European Chemicals Agency

Environmental Statement 2021

1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021

Verification of ECHA's EMS and validation of ECHA's Environmental report

This environmental statement is verified by AENOR Internacional S.A.U.

(accredited by ENAC with accreditation number ES-V-0001)

This environmental statement provides stakeholders and the public with information on the environmental performance of the European Chemicals Agency up to the end of 2021. Its aim is to raise awareness of our policies on environmental issues.

This document was drafted in accordance with EMAS standards and is available on our website.

The European Chemicals Agency is officially EMAS-registered since 30 March 2022.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The European Chemicals Agency

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) was established by Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) and is the central Agency to implement the EU's chemicals legislation to protect people and the environment from the hazards of chemicals. It also contributes to a well-functioning internal market and the innovation and competitiveness of the European chemicals industry.

ECHA develops independent scientific and technical opinions and takes binding decisions to ensure that chemicals companies comply with European law. Its committees provide scientific advice to the European Commission, relating to hazards and risks of chemicals, their impact on society and ways to mitigate their risks. ECHA practices transparent decision-making and its independency policy is used to monitor and prevent any conflicts of interest.[1]

The Agency hosts the largest database on chemicals in the world and uses this knowledge to advance the safe use of chemicals. The database is publicly available and free of charge, containing more than 245 000 chemicals. Companies, researchers, industry, and consumers can benefit from this data as well as the software formats and tools to use it.[2]

ECHA plays an important role in reducing chemical pollution in the EU. Together with EU Member States and the European Commission, ECHA ensures safer chemicals use in Europe by improving the available data, disseminating, and checking it and proposing risk management measures when needed.[3]

The Agency contributes to sustainability and circular economy. All materials and products are made of chemicals. Better knowledge and regulation of hazardous chemicals makes recycling easier, protects workers, consumers, and the environment, and enables industry to innovate, improve product quality and replace hazardous substances with safer ones.

ECHA's work has a global dimension. The Agency helps to make the import and export of dangerous chemicals more transparent and contributes to limiting the most hazardous pollutants worldwide. This work is part of the United Nations' worldwide conventions that protect people and the environment from hazardous chemicals.

The Agency is located in Helsinki, Finland, and moved at the end of 2019 to its new premises at Telakkakatu 6. The premises consist of two buildings, covering a total area of 18.000m[2].

The office building accommodates about 600 staff members and is certified to the LEED Platinum standard. It offers a modern and energy efficient work environment distributed over nine floors. The adjacent conference building is part of the historic Helsinki shipyard and was renovated to contain a state-of-the-art conference facilities and meeting rooms. The conference centre is spread over three floors and certified to the LEED Gold standard.

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[1] https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/procedures-and-policies/conflicts-of-interest
[2] https://echa.europa.eu/information-on-chemicals
[3] https://chemicalsinourlife.echa.europa.eu/

1.2. ECHA's 2030 climate neutrality pledge

The European Union aims to be climate-neutral by 2050. This is at the heart of the European Green Deal and follows the EU's commitment under the Paris Agreement, as well as the United Nations 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals.

The European Commission announced its intention to reduce its own environmental impact, and to present an action plan in 2020 to facilitate becoming climate-neutral by 2030. It also called on the other EU institutions and Agencies to come forward with similar ambitious measures.

During the 58th Meeting of the Management Board 17-18 June 2020, the ECHA MB supported the vision of an Agency with net-zero greenhouse gas emissions and endorsed the Executive Director's proposal for ECHA to become climate-neutral by 2030:

"As an Agency mandated with public health and environmental protection, it is considered that ECHA should become, as an organisation and employer, climate-neutral by 2030."

This vision will guide the setting of ECHA's environmental objectives in the coming years.

1.3. ECHA's Integrated Management System

ECHA's Integrated Management System[4] (IMS) Strategy and Framework consolidates and integrates the different elements of the Agency's management system such as the ECHA Quality Management System and the ECHA Environmental Management System (EMS) (see figure 1).

The European Chemicals Agency is certified under ISO 9001[5] since 2014 and ISO 14001[6] since 2016 and was recertified in 2020. Since March 2022 the Agency is registered under the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) (Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009[7] (EMAS); Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 (updated Annexes I, II and III) and Commission Regulation 2018/2026 (amended Annex IV)).

Figure 1 ECHA's IMS Integrated Management System

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[4] https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/integrated-quality-management
[5] https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13607/echa_iso_9001_2015_certificate_en.pdf/4add4092-02c7-49d3-9327-f6b65af8c475
[6] https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13607/echa_iso_14001_2015_certificate_en.pdf/9bf0b651-e1c8-31cd-ca33-ec0f353e04a8https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13607/echa_iso_14001_2015_certificate_en.pdf/9bf0b651-e1c8-31cd-ca33-ec0f353e04a8
[7] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009R1221

1.4. Purpose and Scope of the EMS

ECHA's environmental management system (EMS) is a component of the Agency's Integrated Management System (IMS) Strategy and Framework[8].

The EMS applies to ECHA's administrative and technical activities in the broadest sense, i.e. the activities of all staff and any other people working at the premises, such as service providers, and covers the ECHA premises.

ECHA regularly carries out on behalf of the Commission and the EU Member States assessments of the operation of the EU Chemicals legislation within its mandate. These reports ("Costs and benefits of REACH restrictions proposed between 2016-2020[9]", "Report on the operation of REACH and CLP 2021[10]") include descriptions of the observed indirect environmental impacts of ECHA's work under REACH. They contribute to the revision of EU legislation which is carried out through the impact assessment system by the European Commission's Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB)[11]. Whereas responsibility of the adoption of EU policies is shared with the European Council and European Parliament – the EU Legislator, the EMS is not the appropriate tool for the governance, management or reporting on the environmental impacts of these policies. As such, the environmental impacts of ECHA's operational activities under the REACH Regulation and other EU Chemicals legislation are dealt within the EU Legislative framework.

The EMS at the Agency aims to continuously improve the environmental impact of the Agency and increase sustainability in the day-to-day operations of ECHA by carefully using natural resources and making corresponding choices when selecting products and services from external suppliers.

ECHA is registered in Finland under NACE Code 99.00[12] (Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies). This is consistent with the NACE code assigned to the main EU Institutions and other EU Agencies. ECHA's corporate registration is maintained by the Finnish Tax Administration and available in the Finnish Business Information System[13].

ECHA operates an Environmental Management System which contains the following scope for the verification of EMAS:

> *Managing and performing technical, scientific and administrative aspects of the implementation of the REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction), CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging), PIC (Prior Informed Consent) and Biocide regulations and developing supporting IT applications.*

Whereas no specific sectoral reference document (SRD)[14] exists under NACE 99.00, for the purpose of EMAS, it is considered that ECHA's activities fall into the Public Administration (PA) sector.

By analogy, ECHA uses the relevant parts of the sectoral reference document to identify its core indicators as approved by *"Commission Decision[15] (EU) 2019/61 of 19 December 2018 on the sectoral reference document on best environmental management practices, sector environmental performance indicators and benchmarks of excellence for the public administration sector under Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 on the voluntary participation by*

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[8] https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/integrated-quality-management
[9] Costs and benefits of REACH restrictions proposed between 2016-2020
[10] Report on the operation of REACH and CLP 2021
[11] https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-making-process/regulatory-scrutiny-board_en
[12] BIS - Business information system - BIS-Search (ytj.fi)
[13] BIS - Business information system - BIS-Search (ytj.fi)
[14] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019D0061&from=EN
[15] Commission Decision

organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)".

1.5. Management of the EMS

Senior Management defines the Agency's corporate strategy, work programmes and objectives.

Objectives concerning the improvement of environmental performance of ECHA, its processes and overall output are referred to as **environmental objectives**. The objectives shall be realistic and measurable, and include:

- objectives for decreasing adverse impacts made by the Agency's environmental aspects and thus increasing environmental efficiency of operations,
- objectives facilitating the compliance with legal environmental obligations as well as environmental obligations introduced by diverse stakeholders,
- objectives for reducing and mitigating environmental risks.

A core group of ECHA staff (the Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Team) monitors ECHA's progress in meeting its environmental objectives and reports on a regular basis (at least once a year) to senior management. If necessary, corrective action can be taken to ensure that the Agency meets its agreed targets.

The information is presented during the annual Management Review and is published on the internal ECHAnet according to the communications plan as well as in the ECHA Annual Report.

Documentation

ECHA maintains documented information of the Agency's environmental performance, including criteria and assumptions which is used when determining significant aspects and environmental indicators. These form part of the **environmental review that defines** ECHA's environmental objectives, targets and environmental work programme. In 2021, the other inputs included:

- Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Environmental monitoring and reporting;
- Carbon footprint calculator;

Improvement opportunities

Improvement opportunities are evaluated and can be used to plan actions that improve the Agency's environmental performance.

The ideas for improvement can be suggested from various sources e.g. by staff, the landlord; external contractors and other stakeholders. Improvement proposals are recorded in the IMS tool or in suitable meeting minutes or staff feedback to ensure that they are not lost and handled in an appropriate way by the relevant party.

When planning improvement actions, the Agency's ability to control or influence (both directly and indirectly) the relevant environmental aspect is considered.

1.6. Environmental Policy

ECHA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) implements the EU's chemicals legislation to protect people and the environment from the hazards of chemicals.

ECHA's management duly affirms its commitment to environmental protection and sustainability, to the continual improvement of ECHA's environmental performance and environmental management system (EMS) and will pursue all opportunities to:

- promote the careful use of natural resources in the Agency's day-to-day operations and strive to reduce adverse impacts on the environment;

- set and implement environmental objectives and targets, and regularly measure their achievement in line with ECHA's environmental work programme;

- continually raise staff awareness and encourage staff to act sustainably and contribute actively to achieving the environmental objectives and targets;

- be net-carbon neutral by 2030.

In implementing ECHA's Environmental Policy, the Agency will follow its stakeholders' needs and its mission for environmental and human health protection.

ECHA will align its environmental planning and implementation approach to the commitments and provisions of ECHA's Integrated Management System Strategy and Framework, the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), as well as to its work programme.

ECHA has identified and conforms to the applicable legal requirements relating to the environment.

1.7. Environmental Impact of the Agency's activities

1.7.1. Determination of environmental aspects

This section describes the identification, ability to control or influence and significance of environmental aspects and the legal and regulatory obligations.

Identification of environmental aspects

The European Chemicals Agency distinguishes the environmental aspects of its activities, products and services according to the nature of their impact on the environment:

- Positive impact on the environment

The Agency's mandate (operational business) is determined by the EU chemicals legislation, the REACH, CLP, PIC, Biocides and POPs Regulations, and the Waste Framework Directive (WFD), which all have environmental protection as a core objective. ECHA's processes are designed and operated to deliver the products and services to a high-quality standard and in compliance with the applicable regulations. The Agency's Integrated Management System (IMS) supports the effective governance of its operations and the achievement of its objectives in this respect.

- Negative impact on the environment

In ECHA's daily operations, the consumption of resources as well as the generation of waste and emissions contribute to the depletion of resources and pollution of the environment. The Agency strives to reduce these negative impacts on the environment by using resources carefully and minimising sources for pollution and emissions while not compromising its compliance obligations, under the Regulations and the Directive, and the quality of its products and services.

These environmental aspects are assessed considering:

(i) The Agency's ability to control or influence the aspect,

(ii) Legal and other compliance obligations.

(iii) The significance of their associated adverse impact(s) on the environment

Furthermore, the environmental aspects of operational changes, including planned or new developments, temporary conditions and unforeseen emergency situations may be subject to assessment when appropriate.

(i)   Ability to control or influence the environmental aspect

Environmental aspects are classified as direct or indirect aspects according to the Agency's ability to control or influence the respective aspect.

The level of control or influence is determined by analysing and agreeing on the risks and opportunities related to climate conditions, compliance obligations, travel of staff and other experts, and physical boundaries (building). Based on a common agreement, a numerical score for the "level of control/influence" is given to each environmental aspect.

ECHA lists the classification nomenclature in the Environmental Impact Assessment tool.

(ii)   Legal and other compliance obligations

The Agency has identified the implications to the organisation when determining the environmental aspects of all applicable legal requirements relating to the environment. These are updated periodically and listed in a register. Further details can be found in Section "2.5 Legal Obligations" below.

(iii)   Significance of environmental aspects

The environmental aspects are classified according to the significance of their environmental impacts, by considering the occurrence/quantity of the aspect and the severity of its associated impact(s).

The impact assessment is carried out in preparation of the Environmental Work Programme and recorded in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report. It is based on the aggregated data of the previous years. The outcome of the assessment is part of the background material feeding into the Management Review.

Determination of impact severity

The relevant process owners or team leaders determine a numerical score for the severity of the impact considering

- potential impact(s) on the environment;
- legal and regulatory implications;
- stakeholder expectations (reputational damage);
- financial impact.

Determination of aspect occurrence/quantity

ECHA determines a numerical score for the occurrence or quantity of each environmental aspect. The occurrence/quantity score of an aspect is determined based on collected environmental data. Historical data is used for trend analyses, where applicable. The Agency's activities have a direct and indirect impact on the environment. ECHA regularly monitors the consumption and generation of the following core indicators:

- Electricity
- Energy for heating and cooling
- Water
- Printing paper
- Waste
- Emissions

In the reporting of core indicators, the European Chemicals Agency does not report on land use with regards to biodiversity. The premises of the Agency do not cover land, nature-oriented areas, or sealed areas as defined in the EMAS regulation[16].

The Agency has recorded its environmental related data since 2015. The environmental statement 2021 presents data for a three-year period. The current environmental work programme is valid for the years 2020-2022 and uses 2019 as the baseline.

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[16] Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 amending Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 on EMAS

Environmental aspect	Environmental indicator	Impact severity
Air emissions*	Meeting and conference visitors' flights (t CO_2 eqv.)	Climate change, fossil fuel depletion
Air emissions*	Staff's mission flights (t CO_2 eqv.)	Climate change, fossil fuel depletion
Choice and composition of goods and services	Green Procurement of fixed assets and services	Environmental impact caused by third parties
Choice and composition of goods and services	Outsourced services (data centres)	Environmental impact caused by third parties
Energy efficiency	Electricity consumption (kWh, kWh/person)	Climate change, fossil fuel depletion
Energy efficiency	District heat consumption (MWh, kWh/person)	Climate change, fossil fuel depletion
Paper consumption	Paper consumption (sheets/person)	Climate change, soil, air and water contamination
Waste generation	Generation of mixed waste (tonnes)	Energy recovery, air and soil pollution
Waste generation	Generation of energy waste (tonnes)	Energy recovery, natural resource conservation, air pollution
Waste generation	Generation of recyclable waste (tonnes)	natural resource conservation, climate change
Waste generation	Generation of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment waste (tonnes)	Natural resource conservation, air, water and/or soil pollution
Waste generation	Generation of lighting residue waste (tonnes)	Energy recovery, hazardous waste, air pollution
Water use	Water consumption (m^3, m^3/person)	Risk of eutrophication, water contamination

* Significant aspects for 2020-2022 as determined by the Management Review 2019

1.7.2. Positive impacts of the Agency[17]

In the second year of the pandemic, ECHA achieved its work programme objectives thanks to the agility of staff and investments in our solid infrastructure. It has been encouraging to see how well ECHA's committees and bodies have adapted to the remote setting and have been able to deliver under these conditions.

Under the umbrella of the EU Green Deal, the Commission's Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS) is expected to become a game changer for chemicals management in Europe in the next decades. To support the Commission, we established working methods and agreed where and how ECHA's expertise best serves them in the reviews of REACH and CLP. In 2021, with the implementation of its Work Programme, ECHA also contributed to the Commission's preparatory

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[17] Annual Report 2021 - ECHA (europa.eu)

09 June 2022

work and many other initiatives under the CSS and Green Deal. For instance, ECHA gave its views on the possible amendment of registration requirements und REACH and discussed with the Commission how CLH dossiers could be prioritised and developed in ECHA under a revised CLP Regulation.

ECHA gained further experience with on-boarding new tasks and identifying how competences and resources can be efficiently allocated across different activities. Our involvement can bring broader regulatory synergies while the impact on resources and other parts of the Agency have to be continuously calibrated. The Agency has to keep on delivering on its core mandate, that is to achieve high quality regulatory outputs, and to invest smartly into getting ready for changes resulting from policy developments.

As an important input to the Commission's review of the EU's chemicals legislation, we published our five-year report on the operations of REACH and CLP.[18] This retrospective reflection illustrates the impact that legislation has had on people's health, the environment, internal market, competitiveness, innovation and promoting alternatives to animal testing. The lessons we have learned will serve to provide more tailor-made input for the ongoing development of possible changes to the legislation and as compass for ourselves to continue working to protect health and the environment from harmful chemicals.

The Management Board of ECHA reviewed the strategic plan 2019-2023. While confirming its validity for the remaining time, it gave steer to the Agency in how the strategic priorities should be understood and translated into action. With this as a guide, ECHA is well prepared to move ahead.

The Agency in brief:
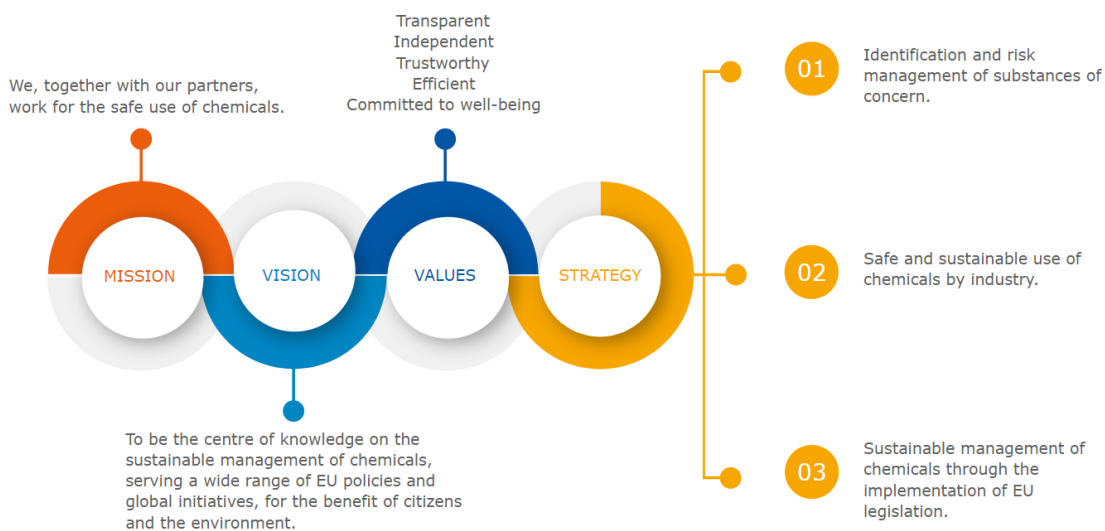
Figure 2 ECHA Mission, Vision, Value and Strategy

The competence of ECHA's staff and the vast amount of data held by the Agency, has allowed us to make significant progress in line with our three strategic priorities, and support progress towards the United Nations' sustainable development goals.

In 2021, examples of ECHA's core tasks that have a positive environmental impact include:

Following agreement at the Member State Committee (MSC), 12 substances were added to the Candidate List of substances of very high concern, mostly because they are toxic for

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[18] operation_reach_clp_2021_en.pdf (europa.eu)

reproduction, carcinogenic, respiratory sensitisers or endocrine disruptors.

- ECHA assessed the **regulatory needs of 1 900 substances** and shifted to dealing with them in groups rather than individually. 15 % of the 1 900 were substances registered above 100 tonnes per year. From this, we identified 300 that **require further risk management measures**, **800 that need more data** to be generated and **800 that currently do not require further action**. The regulatory needs of 1 300 substances registered above 100 tonnes per year still need to be assessed and have not yet been assigned. But we remain on target to conclude for all registered substances by 2027.

- A **restriction** proposal was issued on **lead in ammunition** for hunting, outdoor sports shooting and fishing.

- ECHA began setting up EU-wide positive lists of chemicals that can be safely used in materials that come into contact with **drinking water** under the respective directive. The aim is to protect people from contaminated drinking water, improve their access to safe drinking water, and ensure that safety and hygiene standards are uniform throughout the EU.

- High quality outputs were delivered during the continued COVID-19 pandemic and support was provided to stakeholders as we work in a hybrid setting, with 650 virtual meetings and around 45 000 participants.

The next sections outline ECHA's positive contribution to the environmental impacts of EU Chemicals Legislation within its mandate.

1.7.2.1. Strategic priority 1: Identification and risk management of substances of concern

This strategic priority represents an important part of ECHA's core mandate. The majority of ECHA's legally mandated operational work in managing chemicals under the REACH, CLP, BPR, PIC and POPs regulations aims to identify substances of concern and manage their risks.

The impact of this work is illustrated by the progress ECHA and Member States have made in identifying new substances of potential concern. We have become more effective and efficient in this by focusing on groups of substances – but inherently assessing groups of substances isa complex task.

We assess groups of substances and assign them to pools for further data generation, risk management and those that currently require no further action. The number of not yet assigned substances decreased from 18 341 to 17 126 in 2021, and as such we have better clarity on which risk management routes (if any) are planned and for which substances further data on properties and hazards is needed. This gives companies better predictability on the regulatory actions that authorities plan to take.

ECHA's Member State Committee agreed on more than 440 decisions to request further information in 2021. The Agency also obtained hazard data for more than 200 substances on decisions taken earlier, although the 40 % non-compliance rate after these information requests is still high. These cases have been sent to the Member States for further enforcement actions. On average, when Member States enforce ECHA dossier evaluation decisions, the missing information is ultimately submitted to ECHA in around 92 % of cases. Regardless, this is still late and after the legal deadlines.

Furthermore, ECHA published the first assessments of regulatory needs for groups of substances, evidence of the Agency's continued shift away from assessing individual substances, seeking synergies and increasing efficiencies. Group assessments make it easier for companies to predict what actions regulators are planning and help them to prepare strategies to replace harmful

chemicals with safer alternatives, where relevant. The Agency assessed several important groups of substances which have received particular attention over the past years due to their extensive use in consumer products, such as bisphenols and phthalates.

Key achievements under strategic priority 1

- ECHA assessed the **regulatory needs of 1 900 substances** and shifted to dealing with them in groups rather than individually. 15 % of the 1 900 were substances registered above 100 tonnes per year. From this, we identified 300 that **require further risk management measures**, **800 that need more data** to be generated and **800 that currently do not require further action**. The regulatory needs of 1 300 substances registered above 100 tonnes per year still need to be assessed and have not yet been assigned. But we remain on target to conclude for all registered substances by 2027.

- To increase transparency on the regulatory actions being pursued and the progress made on groups of substances, ECHA published the **first assessments of regulatory needs** for 19 groups covering more than 450 substances at the end of 2021.

- The results of an EU-wide enforcement project of products sold online shows that **three out of four inspected products breach EU chemicals laws**.

- The **extension of the technical completeness checks** carried out for each new and updated registration now includes checking the content of **chemical safety reports**. This enables substances to be better prioritised for regulatory action by authorities, enhances the dissemination of use information and improves the starting point for appropriate supply chain communication.

- ECHA continued its efforts to p**hase out animal testing** in Europe to the extent possible under the existing regulatory framework and support industry, authorities and institutions in making progress towards this goal. In this respect, ECHA updated its comprehensive guidance for companies on how to reliably combine different sources of non-animal data when assessing **skin sensitisation** of chemicals. The advice outlines how to use computer simulation tools such as the QSAR Toolbox to assess skin sensitisation and protect people from skin allergies without testing on animals.

- We conducted a total of **371 compliance checks** covering more than 2 100 registrations and addressing **341 unique substances**. This is a slight increase compared to 2020. For the vast majority of compliance checks, ECHA verified, as a minimum, the relevant higher-tier hazard endpoints for substances or groups of substances of potential concern. From this total, 300 were full compliance checks addressing all relevant endpoints for 288 unique substances of potential concern. 71 were targeted compliance checks. They resulted in 280 draft decisions being sent to companies, requesting more data to clarify long-term effects on human health or the environment.

- For the 363 **follow-ups** to dossier evaluation performed in 2021, around **40 %** of dossiers remained **incompliant**. These have been sent to the Member States for further enforcement.

- ECHA received **535 registrations covering 143 nanoforms** by the end of 2021. The exact number of nanomaterials on the EU market is unknown and there is reason to believe this figure ought to be higher. But there may be differences in tonnage that explain the discrepancy between the number of registered nanoforms, and the number of nanomaterials reported in the EU Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON).

- In line with actions under the Commission and ECHA **REACH evaluation joint action plan**, we continued to support industry initiatives that help companies review their chemical safety data, for instance by defining a strategy for filling data gaps when assessing the environmental impact of petroleum substances.

- In preparation for identifying and proposing new **persistent organic pollutants**, ECHA provided the draft evaluation and the draft risk profile for two substances: **methoxychlor** is an organochlorine pesticide used as an insecticide, and **UV-238** is used as a UV stabiliser found in plastic shrink films and outdoor furniture.

- Under **authorisation**, ECHA's Committees for Risk Assessment (**RAC**) and Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) adopted 18 opinions for substances that have **endocrine-disrupting properties**, and another 31 opinions for substances with other properties. 12 substitution plans were also evaluated.

- Regarding **harmonised classification and labelling dossiers**, RAC processed **54 opinions**, and issued opinions on the evaluation of occupational exposure limits (**OELs**) for **asbestos**, and for **cadmium** and its inorganic compounds.

- Work on **glyphosate** re-commenced in coordination with **EFSA** where RAC will provide an opinion on the proposal for harmonised classification and labelling, and EFSA will develop its opinion on the authorisation of the use as a pesticide.

- Improvements to **applications for authorisation** were implemented, with an improved format of opinions on applications that provides clearer input to the Commission on scientific elements. The authorisation application format was also adapted, which should help to get better information into the process.

- Publication of a **meta-analysis** of the socio-economic impacts of **authorisation** based on data from 2010 and 2020 indicated that the authorisation system has inbuilt dynamics that inherently promote substitution.

- ECHA collaborated with the REACH **exposure expert group** (REEG), a community of Member State experts, on the levels of use and exposure information needed to swiftly move hazardous substances beyond screening into various risk management processes.

- Following agreement at the Member State Committee (**MSC**), 12 substances were added to the **Candidate List of substances of very high concern**, mostly because they are toxic for reproduction, carcinogenic, respiratory sensitisers or endocrine disruptors.

- A **restriction** proposal was issued on **lead in ammunition** for hunting, outdoor sports shooting and fishing.

- Concerning **restriction proposals**, RAC and SEAC provided two opinions, on **PFHxA** (a subgroup of PFAS) and on the proposal to restrict formaldehyde, PAHs, dioxins, furans and PCBs in single-use **baby diapers**.

- Publication of a **study on costs and benefits of restrictions**[19] that estimated that restricting the manufacture and use of chemicals that pose a risk would result in **health benefits amounting to EUR 2.1 billion each year**.

- Investment in actions intended to accelerate the **review programme** under the Biocidal Products Regulation has started to pay off, with **18 competent authority reports** evaluating active substances received during the year, including Review Programme, new active substances, renewal of approval and backlog cases that re-start a peer-review phase – almost double the amount received in 2020.

- The Biocidal Products Committee (**BPC**) issued **18 opinions on active substance approvals** in 2021, compared to **15** last year. The number of BPC opinions on Union

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[19] Costs and benefits of restrictions (europa.eu)

authorisation also increased to 15, compared to 9 in 2020.

1.7.2.2. Strategic priority 2: Safe and sustainable use of chemicals by industry

The Agency calibrated its engagement on this priority following the decision to prioritise our focus on legally required tasks under strategic priority 1. As a result, we targeted our efforts on supporting companies to carry out their chemical safety assessments and improving Chesar for this purpose.

Functioning communication up and down in the supply chain on hazards and risks, and, first and foremost, appropriate safety assessments are essential elements of risk management by economic operators. ECHA's support helps them to comply with their legislative obligations that are challenging to achieve through other means such as formal decision making or enforcement.

Due to the priority setting for strategic priority 1 in 2021, the impact remains limited to targeted support.

Key achievements under strategic priority 2

Two new versions of Chesar published, upgrading the tool with new functionalities to better support companies in carrying out their chemical safety assessments.

- The obligation to notify **hazardous mixtures for professional and consumer use** started in 2021. Notifications must be made in a harmonised format defined under CLP, while **labels** must also include a unique formula identifier (**UFI**) – a unique code that allows **poison centres** to precisely identify the composition of the mixture and the product involved in a poisoning incident. ECHA processed a large number of notifications and made them available to the national authorities. This helps poison centres give quick and accurate advice when someone is accidentally poisoned.

- ECHA has collaborated with the **European Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Bureau** (EIPPCB), providing REACH data and chemicals management advice to enhance the implementation of the Industrial Emissions Directive.

1.7.2.3. Strategic priority 3: Sustainable management of chemicals through the implementation of EU legislation

Implementing strategic priority 3 impacted ECHA in two ways. Firstly, the Agency has gained further experience in **onboarding new tasks**, supporting the legislator in preparing new or revised legislation, and how to run corresponding processes where ECHA has a role in such new tasks. ECHA staff has a very good understanding, based on concrete experience, of what it takes to integrate new regulatory work into the organisation's portfolio. Onboarding activities have brought synergies and economies of scale to the Agency in some cases while in other cases it became clear that the intended synergy effect could not materialise.

Secondly, the Agency engaged successfully in implementing new tasks. Here, the main challenge has been to provide the necessary resources during the pre-onboarding phase, when the ultimate scope of the work is not yet defined, and dedicated resources are not yet available. ECHA is able to deploy experienced staff to this conceptualisation work, with the downside that this staff is then missing from initial activities and process work, and then this work needs to be compensated.

With the Commission's Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, the demands on ECHA have increased, with the Agency supporting the definition of possible new tasks and performing early analyses on process conceptualisation and resource predictions.

We continued trustful **cooperation** with other agencies on topics of common interest, such as 'one substance, one assessment', the development of IUCLID for the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) evaluation of active substances in plant protection products and exchanging information and data with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) in the context of developing an early warning system for new psychoactive substances.

With the launch of the SCIP database collecting notifications on substances of concern in products, ECHA is also providing another tool for economic operators, consumers and authorities to help them understand where harmful substances are used, increasing ambitions to replace them with safer alternatives.

Key achievements under strategic priority 3

- *Ad hoc* support to the Commission in the early phase of implementing the **Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability** and coordination of tasks involving ECHA's competences and experience.

- Launch of the **SCIP database** for substances of very high concern (SVHCs) contained in products. This is useful for consumers who want more information about the products they buy and will also help to improve the treatment of waste, particularly recycling processes. Around 6 800 companies across the EU successfully submitted more than 15 million notifications to the database.

- Further development and promotion of **IUCLID** as a widely accepted format for information on chemicals across the world. Collection and use of data in the same format in the EU and internationally facilitates the recording, storage, maintenance and exchange of digital scientific data on chemicals.

- Supporting Member States and the European Commission under the **Prior Informed Consent (PIC)** Regulation, which implements the UN Rotterdam Convention in the European Union.

- ECHA contributed to the risk management evaluation of methoxychlor, which has been proposed by the European Union for listing as a **persistent organic pollutant** under the Stockholm Convention. A consultation was launched for the risk management evaluation of methoxychlor, as well as for the risk profile of UV-328.

- ECHA coordinated the publication of studies **assessing the gaps and needs** of Montenegro and Serbia in readying themselves to implement EU chemicals legislation on their path towards membership. Following this, ECHA also procured a second study to assess existing situation in Albania, Kosovo, Turkey, North Macedonia and Bosnia Herzegovina to guide the organisation in our future work in support these countries in their harmonisation of **EU acquis** for chemicals.

- Contacts were established with the European Environmental Agency (EEA) and ECHA participated in the Zero Pollution focus group. This work is a step towards safety and sustainability and will contribute to establishing **indicators** under the 8th **Environmental Action Programme** to 2030 and the CSS.

- ECHA began setting up EU-wide positive lists of chemicals that can be safely used in materials that come into contact with **drinking water** under the respective directive. The aim is to protect people from contaminated drinking water, improve their access to safe drinking water, and ensure that safety and hygiene standards are uniform throughout the EU.

- Provision of informal support to review sectoral **best available techniques reference documents (BREFs)**. For example, in the review of the BREF for the textile sector, ECHA

gave input on how chemicals management systems could be structured and described.

1.7.2.4. Key achievements on governance and enablers

- The Management Board led the mid-term review of the multiannual strategy and confirmed that ECHA's strategic direction remains largely valid, while providing guidance to the secretariat for the remaining part of the implementation period. The Board also appointed the new Legally Qualified Member of the Board of Appeal.

- High quality outputs were delivered during the continued COVID-19 pandemic and support was provided to stakeholders as we work in a hybrid setting, with 650 virtual meetings and around 45 000 participants.

- The initial budgeted expenditure of 2021 totalled EUR 113.1 million (including the separately funded 'Other tasks') and the final total expenditure figure concluded in the second amending budget in September 2021 was EUR 111.1 million. The decline of the fee income levels of the REACH/CLP part of the budget was managed well by finding savings in meeting and travel costs through virtual meetings. For fees under the Biocidal Products Regulation (BPR), the persistently high volatility and unpredictability continued. The Agency met its budget implementation targets reaching a 98 % commitment rate and an 86 % payment rate (estimates were 95 % and 80 %, respectively).

- A high number of internal mobilities in line with our HR strategy and organisational culture that provides an agile and flexible working environment.

- Continuous investment in a healthy work environment based on collaboration, agility and a well-developed management culture led to the Agency being recognised as one of the most inspiring workplaces in Finland. The turnover of temporary agents remained low at 2 % and 97 % of establishment plan posts were filled.

- ECHA applied for registration to the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) as a premium management instrument for organisations to evaluate, report and improve their environmental performance.

- The third Enterprise Architecture Roadmap (2021-2023) has resulted in an increased integration or modularisation of IT to support the increased integration of business processes.

More information about these and our other achievements in 2021 can be found in the ECHA Annual Report 2021[20].

1.7.3. Negative impacts of the Agency

In ECHA's daily operations, the consumption of resources as well as the generation of waste and emissions contribute to the depletion of natural resources and increases of pollution of the environment. The Agency strives to reduce these negative impacts on the environment by using resources carefully and minimising sources of pollution and emissions while not compromising its ability to implement its mandate under the chemicals Regulations or negatively affecting the quality of its products and services.

These are presented in Section 2 below.

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[20] ECHA Annual Report 2021

1.8. Premises and staff of the European Chemicals Agency

Figure 3 ECHA's new premises

Premises

The European Chemicals moved to its current premises at the end of 2019. The premises consist of two buildings, covering a total of 18.000m2. With the move to the new premises, ECHA reduced its leased office area by approximately 18%. There are no laboratories at the premises of the Agency and no chemical testing is performed at the Agency.

The office building covers 9 floors (incl. basement) and achieved LEED PLATINUM level certification with LEEDv2009 for Core & Shell certification system in March 2020.

The conference centre covers 3 floors and achieved LEED GOLD level certification with LEEDv4 for Core & Shell certification system in April 2020.

Figure 4 ECHA LEED certification

The consumption data of the years 2020 and 2021 is calculated against the respective data of the previous premises of the Agency in 2019.

Leased square metres			
	2019	**2020**	**2021**
Leased square metres	24 808	17 679	17 679

Staff

Staff working at the Agency are counted as full-time equivalents (FTE).

An FTE counts working as one of: Temporary Agent (TA), Contract Agent (CA), Seconded National Expert (SNE), trainees and interims. FTEs are adjusted in case of part-time work.

FTEs working at ECHA			
	2019	**2020**	**2021**
FTE	605	591	629

1.9. Communications and staff engagement

ECHA follows a communications plan to inform staff and stakeholders about ECHA's environmental performance based on its objectives as well as on the consumption/generation of energy, waste, emissions, and other topics of interest.

ECHA's progress in achieving its environmental objectives are documented and communicated to staff and stakeholders e.g., via ECHA's web pages and internet pages.

ECHA's formal reporting documents (SPD, CAAR) are aimed at external stakeholders and include environmental information which provides an overview of the state of play of meeting our environmental objectives and the success in reaching our targets.

ECHA participates to the inter-institutional environmental management group (GIME) and the EU Agencies' Greening Network.

Staff engagement is ensured through the participation of the ECHA Staff Committee in the Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Team, which manages the ECHA Environmental management system (EMS) and through feedback received via formal and informal channels. Feedback is also collected from individuals through regular meetings, articles and comments received on how ECHA can further improve its environmental performance.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

ECHA's environmental performance is monitored based on the following performance indicators:

- Electricity consumption
- Energy consumption for heating and cooling
- Water consumption
- Printing paper consumption
- Waste generation
- Emissions

The performance indicators are benchmarked against the year 2019 and monitor ECHA's consumption over a reporting period of three years.

With regards the environmental impact of ECHA's heating and cooling, our contracts depend on a single provider which is regulated by our host city, Helsinki. In this light, Helsinki has set the objective to become the most functional city in the world, to adapt to the changing climate challenges and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035. Being carbon-neutral will mean that Helsinki's operations will no longer contribute to global warming, and this will have a positive effect on ECHA which fully supports this ambition.

For the purpose of monitoring and measuring our environmental performance, the data collected for ECHA's utilities concern the consumption at the Agency's current premises.

Due to the pandemic, teleworking measures were put in place to ensure the health and safety of staff. The majority of staff worked from home during 2021 which impacted positively to the significant decrease of consumption of water, printing paper and generation of waste.

the biggest impact of the pandemic affected business travel which reduced ECHA's missions by 100% compared to 2019. This resulted in a decrease of travel-related CO2 from travelling and demonstrated the possibility to organize meetings/conferences remotely.

2.1. Objectives, Indicators and Targets

The Agency's environmental programme describes the environmental themes that the Agency will pursue in the frame of its sustainability management. The programme develops the evaluation of the Agency's environmental aspects into actions. It lays down goals and activities for improving the Agency's environmental performance within a time horizon of three years.

The ECHA Environmental Programme 2020-2022 updates the 2016-2018 (continued into 2019) programme which targeted measures that are suitable for strengthening the environmental management at the Agency and leading to a reduction in the Agency's Carbon footprint.

ECHA's environmental objectives for 2020-2022 target measures which aim at reducing by the end of 2022:

1) Building CO_2 emission by 20% from 2019 levels
2) Travel (meeting participants) CO_2 emissions by 75% from 2019 levels
3) Travel (staff missions) CO_2 emissions by 50% from 2019 levels

The ECHA environmental work programme 2020-2022 includes additional actions that support the achievement of its set objectives, and its implementation is monitored regularly. The actions listed in the work programme cover energy efficiency, IT hardware and network services, paper

consumption, water use, waste generation and air emissions.

The environmental indicator data is collected on a regular basis and Senior Management reviews the Agency's environmental work programme during the annual Management Review. The 2021 management review of the ECHA Integrated Management System, which includes reporting of the EMS, took place in March 2022.

2.2. Core environmental performance indicators and consumption trends

2.2.1. Electricity consumption

Consumption of electricity				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
MWh electricity consumption	3 035	1 473	1 374	-55%
kWh/m^2	122.3	83.3	77.83	-32%
kWh/FTE	5 016	2 492	2 187	-50%

The electricity ECHA consumed in 2021 was 100% renewable electricity and produced with wind power. All wind power is certified with a guarantee of origin by the energy provider Helen Ltd.

In the new premises systems are installed to reduce electricity consumption. The building is equipped with modern LED illumination. The general lighting timer is set to shut off during evening hours and weekends and uses motion sensors when a presence is detected. In the office areas the ceiling lights have daylight and presence sensors to adjust the light output and save energy.

Time control systems and intensity of ventilation to optimise energy use is controlled via the building management system. In 2021, the ventilation system was running 24/7 to ensure proper ventilation of the new built premises to reduce the amount of VOC released from furniture and building materials during the run-in phase. The ventilation system will continue in this mode for the first two years after construction.

ECHA's data centres are outsourced, and no electricity consumption data is available, however the data centres use 100% renewable energy.

2.2.2. Consumption of energy for Heating and Cooling

Consumption of energy for heating and cooling				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
MWh Heating	4 021	1 626	2 430	-40%
MWh Cooling	-	741	749	-
MWh Total	4 021	2 367	3 179	-21%
kWh/m^2	162.08	133.87	179.80	+11%
kWh/FTE	6 646	2751	5 054	-24%

The Heating degree day[21] describes the demand for energy needed to heat buildings and was 3831 for Helsinki in 2021. The heating degree days in 2020 were 2906 and in the reference year 2019, Helsinki had 3419 hearing degree days.

The premises are connected to the Helsinki district heating and cooling grid and heated via radiation heating and cooling ceiling panels. The temperature of each panel is adapted individually via a thermostat. Centrally controlled via the building management system, the water temperature in the heating and cooling network is adjusted in accordance with the outside temperature and indoor conditions.
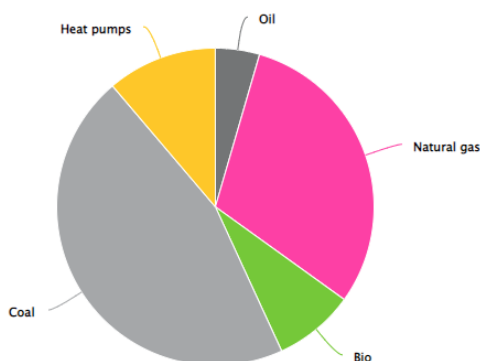
Figure 5 Origin of district heat[22]

In the premises leased by the Agency prior to 2020, cooling was not provided via the district cooling grid, but produced in a cooling tower on-site. This method of cooling consumed water and electricity. Hence, there is no data available for district cooling pre-2020, but a significantly higher consumption of electricity and water was observed in 2019.

The new premises have a modern HVAC system that recuperates heat from exhaust air using heat exchangers.

ECHA's data centres are outsourced, and no energy consumption for heating and cooling is available, however, this will be addressed in future.

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[21] Heating degree days - Finnish Meteorological Institute (ilmatieteenlaitos.fi)
[22] https://www.helen.fi/en/company/energy/energy-production/origin-of-energyhttps://www.helen.fi/en/company/energy/energy-production/origin-of-energy

2.2.3. Water consumption

Consumption of water				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
m³	8 133	2 528	3 228	-60%
m³/m²	0.33	0.14	0.18	-44%
m³/FTE	13.44	4.28	5.13	-62%

The Agency's water consumption in 2021 increased compared 2020. This is due to a higher need for humidification of the air.

To achieve the LEED Platinum and Gold verification of the office building and conference centre, measures were put in place that actively reduce the use of indoor water in the buildings.

When compared to the baseline values of the LEED certificate (separate from the water consumption trend between 2019-2021 above) a 45% reduction of water was recorded in the office building and a 47% reduction of water was recorded in the conference centre.

This was achieved by installing fittings set at the following specified flow rates:

- Toilets 4,0/2,0 l/flush
- Lavatory faucets 1,9 l/min
- Breakroom kitchen faucets 4,2 l/min
- Showers 5,0 l/min
- Waterless urinals

2.2.4. Printing paper consumption

Consumption of printing paper				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
TOTAL Printed Paper sheets	1 679 459	718 417	333 106	-80%
sheets/FTE/working day	11	5	2.45	-81%

In 2017, the Agency implemented follow-me printing which prints documents only upon a login with a personalised token at the multifunctional device (MFD). In 2021, a total of 36 MFDs were in use at the office and conference centre.

The default printer configuration is set via a group policy and sets documents to be printed two sided as a default. ECHA staff are encouraged to print in black and white rather than in colour. New staff starting at the Agency participate in a session on ICT Basics which promotes best printing practices to reduce printing paper consumption.

The printing paper is licensed under the Nordic Swan Ecolabel and certified under the EU ecolabel.

No individual printers are supported by the Agency.

2.2.5. Waste generation

Waste generation (in tonnes)				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
Bio waste	25.1	17.59	6.91	-73%
Energy	30.6	5.44	6.45	-79%
Mixed & combustible	4.6	16.26	7.61	+64%
Cardboard	5.2	1.96	1.29	-75%
Paper (incl. magazines)	n/a	2.89	2.08	
Electronic equipment	0.2	1.32	0	-100%
Fluorescent tubes	0.1	0	0	-100%
Batteries	0.03	0	0	-100%
Glass	1.87	1.91	1.78	-5%
Metal	5.2	1.2	1.20	-77%
TOTAL	73.1	48.5	27.31	-63%
kg/FTE	120.77	82.14	43.41	-64%

The Agency collects data on the waste types listed in the table above. For information:

- The methodology on how waste is collected and separated has changed in 2020, which results in the increase of mixed and combustible waste and the decrease of energy waste.

- Before 2020, paper recycling was under the responsibility of the cleaning service provider and no data is available.

- The increase in electronic equipment waste resulted from a change in IT strategy on hardware (computer screens, laptops, mouse, keyboards, and docking station). Old equipment has been recycled.

- A staff canteen is located in the conference centre and a cafeteria in the office building. The catering service provider is responsible for oil waste resulting from food preparations. In 2021 and the canteen was not in use. The cafeteria was in use for three months.

- Individual dustbins have been removed and staff use collective dustbins which offer sorting and recycling options.

2.2.6. Emissions

CO_2 Emissions from air travel

CO_2 Emissions from air travel				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
TOTAL miles for meetings and staff missions	5 727 837	446 781	2 776	-99.95%
t CO_2 emissions from staff missions	232.6	24.7	0	-100%
t CO_2 emissions from meeting participants	832.0	59.9	0.4	-99.96%
TOTAL t CO_2 emissions	1 064.6	84.6	0.4	-99.97%
kg CO_2/FTE	1760	143	0.57	-99.97%

The CO_2 emissions include travelled flight miles of flights that are booked via the Agency's travel service Agency for ECHA staff missions and for ECHA meeting participants. No staff missions took place in 2021.

The greenhouse gas emissions are calculated by the travel service provider in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, based on emission factors provided by the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).

Emissions from energy consumption

CO_2 Emissions from energy consumption				
	2019	**2020**	**2021**	**Change 2021 vs 2019**
Electricity: g/kWh	139	0	0	-100%
Heat: g/kWh	198	182	182	-8%
Cooling: g/kWh	-	0	0	-
Total CO_2 in kg	1 218 023	295 932	442 251	-49%

The energy provider publishes yearly the emission factors[23] for electricity, district heating and district cooling. In 2021, only the district heating produces CO_2 emissions.

The premises leased by the Agency before 2020 were not connected to the district cooling network.

In 2019, the Agency offset the carbon emissions that resulted from its electricity consumption.

The electricity ECHA consumed in 2020 was 100% renewable and generated 0g/kWh CO_2 emissions.

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[23] https://www.helen.fi/en/company/energy/energy-production/specific-emissions-of-energy-production

SO₂ and NOₓ emissions

ECHA consumes energy for electricity, district heating and cooling. ECHA's energy provider Helen Ltd provides following data for acidifying emissions (SO_2 and NO_2).
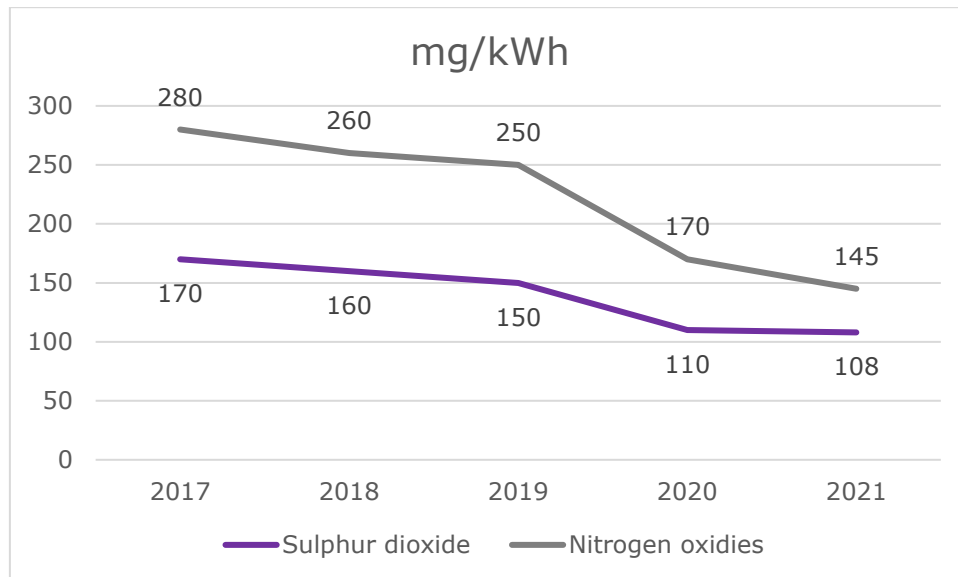

Figure 6 Acidifying emissions

Figure 6 shows the mg/kWh which are calculated by Helen Ltd. by dividing the emissions of energy production and co-owned production by the total energy sold.

The emission factors for sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides are general averages for the energy provider.

2.3. Environmental Work Programme in 2021

Environmental objectives				
Objective	Baseline value 2019	Value in 2021	Status 2021 vs 2019	Target value for 2022
Reduce Building CO_2 emission by 20% from 2019 levels	1 218.0 t	442.2 t	exceeded.	974.4 t
Reduce travel (meeting participants) CO_2 emission by 75% from 2019 levels	832.0 t	0.4 t	exceeded.	208 t
Travel (staff missions) CO_2 emission by 50% from 2019 levels	232.6 t	0 t	exceeded.	116.3 t

In the first reporting year of the 2020-2022 Environmental Work Programme, ECHA exceeded the targets of its environmental objectives, however, travel and building related carbon reductions were positively impacted by COVID-19 and teleworking provisions.

ECHA will continue to take action to meet its set objectives in the next two years and aims to achieve the overall carbon reduction even if the current restrictions are lifted.

The building CO_2 emissions is calculated by the sum of emissions caused by consumption of electricity added to the energy used for heating and cooling.
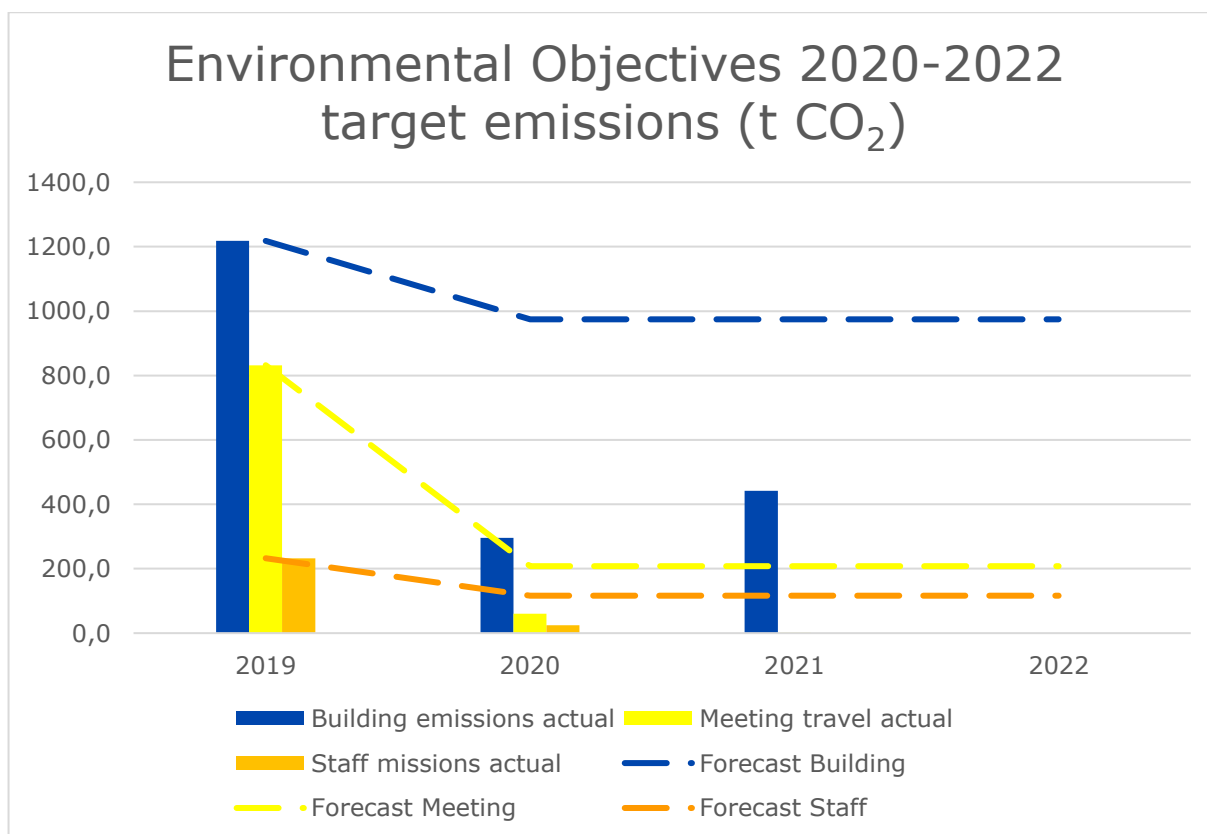

Figure 7 ECHA's environmental objectives 2020-2022

Other Environmental Work Programme Actions:

A BUILDING EMISSIONS			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
A1 Reduce the number of physical meetings in the building	Increase awareness of Audio-Visual equipment Institutionalise remote meetings culture	Corporate Services and respective meetings organisers	Continuous
A2 Reduce use of stand-by mode of all electrical devices	All electrical devices (AV, studio, PCs, monitors, and printers configured to sleep after some minutes of idle.	Every staff member – Directorate I, Directorate R, Directorate A	Continuous

A1

To increase visibility of the audio-visual equipment available for remote meetings at the various meeting rooms, a dedicated page on the intranet lists the available hardware, e.g. Video and web-conferencing equipment, supporting both WebEx and Skype meetings, and possible support for remote interpretation. ECHA has also renewed the instructions for the use of its web conference equipment to enable a better user experience.

A2

The multifunction printing devices (MFD) have two stand-by modes. The first mode is activated after 1 minute and the second mode is entered after 4 hours where the devices only consume a very low amount of energy of 0.8 W.

In 2020, ECHA renewed its IT hardware, such as screens, laptops, keyboard, mouse, and docking station. The Screens also have a very low energy consumption of 0.5 W in their standby mode and they are rated as A++ in the EU Energy Rating. Also, the laptops have times for standby and sleep mode pre-set.

B PAPER AND PRINTING			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
B1 Reduce colour printing	Whenever meaningful print in black and white	Every staff member	Continuous
B2 Reduce printing	Provision of lightweight portable devices Use of portable devices instead of printouts	Directorate I Every staff member	Continuous
B3 Reduce paper use	Print double sided and multiple pages per sheet, whenever possible	Every staff member	Continuous
B4 Reduce paper use	Reduce the quantity of printed brochures for external use	Communications Unit	Continuous

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B1

Staff is encouraged to print in black and white, if needed. This is also part of the newcomer training.

B2

Lightweight portable devices are provided to all the users. The recommendation to read on the laptop rather than printing is highlighted in the induction training for newcomers.

B3

Double sided printing is set in the default printers' configuration.

B4

In 2020, a revised publication printing policy was implemented to reduce externally printed products to better meet the demand. Further, the Agency stopped printing reports, newsletters, legislation and calendars.

C MOBILITY			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
C1 Reduce staff travel through missions	Increase the use of video conferencing and, whenever possible, apply it instead of organising physical meetings	All Directorates	Continuous
C2 Reduce contributions to CO2 emissions generated through air travel undertaken in the frame of ECHA activities	Increase the use of video conferencing and, whenever possible, apply it instead of organising physical meetings.	All Directorates	Continuous

C1

ECHA encourages its staff to choose a remote meeting instead of physical meetings where possible. This is implemented within the application form for mission travel requests with the following question:

> *"Is it possible to attend this meeting through alternative means like teleconference?"*

C2

To increase the use of video conferencing, detailed instructions on how to organise virtual meetings have been provided to all staff. Further training sessions are held for the tools available and support from audio-visual technicians for conference organisers is available to provide a positive meeting experience.

D WASTE			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
D1 Improve waste separation	Ensure containers are available and easily accessible throughout the premises.	Corporate Services	Continuous
D2 Improve waste separation	Update instructions to all staff and cleaning personnel, also on ECHAnet.	Corporate Services	Continuous
D3 Reduce food waste	Communicate food waste with the canteen provider.	Corporate Services, Communications Unit	Continuous

D1

Central waste collection points are available in staff kitchens. Additional sorting bins are available at high traffic points in the building. Labels at each bin indicate the correct waste separation.

D2

The campaign to raise awareness on waste separation and collection at the Agency's premises is delayed to 2022 due to the high percentage of staff working from home. The campaign will be run once the post-COVID situation and when staff will return to work at the Agency's premises.

D3

In 2021 the canteen was not in use. The cafeteria at ECHA's premises was in use for a three-month period.

E ICT Data Centre/Hardware			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
E1 Improve CO_2 footprint of IT equipment	ICT procurement of energy-efficient/low carbon emitting IT equipment, e.g. phones, monitors, laptops, MFF printer.	Directorate I	Continuous
E2 Improve CO_2 footprint of IT infrastructure services	ICT procurement of energy-efficient/low carbon emitting infrastructure services in the future.	Directorate I	Continuous
E3 Increase life span of materials used in IT Hardware, e.g. laptops, monitors	Life-cycle/sustainability to be taken into account in ICT equipment procurement	Directorate I	Continuous

E1

The IT Workplace devices that are procured are lightweight computing devices with low energy consumption in all states, adhering to modern energy efficiency standards. The monitors are all EPA/GreenStar/TÜV compliant with power saving modes enabled by default.

The configuration of all the devices enforces power saving modes in all cases (screen savers, sleep modes, etc.)

E2

ECHA's data centres are outsourced. The contractor has committed to reach zero CO2 and zero waste by 2030.

E3

All devices are procured under the Device-As-A-Service model. At the end of their service life, the devices are returned to the supplier and can be re-used or re-purposed. Furthermore, certain components, such as chargers or cables, can be shared among the equipment, decreasing the demand for redundant identical components.

F MANAGEMENT AND STAFF ENGAGEMENT			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
F1 Inform and involve all staff in greening ECHA	Green communications plan, training, and info sessions.	Corporate Services	Continuous
F2 Foster environmentally friendly work practices	Organise staff awareness campaigns (e.g. printing, PCs, waste, mobility, etc) according to the relevant annual Green Communications Plan.	Corporate Services, Staff Committee	Continuous
F3 Formalise environmental management	Implement Environmental Management System	Corporate Services	Continuous
F4 ISO 14001:2015 recertification	Develop roadmap and monitor project implementation	Corporate Services	2023
F5 Strengthen Green public procurement	Ensure green public procurement practices	Procurement Team	Continuous
F6 EMAS certification	Plan and implement EMAS	Corporate Services	2021

F1

Regular communication to staff is published on the ECHA intranet following the annual communications plan.

F2

Environment friendly work practices are promoted and encouraged in line with the communications plan.

F3

Implementation of the EMS is in line with the requirements set out by ISO14001, EMAS and ECHA's IMS.

F4
Successful recertification under ISO 14001:2015 was conducted in October 2020.

F5

ECHA implements Green Procurement since 2015 and benefits from the Hansel requirements (see 2.4 below).

F6

The application for EMAS registration was submitted to the local authority in 2021.

2.4. Green Public Procurement

The Agency implements eco-friendly and sustainability criteria and requirements in its tenders when relevant.

In addition, ECHA uses the State of Finland's public procurement platform Hansel which is the procurement service for public administrations. All Hansel framework agreements require suppliers to promote environmentally friendly and sustainable practices and specify certification requirements for suppliers' products and services that aim to minimise the impact on climate and environmental matters. These conform to International, European and National standards and ECO-labelling schemes.

2.5. Legal Obligations

The Agency has identified the implications to the organisation of all applicable legal requirements relating to the environment which are listed in a register.

The register is checked annually and whenever:

- a relevant new project or activity which has an impact on the environment is introduced,
- information is received about new or updated applicable environmental legislation or other relevant compliance obligations.

ECHA complies with the Finnish Rescue Act (29.4.2011/379) and has implemented the recommendations under the Contagious Disease Act (COVID Amendment) Communicable Diseases Act 1227/2016 (and Government Decree on Communicable Diseases 146/2017).

The ECHA office is in compliance with the relevant parts of the Finnish legislation as contained in the Waste Act (646/2011); Environmental Protection Act (527/2014); Government Decision on Noise Level Guide Values (993/1992) and Law on building energy certificate (50/2013).
The responsibility to comply with these obligations is under the responsibility of the landlord (ECHA Lease Agreement, Appendix 5), which is monitored continuously.

2.6. Nonconformity and corrective actions.

Nonconformities are recorded in the remedy system of the Agency.

In 2021, no nonconformities were reported.

09 June 2022

Annex A: ECHA Environmental Work programme 2020-2022

Open the document by double-clicking

ECHA Environmental Work
programme 2020 - 2022   1 (3)
Internal   JW/ml
updated
15 February 2021

ECHA Environmental Work programme 2020 - 2022

Introduction

The Agency's environmental programme describes the environmental themes that the Agency will pursue in the frame of its sustainability management. The programme develops the evaluation of the Agency's environmental aspects into actions. It lays down goals and activities for improving the Agency's environmental performance within a time horizon of three years.

The ECHA Environmental Programme 2020-2022 updates the 2016-2018 (continued into 2019) programme which targeted measures that are suitable for strengthening the environmental management at the Agency and leading to a reduction in the Agency's CO2 footprint.

The ECHA Environmental Programme 2020-2022 includes actions that guide the achievement of the Agency's 2020-2022 environmental objectives (approved DM 2020/22) which aim at **reducing** by the end of 2022:

1)   **Building CO2 emission by 20% from 2019 levels;**
2)   **Travel (meeting participants) CO2 emission by 75% from 2019 levels;**
3)   **Travel (staff missions) CO2 emission by 50% from 2019 levels.**

The implementation of the environmental programme is monitored regularly. The environmental indicator data is collected on a regular basis by Corporate Services.

Senior Management reviews annually the Agency's environmental programme at the Management Review. The next review is planned to take place in Q1 2022.

Note: This environmental programme does not include the activities that relate to the Agency's regulatory tasks aiming at the protection of the environment. These activities are programmed in the Agency's multi-annual and annual work programmes.

Work programme goals and actions

A BUILDING EMMISIONS			
Goal	**Action**	**Responsible**	**Validity**
A1 Reduce the number of physical meetings in the building	Increase awareness of Audio-Visual equipment Institutionalise remote meetings culture	Corporate Services and respective meetings organisers	Continuous
A2 Reduce use of stand-by mode of all electrical devices	All electrical devices (AV, studio, PCs, monitors and printers configured to sleep after some minutes of idle.	Every staff member – Directorate I, Directorate R, Directorate A	Continuous

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**ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFIER'S DECLARATION ON
VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION ACTIVITIES**

AENOR INTERNACIONAL, S.A.U., with EMAS environmental verifier registration number ES-V-0001, accredited for the scopes: 99.00 "Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies", declares

to have verified the sites as indicated in the environmental statement of **ECHA – EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY**, with registration number (FI-000060)

to have verified the sites as indicated in the environmental statement of **ECHA – EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY**, with registration number (first verification) meet all requirements of Regulation (EC) N° 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 and Regulation (EU) 2018/2026.

By signing this declaration, I declare that:

– the verification and validation have been carried out in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) N° 1221/2009 amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 and Regulation (EU) 2018/2026,
– the outcome of the verification and validation confirms that there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable legal requirements relating to the environment,
– the data and information of the environmental statement of the sites reflect a reliable, credible and correct image of all the sites activities, within the scope mentioned in the environmental statement.

This document is not equivalent to EMAS registration. EMAS registration can only be granted by a Competent Body under Regulation (EC) N° 1221/2009 amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505. This document shall not be used as a stand-alone piece of public communication.

Done at Madrid, on June 17, 2022

Signature

Rafael GARCÍA MEIRO
Chief Executive Officer