



Zero Pollution Action Plan and update on COM's initiatives in relation to Water

Lisbon Water & Land
Conference
(11-12 October)

DG ENVIRONMENT

Marianthi Podimata
C.1 Sustainable freshwater management

The European Green Deal

COM(2019) 640 final

Transforming the EU's economy for a sustainable future



Become climate-neutral by 2050



Protect human life, animals and plants, by cutting pollution

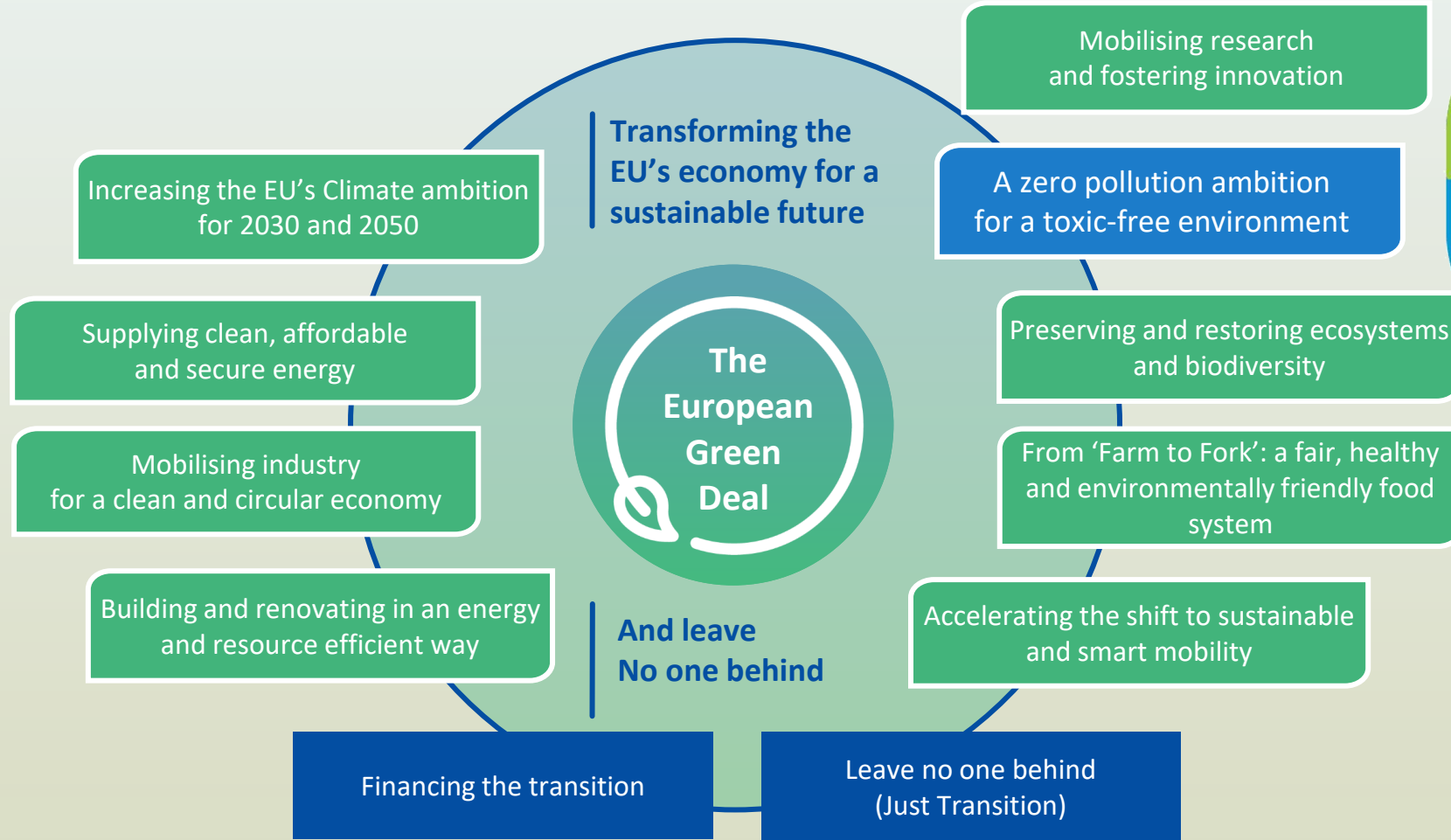


Help companies become world leaders in clean products and technologies



Help ensure a just and inclusive transition

The European Green Deal



The EU as a global leader

A European Climate Pact



The zero pollution vision for 2050



“Air, water and soil pollution is reduced to levels no longer considered harmful to health and natural ecosystems and that respect the boundaries our planet can cope with, thus creating a toxic-free environment.”

Key actions in the Zero Pollution Action Plan

➔ Improve human health:

- ✓ *reduce air and noise pollution*
- ✓ *reduce health inequalities*
- ✓ *support urban zero pollution action*



➔ Boost change across society:

- ✓ *Showcase zero pollution solutions for buildings*
- ✓ *Create living labs for green digital solutions*



➔ Protect natural ecosystems and biodiversity:

- ✓ *Reduce water and soil pollution*
- ✓ *Promote zero pollution across regions*



➔ Implement and enforce pollution laws more strictly



➔ Minimise the EU's external pollution footprint and promote change globally



➔ Promote digital solutions for zero pollution



➔ Stimulate knowledge and innovation



➔ Reduce pollution from production and consumption:

- ✓ *Reduce pollution from industrial installations*
- ✓ *Encourage the least polluting options for consumers*
- ✓ *reduce pollution from agriculture*



The European Green Deal



Many Green Deal actions already contribute to the Zero Pollution ambition

Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability

Zero Pollution Action Plan for Air, Water & Soil

- **Circular Economy** (e.g. microplastics)
- **Biodiversity and Farm to Fork** (e.g. nutrients, pesticides)
- **CAP** (e.g. pesticides/fertilisers)
- **Climate & Energy initiatives** including Adaptation
- **Cancer Plan** (e.g. air pollution)
- **Mobility Strategy**
- **Renovation Wave & Bauhaus**
- **Industrial Strategy**
- **Pharmaceuticals Strategy**
- **Trade Policy Review & Multilateralism**

The EU as a global leader

A European Climate Pact



| Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform



European Commission



**European Committee
of the Regions**



Who?

- Bringing together stakeholders and experts from different policy areas

What?

- mainstream the zero pollution agenda, help create co-ownership,
- promote collaboration, foster integrated solutions and actions that maximise synergies

How?

- share good practices on cross-cutting topics such as financing for zero pollution innovation and jobs, boosting sustainable production and consumption as well as creating thematic hubs (e.g. air, digital, soil)
- High level launch 16 Dec 2021, 2-3 meetings per year in 2022-2023
- Create synergies with European Climate Pact, Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform, Green City Accord, Business@Biodiversity, Chemicals Roundtable, etc.



3rd Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform meeting

Tuesday, 11 October 2022 /(today ☺) 11:30 -16:30 CEST
Location: European Commission, Berlaymont
(Robert Schuman Room)




European Committee
of the Regions

Flagships – integrated initiatives



1. Reducing health inequalities through zero pollution




2. Supporting urban zero pollution action



3. Promoting zero pollution across regions



4. Facilitating zero pollution choices



5. Enforcing zero pollution together



6. Showcasing zero pollution solutions for buildings



7. Living Labs for green digital solutions and smart zero pollution



8. Minimising the EU's external pollution footprint



9. Consolidating the EU's Knowledge Centres for zero pollution



Ensuring stricter implementation and enforcement



Flagship 5.
Enforcing zero pollution
together

Key actions

- promote enhanced collaboration between national authorities and develop new joint actions across the compliance chain
- bring together environmental and other enforcement authorities to exchange best practices and devise cross-sectorial compliance actions
- improve the horizontal legal framework by strengthening the Environmental Crime Directive
- evaluate Environmental Liability Directive
- consider developing standardised provisions on compliance assurance for new legislative proposals
- monitor the proportionate and dissuasive application of penalty clauses in force
- encourage the application of existing inspections and other compliance checks and penalty clauses
- promote the use of cutting-edge technologies to boost national capacities for monitoring and compliance verification.

“Civil society has an important role as a compliance watchdog.”





TAEIX-EIR Multi-country Flagship Workshop on Environmental Compliance & Governance

Organised by

European Commission

Monday 14 November 2022

Venue: (Hybrid)

Beneficiary: All Member States

Time zone: GMT +2

EIR 32572

TAEIX

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER WITH EU EXPERTISE



TAEIX EIR Workshop ECD-ZPAP

- The workshop will cover, amongst other issues, compliance assurance and enforcement related aspects linked to ensuring Zero Pollution objectives.





Join the “1st Zero Pollution Stakeholder Conference”

- 14 December 2022
- Open hybrid meeting of the Stakeholder Platform
- Presentation and discussion of the first Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook Report and the 3rd Clean Air Outlook



Timetable (key actions)

First Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook (2022)

- Revision of **Air Quality Directive**
- Revision of the **Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive**
- Revision of **water pollutants list** (Environmental Quality Standards and Groundwater Directives)
- Revision of the **Mercury Regulation**
- Implementation Report of **Environmental Noise Directive**
- Establish EU priority watch list for **soil**

Second Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook (2024)

- Recommendations on implementation of **polluter pays principle**

2021

2023

2022

2024

Launch of the Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform (2021)

- New emission limit values for motor vehicles (**EURO7**)
- Revision of the **Industrial Emissions Directive** and EU Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (or early 2022)
- Revision of the **Environmental Crime Directive**
- Launch global initiatives, e.g. on **lead batteries recycling**

EEA's European Environment & Health Atlas (2023)

- Review of **Marine Strategy Framework Directive**
- Review of **Bathing Water Directive**
- Fitness Check of **Environment Liability Directive**
- Assess pathways and policy options for **indoor air quality**
- Dedicated nutrient (ammonia) actions contributing to the **Integrated Nutrient Management Action Plan**
- Zero pollution contribution to **European Green Deal Dataspace**



The European Green Deal





European
Commission

EU Water Policy

Water policy



What's forthcoming?



the revision of the list of substances covered in the Groundwater Directive and the Environmental Quality Standards Directive in full synergy with the Zero Pollution Action Plan, the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, the Strategic Approach to Pharmaceuticals in the Environment

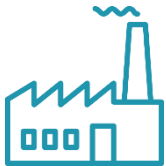
October 2022

Proposals for

- ✓ a Revision of the IED
 - ✓ a Regulation of the IEP
- 04 April 2022

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/proposal-revision-industrial-emissions-directive_en

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/proposal-regulation-industrial-emissions-portal_en
https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/proposal-revision-industrial-emissions-directive_en



the revision of legislation in the Industrial Emissions Directive



the revision of legislation in the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive

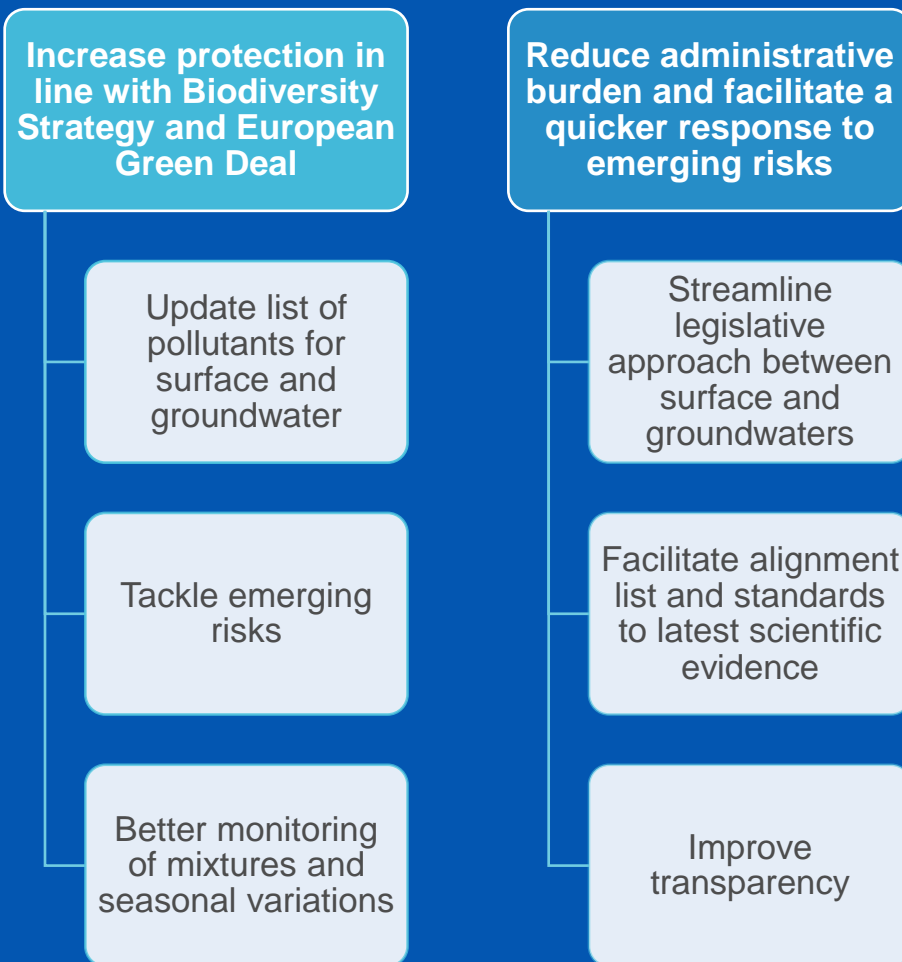
Q3/2022



the revision of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Q1/2023

Integrated Water Management – revision of the lists of **surface water** and **groundwater pollutants**



Achieving environmental quality standards will be achieved through range of existing and proposed EU measures (some in preparation), e.g.:

- Industrial Emissions
- Sustainable Use of Pesticides
- Urban wastewater
- Chemicals / REACH
- Pharmaceuticals
- Nitrates Directive

Member States need to combine and complement these measures in the River Basin Management Plan



Integrated Water Management – revision of the lists of **surface water** and **groundwater pollutants**

- Increased **protection of Europe's surface and groundwater** – source of source of drinking water, a biodiverse nature, an essential resource to farmers and industry, a means of transportation and an indispensable ingredient of electricity and heat production.
- Regular review of list of pollutants, to adapt to science and respond to **emerging pollutants**.
- Impact Assessment shows value of **acting at source**, in particular for industrial chemicals and pesticides. Many of the pollutants are toxic and reach humans directly or indirectly.
- On the list means: **MS need to take measures to reduce concentrations**, helped by EU level measures (pesticides legislation, waste water treatment, Nitrates Directive, REACH, etc).



Integrated Water Management – revision of the lists of **surface water and groundwater pollutants**

- Substances added are **pesticides, pharmaceuticals, industrial chemicals** and **metals** including PFAS ('forever chemicals'), Ibuprofen / Diclofenac and Glyphosate. Also prepares ground for listing microplastics and antimicrobial genes
- Other changes include improving **consistency with other policies** (Chemicals Strategy, F2F, One Health, etc.), **increasing transparency** and **enhancing efficiency through simplification**

Revision of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive

Water quality

- Integrated approach on rain waters
- Smaller cities covered (from 1.000 inhabitants)
- Better control of 'individual' treatment (IAS)
- More and better nutrient removal
- New treatment of micro pollutants
- Risk based approach - coherence

Climate/Energy

- Energy neutrality to be met by 2040 (-46% GHG)
- Systematic GHG Monitoring
- Non domestic pollution tracked at source
- Water, sludge and phosphorus re-use incentivised

Governance

- Extended Producer Responsibility- EPR (Cosmetics and Pharmaceuticals)
- Key performance indicators monitored and transparency
- Access to sanitation
- Health parameters monitoring (incl. Covid and AMR)

What is new?

Thank you!

Please visit:

- [Zero Pollution webpage](#)
- [Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform](#)
- [Water - Environment - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

Contact: ENV-ZERO-POLLUTION@ec.europa.eu ; ENV-WATER@ec.europa.eu

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