and assumptions’ focused on thematic outlooks ○ Foster collaboration with the Eionet and across EEA programmes through co-creation of horizon scanning; ○ Develop EEA capacities in strategic foresight for sustainability and provides support to EEA’s existing strategic products such as STO and SOER.
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Key performance indicators

1. ETC Action Plans are prepared, implemented and reported on within the limits of the agreed budget.
2. The agreed set of key deliverable outputs contributing to overall programming are completed to agreed timescales.
3. Results of ETC work is published and disseminated as set out in AP/CP.