ECDC – Environmental Statement 2022

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About this document

This is the first environmental statement produced by ECDC and the first to be validated under the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). This environmental statement was prepared in accordance with the EMAS regulations, and it provides information to all the interested parties about ECDC's activities and its environmental performance.

In accordance with the Environmental Management System (EMS), the environmental statement will be published annually. The second environmental statement will therefore be published in 2024.

1. ABOUT ECDC

1.1 ECDC'S MISSION AND CONTEXT

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.

ECDC's mission is to identify, assess and communicate current and emerging threats to human health posed by infectious diseases. In order to achieve this mission, ECDC operates in collaboration with health protection bodies across Europe to strengthen and operate continent-wide disease surveillance and early warning systems. ECDC therefore channels Europe's health knowledge to develop authoritative scientific opinions regarding risks posed by current and emerging infectious diseases.

In alignment with the European Green Deal and in order to respond to a growing European concern on the effects of climate change, ECDC has established and implemented an environmental management system (EMS) in order to assess its current standing and potential areas of improvement of its environmental performance.

Photo 1: EU and ECDC flags

1.2 ECDC PREMISES

Initially located in the city first awarded with the European Green Capital award, Stockholm, Sweden, ECDC moved to its new premises in April 2018. The relocation to a fully refurbished building in the Frösunda area of Solna, north of Stockholm, has impacted our environmental performance significantly, especially in terms of consumption. The new location selected to host the headquarters is much more efficient in terms of its building structure. ECDC set sustainability among the criteria established before proceeding with the market prospection and negotiation of the new premises. ECDC requested a minimum of a "BREEAM Very Good" certification for the building, which ensured an overall considerably improved environmental performance.

ECDC's premises are a modern office building of roughly 9,500 square meters with 7 floors in scope of which one is underground and one a roof terrace. For the internal management of the activities, the levels have been separated into two groups depending on their function: office area, meeting area, break out area, facilities, technical area, and others such as corridors and bathrooms. In the premises, all staff work under one roof, in close proximity and with equitable working conditions.

Photo 2: ECDC premisses

The office building has been environmentally certified as a "Green building" since 2018, and received the environmental certification 'BREEAM Very Good in use' in 2020.

With its clean lines, natural light, and light colours and woods, the ECDC building reflects ECDC's efforts to support an environmentally friendly, healthy, and sustainable work environment.
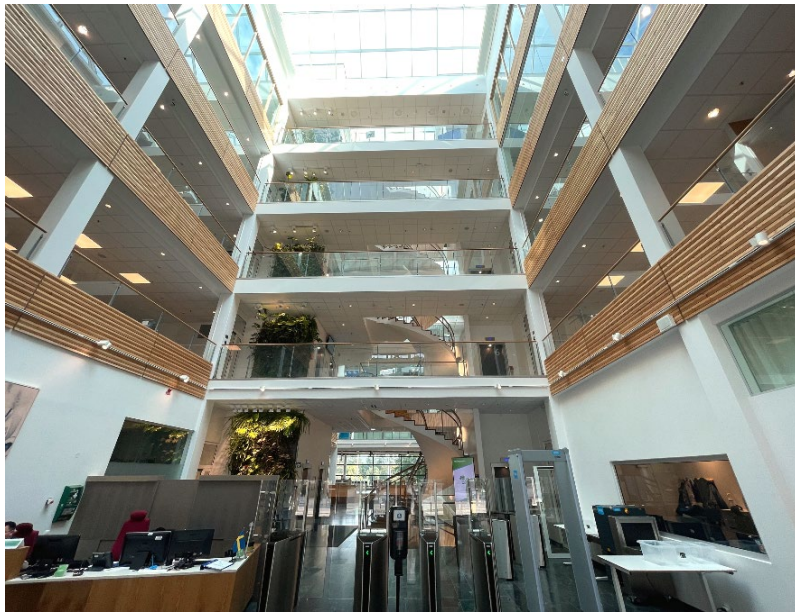
Photo 3: Interior, lobby area and green walls

2. ENVIROMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

An EMS is a set of processes and practices that enable an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency.

2.1 ABOUT EMAS

The Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) is a voluntary management instrument developed by the European Commission to assist organizations to evaluate, report, and improve their environmental performance.

EMAS was established in 1993 and has evolved over time. EMAS was revised for the first time in 2001 incorporating ISO 14001 (International Standard for Environmental Management Systems). In addition, since the second revision in 2009, EMAS is open to any organization in any country worldwide.

EMAS integrates the ISO 14001 requirements standard for EMS but has additional requirements including conducting an environmental review, designing an environmental policy, reporting on a set of core indicators and publishing annual environmental statements.

ECDC conducted its environmental review in 2019, continued working on preparing grounds for the further process developments and established its EMS in 2023.

2.2 PURPOSE OF THE EMS

ECDC established and implemented the EMS with the intention to improve its environmental performance and to reduce environmental impact caused by ECDC activities. The EMS was established in line with the EMAS regulations.

The implementation of the EMS also supports ECDC in its commitment to contribute to the EU Green Deal, as well as the United Nations 2030 agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The implementation of the EMS/EMAS registration helps ECDC to prepare for the future, to increase its innovation ability, decrease its environmental impact and costs and to bolster public reputation at the same time. Furthermore, ECDC demonstrates that it complies with all relevant environmental legislation and regulations and it is able to implement and maintain high standard practices that will benefit ECDC in the long term with its commitment to high environmental standards.

2.3 GOVERNANCE OF THE EMS

For a successful implementation and to maintain a functional EMS, ECDC has established the following governance structure:
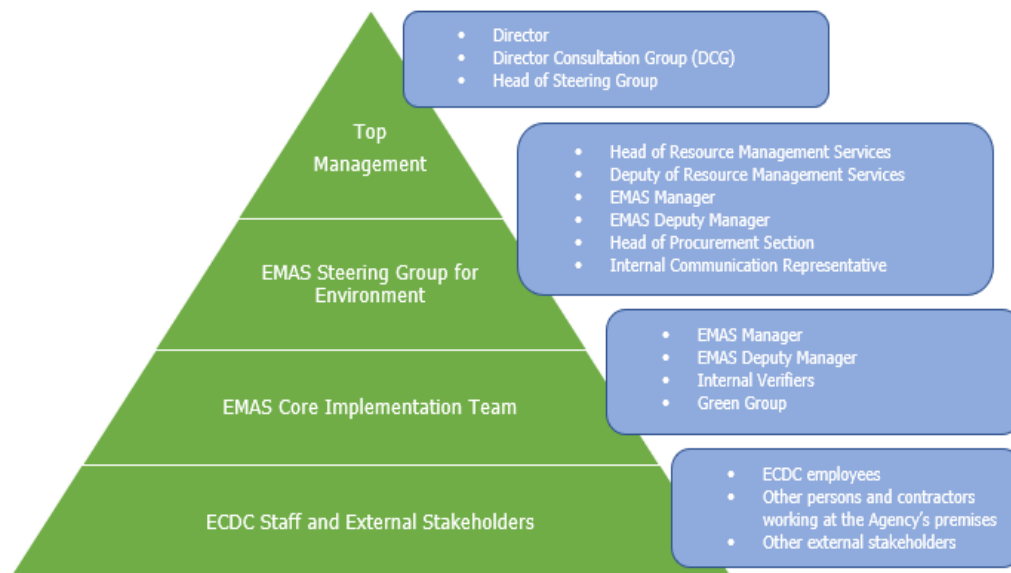
Figure 1: Environmental Management System Governance

Top Management - The top management, which consists of the Director, Director Consultation Group (DCG), and Head of the Steering Group, is responsible for the overall environmental approach of ECDC.

EMAS Steering Group for Environment - The EMAS Steering Group is responsible for the management review and makes the strategic decisions regarding ECDC environmental work. The group consists of: Head of Unt Resource Management Services; Deputy Head of Unit Resource Management Services; EMAS Manager (Facility Manager); EMAS Deputy Manager; Head of Procurement Section; Internal communication representative.

EMAS Core Implementation Team – Comprised of the EMAS Manager and Deputy Manager, Internal Verifiers, and the Green Group, are responsible for the implementation of the EMS on day-to-day basis.

ECDC Staff and other external stakeholders – All ECDC staff, interims, consultants, trainees, contractors, external stakeholders have an important role to play in reducing the negative environmental impact and contributing to improving the ECDC's environmental performance.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL APPROACH/ POLICY

ECDC strives, through its actions, to contribute to the achievement of the environmental agreements and their objectives. ECDC joins the efforts of the European Commission to reach the objectives of the European Green Deal and its 2030 Climate Target Plan. Therefore, to minimize, manage, and have continuous improvement of its environmental performance, ECDC has implemented the Environmental Management System (EMS) according to the Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

The ECDC's environmental approach describes the Agency's environmental objectives and targets, and it 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.

ECDC's vision is to be a more sustainable and resource-efficient Agency, and to achieve that, ECDC is committed to:
- ✓ Minimize our climate impact, starting from reducing CO_2 emission;
- ✓ Minimize resource consumption through sustainable procurement and efficient use of materials;
- ✓ Adopt relevant environmental standards and requirements in all areas of internal operations;
- ✓ Assess internal activities and identify areas to continuously improve environmental performance;
- ✓ Continuously monitor energy and resources consumption in order to reduce, whenever possible, environmental impacts;
- ✓ Manage and minimize waste through careful and efficient use of materials;
- ✓ Purchase sustainable products and materials wherever feasible (e.g., recycled, FSC or low environmental impact products);
- ✓ Enhance environmental requirements in procurement procedures;
- ✓ Reduce risks from environmental, health or safety hazards for employees and others in the vicinity of its operations.
- ✓ Promote environmental responsibility of staff by increasing awareness of the environmental impacts of their work activities;
- ✓ Comply with all environmental relevant legislation and regulations, where applicable to ECDC;
- ✓ Publicize our environmental statement.

The ECDC'S environmental approach/policy was signed by the Director on 04/07/2023 and is available on the ECDC website.

4. SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS AND IMPACTS

An environmental aspect is an element, belonging to an organisation's activities, products or services, that affects the environment. An environmental impact is any action that transforms or changes the environment, either directly or indirectly, regardless of whether the change is beneficial or harmful. Therefore, any environmental aspect which produces a certain effect, generates an environmental impact.

In 2019, ECDC conducted an environmental review to identify the direct environmental aspects over which ECDC can be expected to have an influence and control and indirect environmental aspects over which ECDC can be expected to have an influence, but no control. This review corresponded to the initial phase of the EMAS process and served to lay the grounds for the implementation of the ECDC environmental system.

4.1 DIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

To determine the significance of the environmental aspects, the environmental review conducted in 2019 established a model considering several relevant criteria. As a result, the following direct environmental aspects were identified:

	Direct aspects observed for ECDC	Reviewed Environmental Significance
A1	Travel and mobility - corporate travel	79
A2	Travel and mobility - accomodation	46
A3	Travel and Mobility - corporate car	38
A4	Resource consumption - office supplies	34
A5	Regular waste production	25
A6	Water consumption	22
A7	Special waste production	16
A8	Resource consumption - paper	16
A9	Energy consumption	15
A10	Air pollution	14
A11	Electromagnetic pollution	12
A12	Noise pollution	11
A13	Soil pollution	2
A14	Biodiversity - plants	0

Figure 2: Overview of ECDC's direct aspects

The reviewed environmental significance (ESREV) varies on a scale from 0 to 100. Three ranges were identified for the score, and each of the categories defines a different measure of intervention:

ESREV ≥ 60: **critical** – aspects with environmental significance higher than 60 are considered as critical activities. These are aspects which are recommended to be tackled with urgency and should be included in the strategic action plan to reduce ECDC's environmental impact.

30 ≤ ESREV < 60: **relevant** - aspects with environmental significance between 30 and 60 are considered to have a significant impact on the environment. The recommended measure is to monitor closely and implement corrective actions to reduce the environmental impact. Aspects with relevant ES should be considered as targets for the future implementation of the environmental management system.

ESREV < 30: **not relevant** – for aspects with environmental significance below 30, the recommended measure is to monitor over time in order to maintain the significance within this range.

The areas that were specifically considered regarding the direct environmental aspects for 2022 are listed below:

- Travel and mobility – Corporate travels
- Travel and mobility – Accommodation
- Resource consumption – Office supplies

4.2 INDIRECT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

In addition to the direct aspects identified, the environmental review also identified indirect aspects. ECDC does not have a direct control over such activities, but by choosing to address them in a long-term strategy of continuous improvement, can contribute substantially to a very important change, and indirectly affect the environmental impact generated by these aspects.

These include:

- Procurement – Service providers
- Staff commuting
- Anomaly and emergency situations (Public health emergency, soli leakages, extreme weather conditions, etc.)

The results of the indirect environmental aspects assessment of 2022 are as follows:

- Procurement (service providers) - set environmental requirements in procurement procedures, where applicable.
- Main processes - raising environmental awareness (internal and external communication; meetings and collaborations conducted/established with other EMAS registered agencies)

5. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

To be able to improve its environmental performance, ECDC has identified the following objectives, targets and actions:

Environmental Aspect*	Objective	Target	Action	Indicator	Baseline Year	Due/ Scheduled	Status
A. Travel and mobility – Corporate travels		1.1 Implementing the Missions and Meetings internal procedure (encouraging people to attend digital meetings, or to book train instead of airplane when possible)	1.1.1 Follow the new Missions and Meetings internal procedure, encouraging people to attend digital or hybrid meeting instead of physical meetings when possible	% of travels done according to Missions and Meetings IP/ travel instructions	2019	2025	ECDC sustainable travel guidelines adopted in 2022, to be further promoted
		Foreseeing in the next tender specification environmental requirements for the carbon offsetting.	1.1.2 Follow Missions and Meetings internal procedure, foreseeing environmental requirements for the carbon offsetting for travels.	% of travels with carbon offsetting	2019	2024	Scheduled
B. Travel and mobility – Accommodation	1. Reduce ECDC CO$_2$ emissions from travel and mobility	1.2 Increasing annually the hotel bookings that have eco-certified solutions.	1.2.1 To foresee the possibility to book mostly eco-certified hotels in the next tender specification and raise awareness among our stakeholders about the environmental impact of booking a not eco-friendly hotel (which parameters/certification they should consider during the booking-BREEAM, LEED, Sustainability program, etc.)	% of hotel bookings with eco-certified solutions	2019	2025	Scheduled
		1.3 Mostly hotels within a walking distance from venue or where public transport is available are booked for meetings and missions.	1.3.1 According to Missions and Meetings work instructions, use when possible local transportation or walk by foot to the venue.	% of taxi services/ public transportation ordered from / to venue	2019	2025	Not started yet

C. Resource consumption – Office supplies	2. Minimize our resource consumption	2.1 Most of purchased office supplies have a green label.	2.1.1 Establish work instructions for purchase	% of purchased office supplies with green label	2019	2021	Complected - continuous
D. Procurement – Service providers		2.2 Decrease purchase of single-use products (for example coffee cups, bottled water) annually.	2.2.1 Implement work instruction for organizing meetings, including purchasing and catering for meetings.	% of purchased single-use products per year	2019	2021	Complected -continuous
		2.3 Incorporate environmental requirements in procurement procedures, adhering to the EU procurement rules, ECDC needs, and taking the market into account.	2.3.1 Set environmental requirements in procurement procedures, where applicable.	% of procurement procedures with environmental requirements (where applicable)	2019	2021	Complected -continuous
	3.Environmental considerations in the overall work of ECDC	3.1 Most of the ECDC staff and stakeholders will attend the relevant info-sessions regarding this matter	3.1.1 ECDC will organize info-sessions regarding raising awareness	Number of staff awareness sessions and attended programmes	2019	2021,2002…	In progress
E. Main process		3.2 Establish collaboration with other EMAS certified agencies.	3.2.1 Collaborate and communicate with other agencies regarding environmental awareness.	Number of meetings/collaborations with other agencies	2019	2021	Complected -continuous

*Environmental aspect A, B and C are considered as *direct environmental aspects*, while D and E are considered as *indirect environmental aspects*.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

To be able to measure the environmental performance and progress done on achieving the targets set in the environmental programme, ECDC routinely monitors its environmental impacts. The monitoring is supported by a series of tables below which reflect ECDC's environmental performance over the last few years.

The environmental performance is commonly measured in relation to the number of staff members working at the ECDC and by the floor area of the building.

The number of people working at ECDC is expressed as a full time equivalent (FTE), with approximately 443 FTEs in 2022. In comparison to the 2019 baseline year, it shows significant growth. In this instance, the ECDC personnel consist of the following categories: statutory staff, interims, consultants, trainees.

Since the relocation to the new premises in 2018, the floor area of the building has remained at 9,500 m².

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total (FTE)	344	370	433	443
Floor area buildings (m2)	9,500	9,500	9,500	9,500

Source: HR and administrative services of all units

6.1 ENERGY CONSUMPTION

ECDC's energy consumption is necessary to conduct the regular administrative activities related to office buildings: e.g., powering IT equipment, audio-visuals, lightning of offices and common spaces, heating and cooling devices, cafeteria, pantry and kitchen equipment, gym equipment, automatic doors, x-ray machines and body scanners.

6.1.1 Electricity Consumption

Since its relocation to its new premises in 2018, ECDC's electricity consumption is derived 100% from renewable energy sources, namely hydroelectricity. Also, light sources are mostly of LED with occupancy sensors and daylight control systems. The current electricity provider, Vattenfall AB, was awarded 2022 Winner – Sweden's Greenest Trademark, within the electricity category.(Vattenfall utsett till Sveriges grönaste energibolag - Vattenfall)

Electricity consumption	2020	2021	2022	2020-2022 %
kWh	843,748	762,190	801,842	-4.96
per FTE	2,280	1,760	1,810	-20.61
per m2	88.82	80.23	84.40	-4.97

Source: Landlord Corem Isabella KB.

Note: ECDC does not have data on the electricity consumption for the year 2019. In 2020, the provider set up a monitoring system to measure and record ECDC's electricity consumption. The increase in 2022 in comparison to 2021 is linked to personnel return after the COVID-19 measures.

Planned action:

- ECDC does not generate renewable electricity onsite, however ECDC plans to explore the possibilities of installing solar panels on the roof, install automatic lights, introduce stand-by for some electronic equipment (screens), etc. in the future.

6.1.2 Heating and Cooling

ECDC is supplied by district heating and cooling through Norrenergi AB. Since 2001, Norrenergi AB has been ISO 14001 certified.

The heating system is water-based, and the consumption reflects both heating the building and heating water. All windows consist of energy-efficient glass that optimizes daylight admission but shuts out solar heat, all to reduce the building's cooling requirements in summer and heating in winter.

Consumption of heating energy	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
kWh	448,921	443,448	468,277	467,585	4.16
per FTE	1,305	1,198	1,081	1,055	-19.16
per m2	47.25	46.68	49.29	49.22	4.17

Source: Landlord Corem Isabella KB

The data provided by Corem Isabella KB includes three adjacent buildings (Gustav III:s Boulevard 40, 42 and 46), thus ECDC divided the figures with three to conclude the heating for ECDC. Corem Isabella KB currently does not have different readers per building for this data and hence this is an assumption.

There was a slight increase in heating consumption compared to the baseline year 2019, mainly due to weather conditions.

The cooling system is under the responsibility of the landlord but is very modern and efficient, as foreseen in the building project requirements. The building is supplied with district cooling, 100 % derived from renewable sources, namely water.

Like the district heating, the district cooling serves all three adjacent buildings, thus once again ECDC divided the figures with three to assess the cooling for ECDC.

Consumption of cooling energy	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022% %
kWh	274,000	290,333	319,000	340,667	24.33
per FTE	797	785	737	769	-3.51
per m2	28.84	30.56	33.58	35.86	24.34

Source: Landlord Corem Isabella KB

The following table shows the data for the cooling system in the server room (for which ECDC does have a separate meter), which has an improved performance compared to the previous model used in the old premises.

Electricity consumption (server cooling)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
kWh	284,200	322,700	323,100	330,600	16.33
per FTE	826	872	746	746	-9.68
per m2	30	34	34	35	16.67

Source: Landlord Corem Isabella KB

Planned action:

- To improve the energy efficiency for the server room, ECDC plans to explore the possibilities of cooling the server room with new solutions. One of the solutions is to vent the server room with a fresh supply of cold air coming in from outside at least during the cold seasons. In Sweden, according to the temperatures of recent years, such a solution can be used at least between October and April.

- ECDC plans to explore the possibility of installing additional electric meters to monitor the consumption in real time to be able to target and investigate further impacted area(s) when and where there has been an increase/decrease in consumption.

6.2 RESOURCE CONSUMPTION

6.2.1 Office supplies (Green Label and Single Use Products)

Green label office supplies

ECDC makes a considerable use of stationery and office supplies, due to the nature of its work. The supplies are handled by Facility Management (FM) and are regularly monitored, in order to ensure an adequate quantity of products in stock to meet the Agency's daily needs. With the aim of improving the environmental performance, the FM team has already initiated and applied some substantial measures to improve ECDC's environmental footprint.

During the last years, the number of available items in ECDC storage have decreased from 2,000 to 500, only core essential items remained. At ECDC, 95% of the items purchased are labelled as environmentally friendly. Moreover, the current office supplier is both ISO 14001 and ISO 9001 certified, and the current office furniture suppliers are EMAS certified.

Target	Indicator	Performance 2022
2.1 Most of purchased office supplies have a green label	% of purchased office supplies with green label	95% of purchased office supply are labelled as environmentally friendly

Planed action:
- **2.1.1** Implementation of the ECDC work instructions for purchase/Work Instruction on Office Supplies Requests/purchase. This serves as a guide on which type of office supplies (green labelled) can be ordered, and how an exception will be handled.

Single use products

Single use products are purchased through two channels; the FM and the service provider for catering services used for ECDC meetings. ECDC has worked on decreasing the use of single use products annually. Because of the measures taken, FM no longer purchases single use items (plastic/paper cups and plates, plastic cutleries, water in plastic bottles, etc.). Furthermore, porcelain/ceramic dishes and cutlery are available for all

staff, to discourage the use of disposable packages. Coffee machines do not serve paper cups, but employees are asked to use their own (porcelain/ceramic) cups.

Furthermore, ECDC has taken measures to only provide tap water to meeting participants instead of water in plastic bottles. The current framework contract for catering clearly emphasizes the need to avoid using single-use products wherever possible. If this is not possible, it encourages the use of environmentally friendly single-use products instead.

For the service set, the are two different options under this contract:
- Porcelain package (porcelain/ceramic mugs and plates, including metal cutlery)
- Paper package (recyclable paper mugs and plates, including cutlery in wood)

The table below shows the data of single use products/items purchased for meetings at ECDC via catering services.

Single use products/ items (meetings via catering)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
Plastic	3,627	103	0	92	-97.46
Paper	8,576	185	0	398	-95.36
Total	12,203	288	0	490	-95.98

Source: Missions and Meetings

The 100 % decrease in single use products in 2021 compared to the baseline year 2019 is partly due to COVID 19 measures, but it is also a result of the measures taken from ECDC such as initiatives to conduct meetings and events virtually.

Target	Indicator	Performance 2022
2.2 Decrease purchase of single-use products (for example coffee cups, bottled water) annually	% of purchased single-use products per year	95.98 % purchase decrease of plastic and paper single-use products

Planned action:
> **2.2.1**: Implement the ECDC work instruction for organising meetings, including purchasing and catering for meetings.
> **2.2.2**: Remove the paper package/plastic option from future catering contracts and meanwhile address and emphasise the approach to order the porcelain package exclusively or request this service internally from Facilities Management.

Implemented/ongoing actions:
- In 2022, ECDC started to phase out the capsule coffee machines.

6.2.2   Paper consumption

ECDC has undertaken several measures to reduce paper consumption since its relocation to the new premises. New multifunctional printers, with energy saving modes, were installed, and the new "follow-me" printing system was also installed. Moreover, ECDC only purchases recycled or environmentally friendly certified office paper. The "Discovery" paper in use at ECDC is labelled as EU Ecolabel SE/011/01.

Paper consumption	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
Papers printed and copied	1,145,131	399,249	127,669	244,377	-78.65
Sheets/FTE/working day*	12.80	4.15	1.13	2.12	-83.44

Source: Digital Transformation Services (DTS)

*260 working days per year were assumed for the calculation.

It is evident that in 2022 there was a significant decrease in paper consumption compared to the baseline year 2019. This reduction was partly due to less office presence of the staff because of the COVID-19 measures, but also due to the implementation of paperless procedures such as: electronic workflows, e-signatures and electronic archives, e-recruitment, no printing of documents for meetings, no printing of newsletters/reports, double-side printing as default option, etc.

Ongoing/planned actions:

- ECDC is pursuing a paperless approach through the implementation of its e-administration.
- From September 2022 onwards, ECDC provide its staff with payslips only in digital format. This will lead to a saving approximately 5,000 A4 paper and envelopes per year.

Finally, Eurosurveillance, the peer-reviewed scientific journal, has been published only in digital form since 2010.

6.3 WATER CONSUMPTION

Water at ECDC is mainly used for office cleaning, catering, lavatories, and watering indoor/outdoor plants. Stockholm's region is served by very good quality water, thus instead of bottled water, ECDC staff regularly drinks tap water.

The data presented in the table below shows ECDC's water consumption in its new premises.

Water consumption	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
m3	1,810	1,247	1,173	1,329	-26.57
m3/FTE	5.26	3.37	2.71	3	-42.96

Source: Landlord Corem Isabella KB

In 2022, the water consumption per FTE dropped by 42.96%, compared to the 2019 baseline year. This significant improvement is attributed partly to lower consumption by staff due to the new working arrangements after the pandemic (more teleworking days in comparison to 2019). However, it was also a direct result of the improvement measures implemented, including the instalment of touchless taps in all relevant parts of the building, the eco flow regulator, and dual flushing system, etc.

Planned action:

- In order to reduce water consumption, ECDC plans to explore the possibilities of installing a tank to collect rainwater for use.

6.4 WASTE PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

ECDC's goal is to recycle waste generated by its activities to the greatest extent possible. Therefore, ECDC has in place an efficient recycling system and procedures to segregate waste and dispose it efficiently, with a lower environmental impact. ECDC's service providers for recycling services and disposal of furniture and IT equipment have extensive experience in the field.

The waste is separated into the following categories: paper, plastic, glass, organic, metal, electronic waste, toners, light bulbs, batteries, corrugated cardboard / boxes and combustible waste. There is a recycling room in the basement, recycling stations with segregated bins in the main canteen floor and all kitchenettes located on every office floor.

Photo 4: Segregated bins in kitchenettes

The following table shows the recyclable waste generated by ECDC in kg for each category presented below. The table also shows data on CO_2 saved from being emitted through the recycled waste.

Collected Waste in kg CO2 Savings in kg	2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Collected (kg)	Savings (kg CO2)	Collected (kg)	Savings (kg CO2)	Collected (kg)	Savings (kg CO2)	Collected (kg)	Savings (kg CO2)
Paper	336	134	3,017	1,207	902	361	905	362
Glass	297	104	254	89	246	86	241	85
Metal	130	556	165	705	58	247	117	501
Combustible waste	-	-	-	-	830	0	9	0
Hazardous waste (Batteries, lights)	30	94	8	21	-	-	-	-
Organic waste	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cardboard	351	140	1,029	412	667	266	495	197
Electronics (e-waste)	-	-	200	-	149	417	151	424
Plastic	50	30	220	132	235	139	223	133
Toner	103	-	130	102	12	9	63	49

Tetra packaging	-	-	92	37	106	42	136	56
Total recycled	1,297	1,058	5,115	2,705	3,205	1,567	2,340	1,807
Per FTE	3.8	3	13.8	7.3	7.4	4	5.3	4
CO2 saved through Returab system*		4,579		4,579		4,579		4,579
Total CO2 savings		5,637		7,297		6,146		6,386

Collected Waste in kg CO2 Savings in kg	2019-2022 %
Paper	170
Glass	-18.85
Metal	-9.9
Combustible waste	-
Hazardous waste (Batteries, lights)	-
Organic waste	-
Cardboard	40.71
Electronics (e-waste)	-
Plastic	343
Toner	-
Tetra packaging	-
Total recycled	**70.79**
Per FTE	**33.33**
CO2 saved through Returab system*	**same**
Total CO2 savings	**13.28**

Source: Service provider Returab AB

*ReturabSystemet®: the service provider handles all tenants' recycling at once, leading to fewer transports to and from the property. By reducing the number of transports, large savings are made in CO2 emissions.

Some types of waste such as organic waste are not reported in the table above, as the service provider did not keep the data. However, waste generated for categories not included above was also properly recycled and from 2023 onwards data will be reported for all the aforementioned categories.

Photo 5: Recycling bins in the canteen

Besides recycled waste, ECDC also produces non-recycled waste, consisting of general waste bins, and bins in restrooms and offices. Due to the nature of its work, ECDC also produces a number of confidential documents which need to be discarded through separate processes, with specific bins for gathering confidential documents which need to be shredded and disposed in a manner that ensures no loss of confidentiality. Ultimately, a specific service provider is responsible for handling the disposal of confidential documents.

The table below shows the overall figures related to waste at ECDC, recycled waste, confidential bins, and non-recycled waste.

Waste in kg	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
Recycled waste	1,297	5,115	3,205	2,340	80.41
Confidential bins	8,640	1,360	3,360	3,096	-64.16
General non-recycled waste	6,760	9,751	6,814	8,060	19.23
Total	16,697	16,226	13,379	13,496	-19.17
Per FTE	48.53	43.86	30.9	30,46	-37.23

ECDC also has a completely segregated process to treat disposals of furniture and IT items which cannot be disposed with the normal waste procedures but require specific handling procedures. The table below shows the disposed furniture and IT items.

Items disposed	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2021* %
Furniture and IT items	63	934	72	0	14.29
Per FTE	0.18	2.52	0.17	0	5.56

According to ECDC requirements for the disposal of furniture and IT equipment, the contractor must ensure the disposal of equipment adheres to environmentally friendly standards. The service provider responsible for disposing these types of items is ISO 14001 certified. This entails that before proceeding with the disposal of the furniture and IT items, the service provider first seeks to extend the life cycle of the items where possible, such as repairing reusable items and offering these to non-profit organizations or donating them to those in need in developing countries. In case the items cannot be repaired or reused, then the items are separated in different categories such as plastic, wood, iron etc, and finally disposed.

*Compared to 2021 because in 2022 ECDC did not have a contract for disposal service in place. As of 2023, ECDC has the service provider, and it will be reported in 2024.

Implemented and/or ongoing actions:

- Guided tours of the building for all ECDC employees.
  Tours are approximately one hour in length and include instructions how to recycle and where.
- An awareness-raising campaign was conducted through providing a digital communication leaflet in order to encourage staff to recycle material in the building. See figure 3.

Planned actions:
- Replace plastic bags with reusable ones.
- Waste in toilet bins to be separated and disposed.
- Remove general waste bins from the offices and launch the campaign to encourage staff to use bins in the common areas where they can recycle.

WASTE TYPE	WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE DISPOSED	WASTE TYPE	WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE DISPOSED
PLASTIC	✓ Bottles, boxes, lids, carrier bags, bread bags and plastic film / ✗ Plastic packages with left-overs and other dirt	ORGANIC	✓ Fruit, food waste, coffee grounds, tea bags / ✗ Cutlery, butter packages, napkins, soil, snuff, cigarettes, candles etc.
GLASS	✓ Glass bottles, glasses and other glass packaging / ✗ Porcelain, ceramics, light bulbs, flat glass, windowpanes, mirrors etc.	TETRA BRIK	✓ Cartons after milk, yogurt, juice etc.
GENERAL WASTE	✓ Napkins, paper towels and everything not mentioned in the other sections	METAL	✓ Tin cans, capsules, aluminium moulds, aluminium foil / ✗ Paint cans with residue, spray cans, batteries and electric waste, metal packages with left-overs and other dirt
BATTERIES	✓ Batteries	LIGHT & BULBS	✓ Light sources and bulbs
E-WASTE	✓ ECDC assets such as calculators, phones, electric tools and other obsolete or broken electronics / ✗ Fluorescent lamps, batteries, light sources etc.	CARDBOARDS & BOXES	✓ Corrugated cardboard and boxes
TONER	✓ Cartridges and toners	COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL	✓ Thank You! Facility Management

Figure 3: Digital leaflet on recycling

6.5 EMISSIONS – TRAVEL AND MOBILITY

6.5.1 Corporate travel

In order to fulfil its mandate of communicating existing and emerging threats to public health, ECDC's core activities generally imply the organisation of a considerable number of travels. The different activities conducted at ECDC which necessitate travel and consequently an elevated number of CO2 emissions are categorized as missions, meetings, and recruitments.

ECDC aims at improving its sustainability, reducing its carbon emissions, and reducing the number of travels taken on its behalf. Thus, there are currently several ongoing actions that ECDC is undertaking to decrease its carbon footprint from its travel activities. Current travel instructions require staff to choose train over air travel when possible, and where air travel is necessary, direct flights should be preferred. The ECDC sustainable travel guidelines, which came into effect in 2022, intends to reduce the number of travels by focusing on business-critical travels only, and when traveling ensuring that the most environmentally friendly travel options are chosen.

In 2021, ECDC joined the interinstitutional procurement procedure for greenhouse gas emissions offsets. Furthermore, ECDC has allocated financial resources dedicated for offsetting contract only.

The table below shows data for C02 emissions from air travel only.

Total Carbon CO2 (kg)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2019-2022 %
Emissions from meetings and recruitments	984,937.3	71,638.3	3,053.7	454,506	-53.85
Emissions from ECDC missions	180,818	22,384	4,742.3	132,618	-26.65
Total emissions	1,165,755.3	94,022.2	7,796	587,124	-49.63
Per FTE	3,388.8	254.1	18	1325	-60.9

Note: The data above includes only air traveling booked via travel agencies and air travel data for individual bookings. Currently, there is no monitoring system that keeps track of data for travel by bus/taxi/ferry and any other transportation mean, however, these data are scheduled to be reported from 2025 onwards.

Source: The data is an estimate based on the travel details provided by the Missions and Meetings group and service providers, namely travel agencies, which support ECDC in the organisation of all travel activities.

Target	Indicator	Performance 2022
1.1 Implementing the Missions and Meetings internal procedure encouraging people to attend digital meetings, or to book train instead of airplane when possible. Foreseeing in the next tender specification environmental requirements for the carbon offsetting.	% of travels done according to Missions and Meetings IP/ travel instructions	Scheduled for 2024
	% of travels with carbon offsetting	Scheduled for 2025

Planned actions:
- **1.1.1:** Follow the ECDC sustainable travel guidelines, encouraging people to attend digital or hybrid meeting instead of physical meetings when possible.
- **1.1.2:** Follow the ECDC sustainable travel guidelines, foreseeing environmental requirements for the carbon offsetting for travels.
- In 2024, ECDC plans to purchase an electric corporate car.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, during 2020 and 2021 ECDC organized / attended a limited number of missions and meetings. Starting from September 2022, ECDC restored its business routines. The new ECDC sustainable travel guidelines introduced during 2022, present a new approach for organizing/attending missions and meetings, encouraging people to attend missions and meetings virtually (Microsoft Teams, Zoom, WebEx, etc.), and an approval from the line manager will be required in case physical presence is needed.

6.5.2 Accommodation and choice of hotels

ECDC anticipates increasing the hotel bookings that have eco-certified solutions annually in order to reduce its carbon footprint, as well as to book hotels for meetings and missions within a walking distance from venue or where public transport is available.

The current missions and meetings work instructions require considering the access to the venue by public transportation and not requiring transportation by private car, taxis, or shuttles when organising an event. Further, when selecting accommodation. the work instructions require choosing hotels close to the meeting venue, either at the meeting location or within easy access, e.g., walking distance.

Moreover, the contract for accommodation services includes environmental requirements for venues and accommodation, with the intention to book mostly hotels that are eco-certified and raise awareness among ECDC stakeholders.

Through these measures, ECDC intends to reduce transport emissions for people attending a certain event by reducing their need to commute to and from the venue and reduce the impact on the environment by preferring eco-compatible, eco-friendly, and eco-certified solutions as an alternative to a highly consuming facility.

Currently, there is no monitoring system that keeps track of accommodation data, however these data are scheduled to be reported from 2024 onwards.

6.6 PROCUREMENT

ECDC has a broad range of contractors and subcontractors which support the Agency with services and goods of different nature. Therefore, ECDC influences its suppliers and service providers by including environmental criteria in its tenders.

ECDC's procurement has gone through a transition in the last three years, moving to electronic signatures, e-workflows, E-Invoicing, and to new e-procurement systems. ECDC is already adopting the principles of the Green Public Procurement (GPP) and aims to continue to apply environmental considerations in procurement procedures wherever possible. Training on sustainable public procurement has been delivered to the legal and procurement team.

The Corporate Services Section within Resource Management Services Unit (RMS) handles most services and supplies for which environmental requirements may be required when procured. Therefore, environmental considerations have been applied in the following relevant procurement procedures: cleaning services, catering services, furniture, traveling services, office supplies, etc.

Furthermore, ECDC is part of the following interinstitutional framework contracts which have environmental criteria: supply with sustainable office equipment, paper and consumables, supply with sustainable furniture, supply with sustainable promotional and communication items, and sustainable event management services. In 2021, ECDC also joined the interinstitutional procurement procedures for greenhouse gas emissions offsets and GPP helpdesk services.

The following table shows the data of procurement procedures of high value, middle value, low and very low value awarded by ECDC.

Awarded procedures	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total awarded procurement procedures*	65	58	51	will be reported in 2024 (new templates)
Procurement procedures with environmental requirements	5	2	4	will be reported in 2024 (new templates)

Source: Procurement Section

* Majority of these awarded procurement procedures are procedures in which environmental requirements were not applicable.

Target	Indicator	Performance 2022
2.3 Incorporate environmental requirements in procurement procedures, adhering to the EU procurement rules, ECDC needs, and taking the market into account	% of procurement procedures with environmental requirements (where applicable)	% of all awarded procedures had environmental requirements - will be reported in 2024 (new templates)

Planned actions **2.3.1:**
- Set environmental requirements in procurement procedures, where applicable.
- The new procurement templates have the ISO 14001 certification and/or EMAS registration, or equivalent as selection criteria (ongoing)

6.7 BIODIVERSITY

ECDC's current premises feature a series of natural elements which have been conceived as part of the design concept, in order to increase the green areas in the building and offer a variety of plant species. There is one green wall on each of the five floors, each measuring 3.25 m x 1.95 m for a total surface area of 6.34 sq. m.
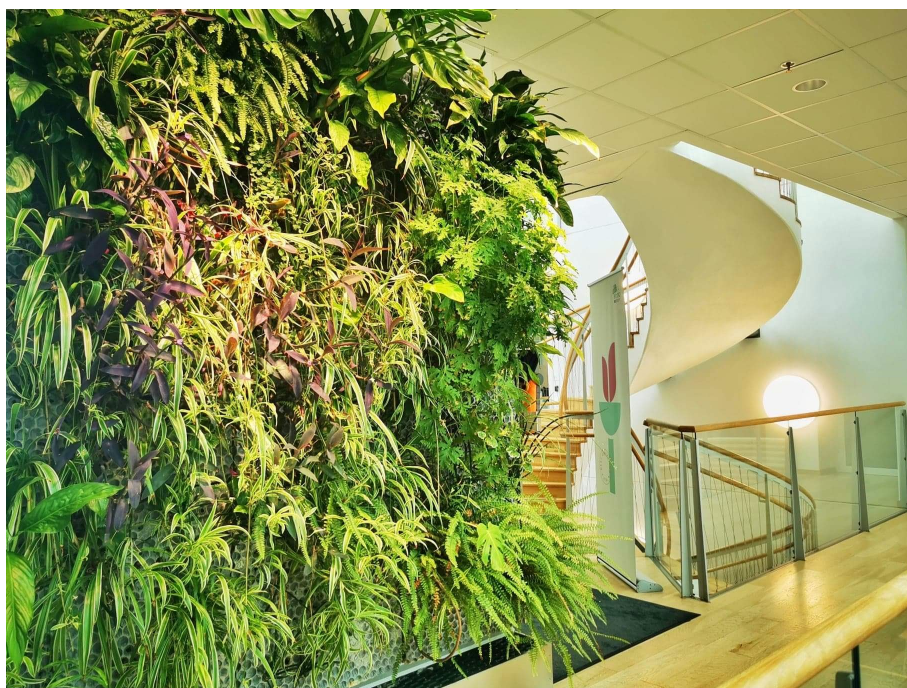

Photo 6: Vertical green wall located on every floor

There is also another green wall located in proximity to the second atrium on the first floor, measuring 10.1 m in length.
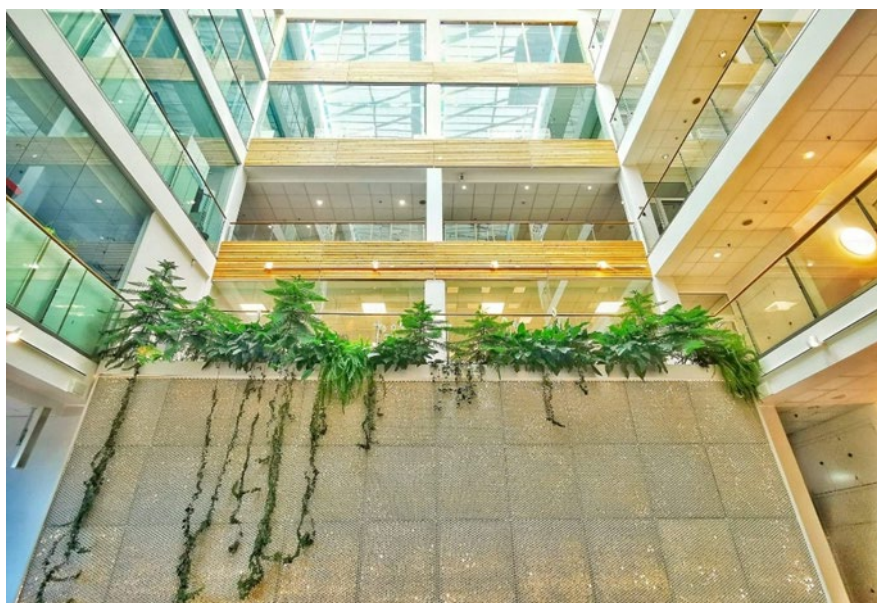
Photo 7: Horizontal green wall

The plant variety used for the plant walls consist of 24 different plant species:
Ficus pumila, Asparagus setaceus, Epipremnum aureum, Hedera helix, Dracanea (Sansevieria) Fernwood, Davallia tyermanii, Spathiphyllum wallisii, Aloe vera, Tradescantia pallida, Pelargonium graveolens, Cane begonias, Begonia corralina, Begonia maculata "Picta", Coleus schutellarioides, Nephrolepis exalta, Saint paulia ionantha, Peperomia quadrangularis, Monstera deliciosa, Phlebodium aureum "Blue Star", Araucaria heterophylla, Chlorophytum comosum, Dracanea fragrans, Chamaedoria elegans.

The service provider responsible for the maintenance also adopts eco-friendly measures such as: limited transport for maintenance (located only 6 km from ECDC); transport with biogas fuelled car, sometimes with public transport or bike; and use of eco-friendly plant care products.
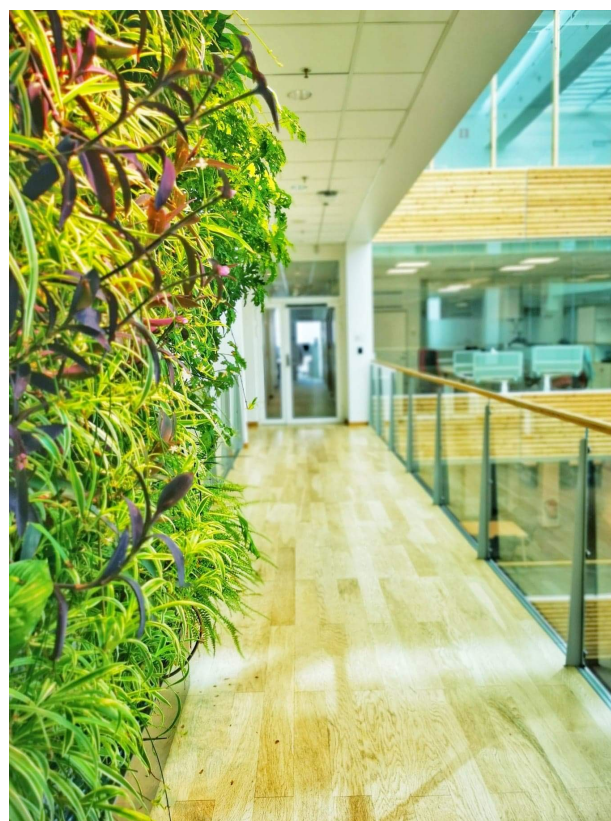

Photo 8: Vertical green wall

In addition to the green walls, there are plants on every floor of the building planted by the ECDC Plant Group, an initiative established by a group of volunteers.

Planned actions:

- A new framework contract for plant services entered into force in 2022 and at that time ECDC started growing plants on the roof terrace (outdoor plants and system installed at the end of 2022) which also contribute to the enhanced biodiversity of ECDC's activities on what we will report in the future.

Photo 9: Plant Group

Photo 10: Plants on the roof terrace

6.8 RAISING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

6.8.1 Internal communication

ECDC recognizes that the activities of every staff member have an environmental impact. For a successful implementation of the EMS, therefore, ECDC conducts activities to inform and raise environmental awareness among all relevant parties, internal and external.

The internal communication aims to provide an effective flow of information among all ECDC employees. The main communication channels for this are the intranet, internal publications, newsletters, meetings, and other awareness activities.

The current awareness raising programme covers several topics and is delivered according to the role and responsibilities of the staff involved in the EMS. The topics consist of:

- Environmental knowledge
- EMAS and EMS
- ECDC environmental approach (policy), objectives and targets
- Legal requirements and other environmental requirements applicable to ECDC
- Environmental aspects and impacts and the methodology for monitoring them
- Roles and responsibilities within the environmental management system
- Training for internal verifiers (auditors)

Awareness raising activities are organised in different forms, such as trainings, digital leaflets, information sessions, establishment of the EMAS intranet page, meetings, e-learning modules. All these activities are communicated through internal and external communication channels.

Up to this reporting date, under EMAS, the following awareness activities have been organized:

- Presentation of EMAS to the staff meeting
- Establishment of the EMAS intranet page
- Presentation of EMAS to Director Consultation Group (DCG) and managers
- EMAS virtual (9 EMAS information sessions delivered to staff over a two-month period in 2021)
- Campaign on recruiting EMAS internal verifiers (auditors)
- Information sessions for potential internal verifiers
- Training for internal verifiers (auditors)

It is anticipated that the Learning and Development group should prepare an e-learning module for all staff in order to introduce EMAS to newcomers. Moreover, digital leaflets such as information leaflets on the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs), the Nine Planetary Boundaries, and EU Taxonomy will be disseminated.

Target	Indicator	Performance
3.1: Most of the ECDC staff and stakeholders will attend the relevant info-sessions regarding this matter	Number of staff awareness sessions and attended programmes	Since the EMAS project started 11 staff awareness sessions conducted 481 attendees

Ongoing/planned actions:

- **3.1.1:** ECDC will continuously organize info-sessions regarding raising awareness.

6.8.2 External communication

It is also important to communicate to external stakeholders how ECDC is improving its own environmental impact through EMAS and to exchange environmental knowledge. Therefore, the EMAS external

communication within ECDC aims to inform stakeholders about the commitments made by ECDC on reducing the environmental impact, as well as to inform the relevant stakeholders about the progress of the ECDC in achieving the commitments made. Furthermore, ECDC aims to communicate and share the best practices with other EMAS certified agencies.

Following the EMAS communication plan, ECDC has already undertaken several communication activities with relevant external parties.

Currently, ECDC is part of the EU Agencies Network (EUAN) and the Greening Network of EU Agencies, which aim to exchange knowledge and share best practices in the implementation of environmental management systems.

ECDC also has excellent communications with other individual EU Agencies in the area of EMAS.

In 2019, while conducting the environmental review, ECDC was in contact with two other EU Agencies who have already registered with EMAS, to gather all the relevant findings and lessons learned. The communication was conducted with the European Environment Agency (EEA), and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO).

In 2021, during the implementation of the environmental management system, in order to learn best practices from other EU Agencies that are part of the Greening Network Group and EMAS-certified, ECDC established cooperation with the following Agencies: the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Target	Indicator	Performance
3.2: Establish collaboration with other EMAS certified agencies	Number of meetings/collaborations with other agencies	Since the EMAS project started 4 collaborations established with other EMAS certified agencies, and 5 meetings conducted

Action **3.2.1**: Collaborate and communicate with other agencies regarding environmental awareness

The Environmental Statement and the Environmental Approach (Policy) will be published on the ECDC's digital media platforms.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE COMPARED WITH THE BENCHMARK OF EXCELLENCE

The following table shows the ECDC environmental performance for 2022 compared with the Sectoral Reference Document[1] (environmental performance indicators benchmark of excellence for the public administration sector).

Benchmark of Excellence	ECDC performance 2022	ECDC 2022 with benchmark (in %)
Total water use in office buildings is lower than 6.4 m3/FTE/year	3	-53.125

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[1] SRD – The Sectoral Reference Documents (SRDs) on Best Environmental Management Practice provide guidance and inspiration to organisations in specific sectors on how to further improve environmental performance   Link: https://green-business.ec.europa.eu/eco-management-and-audit-scheme-emas/emas-resources/emas-reference-documents/emas-sectoral-reference-documents_en

Zero waste generated in the office buildings is sent to landfill	ECDC recycles all its waste.	Benchmark met
Total waste generation in office buildings is lower than 200kg/FTE/year	30.46	-84.77
Office paper consumption is lower than 15 A4 sheets/FTE/working day	2.12	-85.86
Office paper used is 100 % recycled or certified according to an ISO Type I ecolabel (e.g., EU Ecolabel)	The Discovery paper in use at ECDC is labelled as EU Ecolabel SE/011/01.	Benchmark met
Tools for promoting sustainable commuting for employees are implemented and promoted	Tools for promoting sustainable commuting are anticipated.	In progress
Carbon budgeting is implemented for all business travel	Starting from 2024 onwards ECDC plans to start offsetting the CO2 emitted from its business travel.	In progress
Video conferencing facilities are available to all staff and their use is monitored and promoted	To accommodate the hybrid/online way of working, ECDC has put in place offices and meeting rooms that are fully furnished and equipped with the latest and highly efficient video conferencing facilities. In addition, staff have access to the relevant software thus enabling teleworking.	Benchmark met
For newbuilds, the building is designed with a total primary energy use (electricity and heating) lower than 60 kWh/m2/year	Not applicable since ECDC building is an old building renovated in 2017.	Not applicable
100 % of the electricity used in a public building is met by on-site generation of renewable electricity	Although 100 % of electricity used comes from renewable sources, ECDC does not produce electricity on site. In the future ECDC will explore the possibilities of installing solar panels on the rooftop.	Not applicable yet
100 % of the hot water demand in a public building/social housing building is met by on-site renewable heat generation	Although 100 % of energy used for heating water comes from renewable sources, ECDC does not generate renewable heat on site.	Not applicable yet
100 % of tenders include environmental criteria that require at least the level of performance set in the EU GPP criteria, for products where EU GPP criteria are available (e.g. office paper, cleaning agents, furniture)	Where applicable, ECDC has incorporated environmental criteria into tender specifications.	Benchmark met

8. OTHER FACTORS – GREEN INITATIVES

ECDC employees have already shown their engagement and interest in environmentally friendly initiatives. In addition to the initiatives taken at the organizational level, individuals within ECDC have also taken several initiatives to make ECDC greener.

Initiatives such as the Green Group, which is a spontaneously created group of ECDC staff, meeting on a voluntary basis to discuss possible initiatives to be implemented at ECDC in order to tackle the major environmental concerns and raise awareness among other employees on the importance of going green.

As a result of the Green Group activities, a series of proposals have been developed in the workplace by staff with a green attitude.

The existing environmentally friendly initiatives already implemented in the past by the Green Group at ECDC are listed below:

- In an effort to enhance environmentally friendly behaviour, the group has provided awareness activities for waste separation for staff when at the office
- Identification of travel alternatives for ECDC staff missions (e.g., train, teleconferences, etc)
- Increasing the awareness of ECDC statutory and temporary staff regarding their individual CO_2 footprint and highlighting the responsibility of the individual
- Provision of information concerning cycling to work, well-being activities and on ECDC recycling activities, etc.

The Plant Group is also a group established by ECDC staff with the intention of creating more green spaces in the building. So far, the plant group has planted approximately 30 different plants and maintains them regularly. To enhance biodiversity at ECDC, the group anticipates increasing their activities and plant more new plants each year.
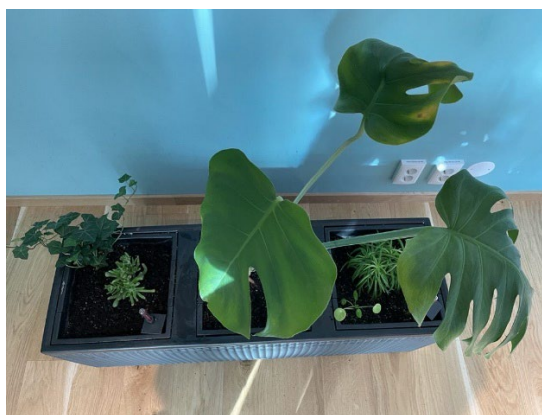

Photo 11: Results of the Plant Group Activities

9. LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The ECDC's legal framework is based on EU law, and in some instances, Swedish law may also be applicable. Therefore, ECDC complies with a range of environmental legislations and regulation at local, national, and EU level.

In order to comply with legal requirements that ECDC has committed to meet as part of the EMS, ECDC has developed and maintains an environmental compliance register, which consists of relevant Swedish and EU environmental legislation and regulations. ECDC reviews and maintains this register on regular basis.

The register includes, but it is not limited to, the following:

- Regulations related to the recycling, separation, and disposal of waste
- Regulations related to fuels used for road transport
- Regulations related to handling and disposal of hazardous substances
- Regulations related to energy efficiency, and land use
- Regulations related to fluorinated greenhouse gases

The legal compliance verification was carried out by the internal verifiers and external accredited environmental verifier, who assured that all legal requirements are met.

10.   ANNEX I - ACCREDITATION/EMAS VALIDATION

Gothenburg, Sweden, 2023-09-25

Herman Fahlström, Certification Manager

DECLARATION OF VERIFICATION AND APPROVAL

Bureau Veritas Certification Sverige AB,
with EMAS environmental verifier registration number 1236;
declares hereby to have verified and approve that:

ECDC (European Centre for disease prevention and control)
Stockholm, Sweden
Nace code: 86.90

complies with all the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of
the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on
the voluntary participation by organisations in EU-Management and
Audit Scheme (EMAS).

We confirm that:

— the verification and approval has been carried out in full compliance
with the provisions of the Regulation
(EC) No 1221/2009,

— results of the verification and approval show that there is no indication
that applicable legal environmental requirements would not have been
complied with,

— the data and information contained in the environmental statement
provide a reliable, credible and accurate picture of all the activities of the
organisation, within the limits set out in the environmental statement.

This document is not equivalent to an EMAS registration,
EMAS registration can only be granted by a competent body under Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009.
This document shall not be used independently as a communication to the public.

Authorised signature för Bureau Veritas Certification Sverige AB

Date: 25 September

Declaration no: SE009425-1

SWEDAC
ACKREDITERING
SE-V-1236
Miljökontrollant
EMAS