

European Chemicals Agency Environmental Statement 2020

1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020

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 was officially EMAS-registered on 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 18.000m².

The office building accommodates about 600 staff members. The office building, certified to the LEED Platinum standard, offers a modern and energy efficient work environment distributed over nine floors. The adjacent conference building was 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 is certified to the LEED Gold standard.

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/>

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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 2020⁴, 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 System⁵ (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 9001⁶ and ISO 14001⁷ since 2015 and was recertified in 2020. It was also in 2020 that the Agency started preparations for the verification and registration of its EMS under the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) (Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009⁸ (EMAS); Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 (updated Annexes I, II and III) and Commission Regulation 2018/2026 (amended Annex IV)).

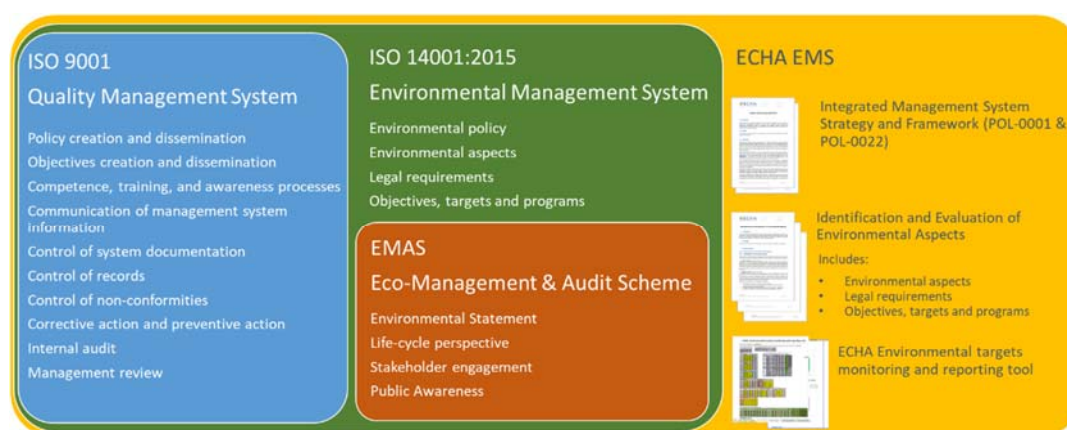


Figure 1 ECHA's IMS Integrated Management System

⁴

https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/29644884/FINAL_MB_M_03_2020_minutes_MB_58.pdf/087e812e-39af-3687-d10f-8d3588103b92

⁵ <https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/integrated-quality-management>

⁶ https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13607/echa_iso_9001_2015_certificate_en.pdf/4add4092-02c7-49d3-9327-f6b65af8c475

⁷ https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13607/echa_iso_14001_2015_certificate_en.pdf/9bf0b651-e1c8-31cd-ca33-ec0f353e04a8

⁸ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009R1221>

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1.4. Purpose and Scope of the EMS

ECHA's environmental management system (EMS) is a component of the Agency's Integrated Management System⁹ (IMS) Strategy and Framework.

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 2016-2020¹⁰", "Report on the operation of REACH and CLP 2021¹¹") 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)¹². 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 99.00¹³ (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 System¹⁴.

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)¹⁵ 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 Decision¹⁶ (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

⁹ <https://echa.europa.eu/about-us/the-way-we-work/integrated-quality-management>

¹⁰ [Costs and benefits of REACH restrictions proposed between 2016-2020](#)

¹¹ [Report on the operation of REACH and CLP 2021](#)

¹² http://ec.europa.eu/info/law-making-process/regulatory-scrutiny-board_en

¹³ [BIS - Business information system - BIS-Search \(ytj.fi\)](#)

¹⁴ [BIS - Business information system - BIS-Search \(ytj.fi\)](#)

¹⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019D0061&from=EN>

¹⁶ [Commission Decision](#)

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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 2020, the other inputs included:

- EMAS Gap analysis;
- Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Environmental monitoring and reporting;
- Carbon footprint calculator;
- Internal Audit Report.

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.

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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.

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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:

- The Agency's ability to control or influence the aspect,
- The significance of their associated adverse impact(s) on the environment,
- Legal and other compliance obligations.

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.

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.

Significance of environmental aspects

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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 regulation¹⁷.

The Agency has recorded its environmental related data since 2015. The environmental statement 2020 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.

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

¹⁷ Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 amending Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 on EMAS

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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 as determined by the Management Review 2019

1.7.2. Positive impacts of the Agency

While adapting to the remote way of working due to the global pandemic, significant steps were taken in the EU to make our lifestyles more sustainable and to protect health and the environment. The European Commission's Green Deal, was followed by the publication of its Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, supporting the delivery of a toxic-free environment, a zero-pollution ambition and the eighth Environmental Action Programme. Progress was also made on protecting health with the publication of the Commission's cancer action plan. There are actions with all these policy initiatives to which ECHA can offer expertise and knowhow.

The Agency reflected in 2020 on its capabilities, role and mandate – carrying out a detailed priority setting exercise in preparation of the EU Multi-annual Financial Framework 2021-2027. The outcome of this is that we have focused on prioritising areas where we can have the maximum impact on protecting human health and the environment. For example, assessing chemicals in groups became a norm, and sustainability and circularity entered the spotlight as we launched the SCIP database of safer chemicals in products. As outlined in our Communications Strategy, we also continued to increase visibility on the impact of our work as a centre of knowledge on chemicals safety.

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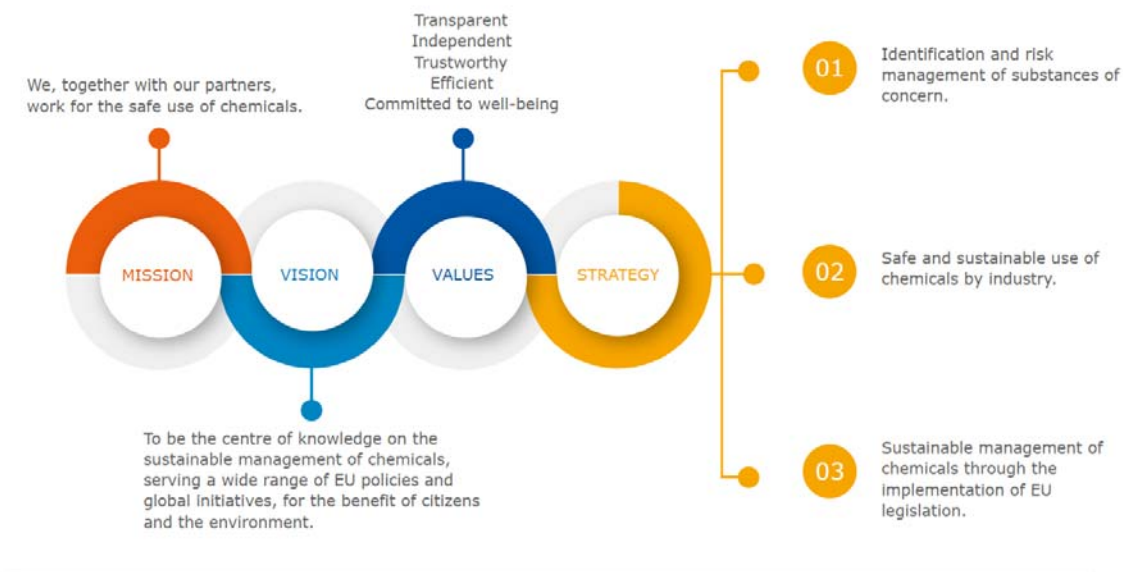


Figure 2 ECHA Mission, Vision, Value and Strategy

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 2020, examples of ECHA's core tasks that have a positive environmental impact include:

- ECHA joined forces with the Commission to help Member States and companies get more disinfectants on the market as part of the fight against COVID-19. ECHA helped specifically by providing compositional recommendations to combat disinfectant shortages.
- With the revised Drinking Water Directive coming into effect in early 2021, ECHA was given a task to compile lists of substances that can be safely used in materials that come into contact with drinking water.
- ECHA's report concerning progress on the use of alternatives to testing on animals was published.
- ECHA's scientific committees supported the restriction of more than 1 000 skin sensitising chemicals used in clothing, footwear and other articles. If adopted, it would prevent many people from developing new skin allergies and relieve the symptoms of those who already have them.

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

1.7.2.1. Identification and risk management of substances of concern

Under the first priority, ECHA aims to check all registered substances to identify substances of concern and decide whether regulatory actions are needed, and the most appropriate ways to manage their risks. In total there are more than 21 000 substances to be checked and prioritised, out of which around 4 600 are manufactured or imported above 100 tonnes per year in the EU.

ECHA continued to assess if the information on chemicals received from companies meets the legal requirements, and significant progress was recorded in generating needed hazard information. In total, 271 full compliance checks covering 258 unique substances and 76

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targeted checks on 44 unique substances were carried out in 2020. The full checks targeted long-term effects of chemicals that may cause genetic mutation and cancer, harm fertility or the unborn child, or are harmful to the environment.

There is tangible progress within the EU to reduce exposure to hazardous chemicals. Firstly, six more substances have been added to the Candidate List of substances of very high concern – five that are reprotoxic and one with endocrine-disrupting properties. As of December 2020, 211 entries containing 393 substances of very high concern were on the Candidate List, out of which 54 need authorisations.

Secondly, there are reasons to believe that authorisation requirements have led to substitution, as no applications for authorisation were received for 24 of the substances of very high concern.

And thirdly, restrictions are providing protection for workers, consumers and the environment as they effectively reduce exposure to harmful substances. In 2020, seven opinions on restriction proposals were adopted by ECHA's scientific committees.

Classification and labelling are important instruments in ensuring the safe use of chemicals. The number of substances addressed by harmonised classification and labelling has been increasing, bringing the total number of substances classified under harmonised classification in all hazard groups to 379, as of December 2020.

ECHA's Integrated Regulatory Strategy continues to identify substances for which – based on the data received following an evaluation decision – harmonised classification is considered the most suitable option for risk management.

Main achievements

- Information is more transparent in our chemicals database – users can now see when substances were registered, when registrations have been updated, and when companies cease manufacture or have their registrations revoked. Nano data and related studies were also made available, as well as key lists for persistent organic pollutants. The database makes chemicals data easy to access for its 40 000 daily users.
- Our completeness checks for registration dossiers now also cover nanomaterials and have been improved for key hazard endpoints such as genotoxicity and reproductive toxicity. This provides a better starting point for authorities to prioritise substances for regulatory action. Assessors can also now evaluate possible hazards and risks of 190 registrations for 68 substances covering nanofoms received by the end of 2020.
- ECHA's Integrated Regulatory Strategy has accelerated the grouping approach and the assignment of registered substances into pools based on their regulatory status. This has formed a more complete picture of the universe of registered substances and how to efficiently address those that require action. In 2020, ECHA and Member States checked around 1 900 substances to identify a need for further assessment, of which around 38 % had been registered above 100 tonnes per year.
- Work continued intensively to tackle non-compliant information on chemicals and significant progress was recorded in generating needed hazard information, with 271 full checks covering 258 unique substances and 76 targeted checks on 44 unique substances.
- RAC processed 50 harmonised classification and labelling dossiers – covering 33 industrial chemicals, 40 proposals for carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic substances (CMRs) and 17 dossiers for active substances used in biocides and plant protection products. The Commission harmonised the classification and labelling of 22 new substances and revised existing harmonisations for 31 substances.

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- RAC and SEAC made 96 opinions on applications for authorisation. With the conditions proposed by ECHA's committees, the environmental emissions of two endocrine-disrupting substances were projected to reduce by more than 90 %. As ECHA did not receive review reports from two-thirds of authorisation holders, there is growing evidence that authorisation accelerates substitution. The annual benefits of the authorisation system were estimated to be about EUR 15 billion.
- RAC and SEAC adopted seven opinions on restriction proposals – for microplastics, cobalt salts, the siloxanes D4, D5 and D6, formaldehyde, skin-sensitisers, PFHxS, and calcium cyanamide. The Agency also worked on four new restriction proposals, including one concerning substances used in single-use nappies. In addition to preventing 100 000 tonnes of chemicals from polluting the environment each year, the annual health benefits from restrictions were estimated to be at least EUR 708 million.
- Member States and ECHA agreed on the active substance action plan to speed up the implementation of the review programme for biocidal active substances at EU level. The aim is to increase the number of dossiers submitted for peer review by the Member States.
- ECHA joined forces with the Commission to help Member States and companies get more disinfectants on the market as part of the fight against COVID-19. ECHA helped specifically by providing compositional recommendations to combat disinfectant shortages.
- ECHA's support and tools for companies were adapted to take the regulatory amendments to CLP into account, and to help industry prepare poison centre notifications in the harmonised format ahead of the first applicability date on 1 January 2021. By the end of 2020, almost 350 000 notifications were successfully submitted.
- Efforts in harmonising enforcement with two finalised harmonised enforcement projects and a pilot project on REACH and CLP obligations across the EU focused on ensuring that companies provide missing information following evaluation decisions and imported products which often do not comply with EU law.
- Three major studies under the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON) were conducted on the effect of nanomaterials on female fertility and reproduction, skin absorption from consumer products and the public's perception of nanomaterials provide insights on the safety, innovation, research and uses of nanomaterials.
- ECHA's report concerning progress on the use of alternatives to testing on animals was published, looking for the first time at low-tonnage registrations after the 2018 deadline. The report shows that adaptations continue to be used more than experimental studies, in particular, read-across.

1.7.2.2. Safe and sustainable use of chemicals by industry

Effective communication up and down the supply chain is critical for the safe use of chemicals. In 2020, ECHA worked with key stakeholders to identify necessary improvements to the current system for providing fit-for-purpose safety information on hazardous substances and mixtures.

A joint analysis, under the umbrella of REACH Review Action 3, was carried out by ECHA, the Commission and the stakeholder Exchange Network for Exposure Scenarios (ENES), concluding that further efforts are needed particularly from industry. Both industry and Member States acknowledge that improving the workability of (extended) safety data sheets needs to be accompanied with improved content in chemical safety reports, as this is the source of information expected to travel through the supply chain.

To derive meaningful risk management advice, it is crucial for chemical safety assessments (CSAs) to be based on representative conditions of use and for dossiers to be updated with

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information that is increasingly available from the supply chain.

As an outcome of our discussions on prioritising tasks, it was agreed to pause our work to support supply chain communication after 2020.

Main achievements

- REACH requirements for compiling safety data sheets were amended with the addition of mandatory specifications for nanoforms and endocrine-disrupting properties, and the assignment of unique formula identifiers to the labels of hazardous mixtures.
- Updated guidance for safety data sheets was published giving consumers and industry the most current information on how to use chemicals safely.
- Use map information was updated and published for three important sectors of the European economy: agriculture, solvents and the petroleum industry.
- ECHA continued to collaborate with the Joint Research Centre of the Commission on developing best available technology reference documents for ceramics, textiles, ferrous metals processing, and smitheries and foundries under the Industrial Emissions Directive.
- ECHA worked with Member States, Commission, and industry to establish a development plan for REACH Review Action 3. The plan is intended to clarify which further work is needed to establish a more effective system and where further investment is needed. As part of the priority setting for 2021, ECHA's support to communication in the supply chain, including REACH Review Action 3, was paused.

1.7.2.3. Sustainable management of chemicals through the implementation of EU Legislation

The knowledge and competence that ECHA possesses has made it possible for the Agency to integrate further tasks. The implementation of REACH, CLP, BPR, PIC and POPs remains the backbone, but leveraging on the experience gained has also allowed ECHA to progress with the SCIP database and facilitating the use of IUCLID by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) – an important step towards further harmonising data on chemicals.

ECHA also supports the protection of workers in the EU with its opinions on occupational exposure limits and by proposing conditions for the use of substances that need authorisation. Furthermore, environmental emissions of substances are projected to be reduced thanks to the authorisation requirement.

To improve knowledge and transparency on chemicals, ECHA launched the first version of the EU Chemicals Legislation Finder (EUCLEF), allowing users to see how their substances are regulated across 40 pieces of EU legislation. The EU Observatory on Nanomaterials (EUON) further increased the information available about nanomaterials on the EU market, by commissioning three major studies on topics related to human health and general awareness of the nanomaterials in 2020.

Main achievements

- The SCIP database used to track substances of very high concern in products was launched, facilitating moves towards a more sustainable circular economy.
- To protect workers with limit values from exposure to lead and diisocyanates, RAC recommended occupational exposure levels (OELs) and initiated evaluations of asbestos and cadmium.

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- Chemical safety in importing countries was promoted as evidenced by the processing of a record number of 11 971 PIC export notifications.
- The EU Chemicals Legislation Finder (EUCLEF) was unveiled, giving instant access information on chemicals across 40 pieces of legislation to companies, citizens and regulators.
- Substances subject to the POPs Regulation or those proposed as POPs are now flagged accordingly in ECHA's chemicals database. Users can search to find POPs, with different depths of information available in the substance Info cards and Brief Profiles.
- Preparations were started for new tasks including assessing substances used in materials that may come into contact with drinking water under the revised Drinking Water Directive. First discussions were also held on whether and how to integrate the task of managing the risks of dangerous substances in batteries under the draft Batteries Regulation. Despite facing resource constraints, ECHA prepared to integrate the new tasks efficiently and explored how to create economies of scale by re-using existing IT platforms (such as the Cloud Services platform).
- We partnered with global authorities to maximise the use of existing data and promote IUCLID as the go-to platform for maintaining and exchanging data on chemical properties at an international level.

1.7.2.4. Governance and enablers

- The move to ECHA's new premises in 2020 presented an opportunity to scale-up the environmentally conscious actions updating the three-year environmental work programme to reflect the ambition to become net carbon-neutral by 2030.
- ECHA's outreach activities support sustainable chemicals management on a global level. Through capacity building in third countries, ECHA helps them to develop chemical management systems that can benefit from European chemicals management and risk assessment approaches.
- ECHA's advice on how to transfer registrations and assets to the EU before the end of the transition period avoided disruptions to the EU market by helping UK-based companies prepare in the lead up to Brexit.
- ECHA's re-certification against the ISO standards 9001:2015 and 14001:2015 for its quality and environmental management systems are proof of a high-quality work and continuous improvement of how to achieve set objectives.
- The Management Board successfully concluded a critical priority setting exercise, providing steer for the Executive Director and the Secretariat.
- ECHA has been chairing the European Union Agencies' Network (EUAN), including most of its subnetworks. The EUAN also set up an Executive Directors Group on Administrative Excellence and an Advisory Group on new ways of working as well as adopting the EUAN Multiannual Strategy 2021-2027, in line with the new EU priorities of digitalisation, greening resilience and recovery.

More information about these and our other achievements in 2020 can be found in the [ECHA 2020 Annual Report](#).

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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.

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.

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Figure 4 ECHA LEED certification

Before 2020, the Agency leased approximately 24.800m² at Annankatu 18 in Helsinki. This included directly connected offices located at Bulevardi 7 and Lönnrotinkatu 12.

The consumption data of the years 2018 and 2019 is calculated against the respective data of the previous premises of the Agency.

Leased square metres			
	2018	2019	2020
Leased square metres	24 808	24 808	17 679

Staff

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

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

FTEs working at ECHA			
	2018	2019	2020
FTE	605	605	591

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.

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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.

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2. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

ECHA's utilities contracts are dependent on providers that are available and regulated in its host city. Helsinki aims to become the most functional city in the world, to adapt to the changing climate and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035. Being carbon-neutral will mean that Helsinki's operations will no longer contribute to global warming and ECHA 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 starting mid-March 2020 which impacted positively to the significant decrease of consumption of water, printing paper and generation of waste.

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 CO₂ footprint.

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

- 1) Building CO₂ emission by 20% from 2019 levels
- 2) Travel (meeting participants) CO₂ emissions by 75% from 2019 levels
- 3) Travel (staff missions) CO₂ 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 2020 management review of the ECHA Integrated Management System, which includes reporting of the EMS, took place in February 2021.

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2.2. Core environmental performance indicators and consumption trends

2.2.1. Electricity consumption

Consumption of electricity				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
MWh electricity consumption	3 144	3 035	1 473	-51%
kWh/m ²	126.7	122.3	83.3	-32%
kWh/FTE	5 197	5 016	2 492	-51%

The electricity ECHA consumed in 2020 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 2020, 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.

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2.2.2. Consumption of energy for Heating and Cooling

Consumption of energy for heating and cooling				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
MWh Heating	3 431	4 021	1 626	-60%
MWh Cooling	-	-	741	-
MWh Total	3 431	4 021	2 367	-41%
kWh/m ²	138.30	162.08	133.87	-17%
kWh/FTE	5 671	6 646	2751	-41%

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.

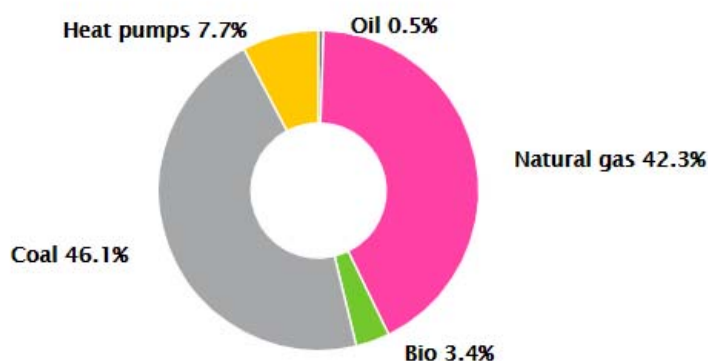


Figure 5 Origin of district heat¹⁸

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 2018 and 2019.

The 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.

¹⁸ <https://www.helen.fi/en/company/energy/energy-production/origin-of-energy>

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2.2.3. Water consumption

Consumption of water				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
m ³	8 781	8 133	2 528	-69%
m ³ /m ²		328	142.99	-56%
m ³ /FTE	14.51	13.44	4.28	-68%

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 previous water consumption trend between 2018-2021 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				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
TOTAL Printed Paper sheets	2 163 491	1 679 459	718 417	-57%
sheets/FTE/working day	15	11	5	-55%

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 2020, the Agency reduced the amount of MFDs from 42 to 36.

The default printer configuration is set via a group policy and documents are set 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.

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2.2.5. Waste generation

Waste generation (in tonnes)				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
Bio waste	27.6	25.1	17.59	-30%
Energy	22.5	30.6	5.44	-82%
Mixed & combustible	5.0	4.6	16.26	+251%
Cardboard	4.4	5.2	1.96	-62%
Paper (incl. magazines)	n/a	n/a	2.89	
Electronic equipment	11.7	0.2	1.32	474%
Fluorescent tubes	0.1	0.1	0	
Batteries	0.08	0.03	0	-100%
Glass	2.59	1.87	1.91	+2%
Metal	5.2	5.2	1.2	-77%
TOTAL	79.2	73.1	48.5	-34%
kg/FTE	130.89	120.77	82.14	-32%

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 cafe in the office building. The catering service provider is responsible for oil waste resulting from food preparations.
- Individual dustbins have been removed and staff use collective dustbins which offer sorting and recycling options.

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2.2.6. Emissions

CO₂ Emissions from air travel

CO ₂ Emissions from air travel				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
TOTAL miles for meetings and staff missions	5 398 813	5 727 837	446 781	-92%
t CO ₂ emissions from staff missions	261.8	232.6	24.7	-89%
t CO ₂ emissions from meeting participants	738	832.0	59.9	-93%
TOTAL t CO ₂ emissions	999.8	1 064.6	84.6	-92%
kg CO ₂ /FTE	1653	1760	143	-92%

The CO₂ 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. 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				
	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019/2020
Electricity: g/kWh	191	139	0	-100%
Heat: g/kWh	158	198	182	-8%
Cooling: g/kWh	-	-	0	-
Total CO ₂ in kg	1 142 602	1 218 023	295 932	-76%

The energy provider publishes yearly the emission factors¹⁹ for electricity, district heating and district cooling. In 2020, only the district heating produces CO₂ 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 CO₂ emissions.

¹⁹ <https://www.helen.fi/en/company/energy/energy-production/specific-emissions-of-energy-production>

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SO₂ and NO_x emissions

ECHA consumes energy for electricity, district heating and cooling and ECHA's energy provider Helen Ltd provides following data for acidifying emissions²⁰ (SO₂ and NO_x).

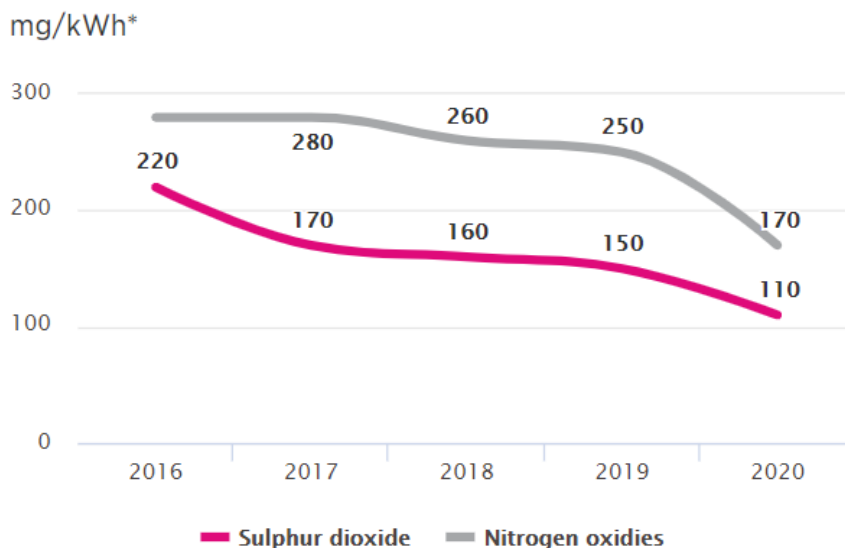


Figure 6 Acidifying emissions²¹

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. The data does not include emissions related to the production of wind electricity, district heating and district cooling.

²⁰ <https://www.helen.fi/en/company/responsibility/responsibility-report/environmental-responsibility/emissions>

²¹ <https://www.helen.fi/en/company/responsibility/responsibility-report/environmental-responsibility/emissions>

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2.3. Environmental Work Programme in 2020

Environmental objectives				
Objective	Baseline value 2019	Value in 2020	Status 2020 vs 2019	Target value for 2022
Reduce Building CO ₂ emission by 20% from 2019 levels	1 218.0 t	295.9 t	exceeded.	974.4 t
Reduce travel (meeting participants) CO ₂ emission by 75% from 2019 levels	832.0 t	59.9 t	exceeded.	208 t
Travel (staff missions) CO ₂ emission by 50% from 2019 levels	232.6 t	24.7 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 CO₂ emissions is calculated by the sum of emissions caused by consumption of electricity added to the energy used for heating and cooling.

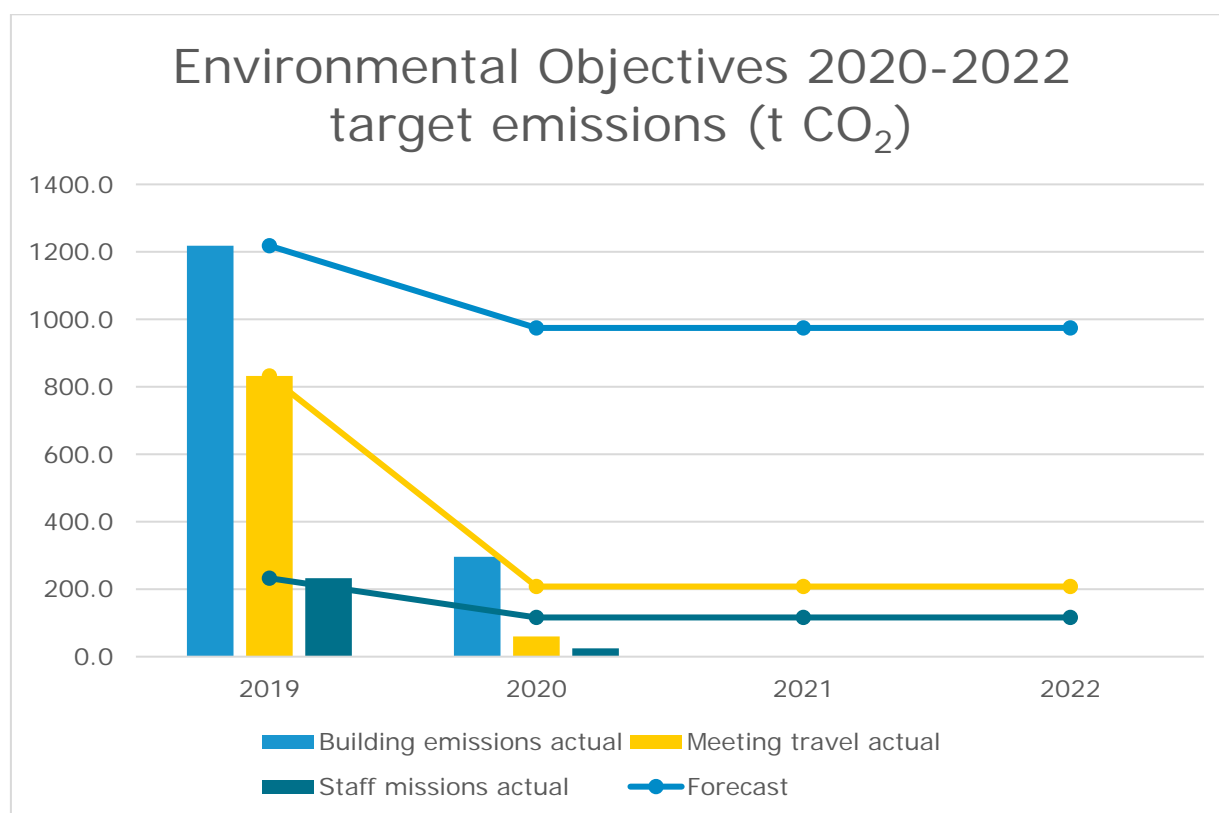


Figure 7 ECHA's environmental objectives 2020-2022

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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-B3

As standard, the printing policy chooses black and white and printing on both sides of the paper as a default.

The new laptops can be used in portrait mode and the keyboard is removable. This increases the use of the laptops as a reading device. In addition, pens are provided with the laptops that enables writing on the screen to take notes.

B4

In 2020, a revised publication printing policy was implemented to reduce externally printed products to better meet the demand. Further, the Agency will stop 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-C2

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

“Is it possible to attend this meeting through alternative means like teleconference?”

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

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D1

Individual bins at each workstation have been removed. Central waste collection points are available in staff kitchens. Additional sorting bins are available at high traffic points in the building.

D2

The campaign to raise awareness on waste separation and collection at the Agency's premises was delayed to 2021 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

Food waste, including the canteen and café, is collected in the central waste room. Annual information campaigns (posters in the canteen) inform staff of the quantities of food waste produced at ECHA and encourages staff to consider this when making their meal selection.

E MANAGEMENT AND STAFF ENGAGEMENT			
Goal	Action	Responsible	Validity
E1 Inform and involve all staff in greening ECHA	Green communications plan, training, and info sessions.	Corporate Services	Continuous
E2 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
E3 Formalise environmental management	Implement Environmental Management System	Corporate Services	Continuous
E4 ISO 14001:2015 recertification	Develop roadmap and monitor project implementation	Corporate Services	2020
E5 Strengthen Green public procurement	Ensure green public procurement practices	Procurement Team	Continuous
E6 EMAS certification	Plan and implement EMAS	Corporate Services	2021

E1

Regular communication to staff is published on the ECHA intranet.

E2

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

E3

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

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E4

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

E5

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

E6

At the time of writing, EMAS verification and registration are ongoing.

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 2020, no nonconformities were reported.

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Annex A: ECHA Environmental Work program 2020-2022

Open the document by double-clicking


 ECHA Environmental Work
 programme 2020 - 2022
 Internal
 updated
 15 February 2021

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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 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