

Environmental Approach (Policy)

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) is an EU agency aimed at strengthening Europe's defences against infectious diseases. The core functions cover a wide spectrum of activities: surveillance, epidemic intelligence, response, scientific advice, microbiology, preparedness, public health training, international relations, health communication and the scientific journal *Eurosurveillance*.

In carrying out these activities, ECDC recognises that it has both direct and indirect impacts on the environment. The most prominent environmental aspects arise from travel and mobility, resource consumption, and the procurement of goods and services required to support our mission.

To effectively minimise, manage, and continuously improve our environmental performance, ECDC has implemented an Environmental Management System (EMS) in accordance with the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). This system supports the structured identification of environmental aspects, performance monitoring, and the integration of environmental criteria into daily operations and decision-making processes.

Our vision is to be a more sustainable and resource-efficient agency, and to achieve this we are committed to:

- Minimising our climate impact, including reducing CO₂ emissions from mobility, energy use, and operations.
- Integrating climate change, biodiversity, and resource availability into environmental planning.
- Minimising resource consumption through sustainable procurement and efficient material use.
- Continuously assessing environmental aspects and implementing improvements through EMAS.
- Monitoring energy, water, waste, and materials, and reducing impacts where possible.
- Adopting a lifecycle perspective and strengthening environmental requirements in procurement.
- Managing and minimising waste through efficient and careful material use.
- Applying structured change management for operations that may affect the environment.
- Promoting staff environmental responsibility and awareness.
- Complying with all applicable environmental legislation and regulations.
- Publicising our yearly EMAS Environmental Statement.



This approach covers all the Agency's operations, including staff activities when on mission or travelling. The approach also applies to all other persons and contractors working at the Agency's premises.

Dr Pamela Rendi-Wagner
Director of ECDC

