



THE GREEN LINE
TO STANDARDS

Work Programme 2021

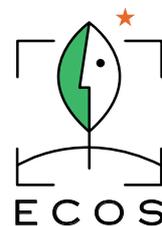


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About ECOS

ECOS is an international NGO with a network of members and experts advocating for environmentally friendly technical standards, policies and laws.

We ensure the environmental voice is heard when they are developed and drive change by providing expertise to policymakers and industry players, leading to the implementation of strong environmental principles. With 20 years of experience and a strong network of 50 members and over 50 experts, our role in these processes is highly valued and widely recognised.

Our successes consistently impact standards and laws promoting a clean transition to a circular economy and combatting climate change. We also work towards a more inclusive and transparent standardisation system, internationally and at the European and national levels.

In addition, we are part of a number of impactful alliances and campaigns, such as the Rethink Plastic alliance, Coolproducts, Right to Repair, the Cool Coalition, Platform for Electro-mobility, Coalition for Energy Savings, and the One Planet Network, where we cooperate with other NGOs, progressive companies, and researchers, advocating for a greener future for all. We are also a member of the Green Electronics Council's EPEAT Advisory Council.

We cooperate with the United Nations and with the EU institutions, particularly as a member of the European Commission's Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Consultation Forum, the European Commission's Platform for Sustainable Finance, and as an observer on the Committee on Standards.



Introduction

2021 will see our 20th anniversary. For two decades, ECOS has been breaking down the barriers between standardisation work, environmental policy and legislation, and environmental NGOs. We will celebrate with all our members, experts, partners and funders throughout the year. We also look forward to giving ECOS a fresh, modern image.

But 2021 will be more than just a celebration. It will be a pivotal year to address environmental emergencies. Hopefully, it will also be a year of a green and just recovery, after one of the most challenging social and economic crises of our time. Decisions made this year will shape the way our environment, society and economy look for a generation. More than ever, we have an opportunity to stimulate our economy to become clean, green, climate neutral, and circular.

At the European level, for instance, the European Green Deal and its underpinning initiatives, such as the Circular Economy Action Plan, already provide an economic vision based on the principles of sustainability and solidarity. The Circular Economy Action Plan foresees a plethora of initiatives to drive the economic and environmental transition: the Sustainable Product Policy Framework, the Circular Electronics Initiative, an EU Strategy for Textiles, a Strategy for a Sustainable Built Environment, and the Framework for Batteries.

ECOS is uniquely positioned to successfully impact the technical aspects of regulations and standards which will be part of these initiatives. We will work to influence the publication of ambitious proposals from policymakers, applying ecodesign principles to a wide range of economic sectors.

Our activities in key policy areas will also impact the standardisation system. We will collaborate with international standardisation organisations, advocating for a significant improvement in protecting the environment, in inclusiveness at both the technical and strategic level, as well as for progress towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.

We are looking forward to a busy and successful year, and to working with our members, experts and partners for a greener planet.

Justin Wilkes
Executive Director





In 2021, ECOS will place priority on the following key aspects:

- Ensuring a default **sustainability and circularity of all products**, with a special focus on applying circularity and ecodesign requirements, in particular to plastics, electronics, household goods, textiles, batteries and construction materials.
- Guiding consumers and investors towards truly green products by impacting initiatives for more **reliable environmental claims for consumers, and appropriate criteria for sustainable finance**.
- Fighting climate change by pushing strongly for a **phase-out of fossil fuel-based heating** appliances, boosting the uptake of **natural refrigerants** in cooling, making appliances much more energy efficient, and securing the deployment of renewable hydrogen in sectors and industrial processes which are difficult to electrify.

Our activities will revolve around the following main work areas:



01

Environmental Assessment & Management



02

Ecodesign & Energy Labelling



03

Sustainable Products & Materials



04

Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation



05

Waste to Resource



01

Environmental
Assessment
& Management



01 Environmental Assessment & Management

Our response to the environmental crisis requires a cross-sectoral and integrated approach to environmental protection. More than ever, we need robust tools to assess the quality of the environment we live in, the environmental performance of companies, products and processes, and to channel investments towards environmentally sound activities.

Circular Economy Management & Tools

We aim to help develop an ambitious management system, requirements, framework and guidance tools to support companies in the transition to a circular economy. We will work to:

- Ensure that the right requirements, metrics and performance indicators are used to demonstrate the “circularity” of an organisation or project;
- Ensure coherence with other relevant standards and initiatives, facilitate alignment between CEN/TC 323 “Circular Economy” and CEN/TC 207 “Environmental Management”.

Activities

01

Contribute to the ISO TC 323 “Circular Economy” strategic and technical discussions;

02

Contribute to the CEN-CENELEC Circular Economy Task Group.

[Learn more](#)

Environmental Management & Life Cycle Assessment

Our goal is to improve the tools to measure organisational and product environmental footprint in order to push economic operators worldwide to perform better.

We will work to:

- Ensure compatibility between international standards and European policy objectives;
- Ensure compatibility between international standards on Life-Cycle-Assessment and those on measuring circular economy;
- Improve the understanding of strengths and weaknesses of Life-Cycle-Assessment by various audiences in order to ensure their proper use by economic operators and policy makers.

Activities

01

Follow and contribute to the EU work on Product Environmental Footprint;

02

Develop a narrative around the use of life-cycle assessment to support the transition to a circular economy.

[Learn more](#)

Traceability & credible claims

Our objective is to ensure that the environmental information provided to businesses and consumers is transparent and fair. We will work to:

- Contribute to the development of standards that provide clear guidance on B2B and B2C environmental information;
- Ensure the existence of checks and balances mechanisms to avoid misleading or incorrect information;
- Promote ambition and transparency of voluntary sustainability certification schemes.

Activities

01

Promote accurate environmental communication to avoid greenwashing, as part of ISO/TC 207/SC 3 “Environmental labelling”;

02

Under ISO, engage in the development of an ISO international standard on mass balance, with a view to ensure that mass balance rules do not allow for too much flexibility in their application in order to minimise risks of non-compliant products entering supply chains;

03

Contribute to the developments within ISO/TC 287 “Sustainability of wood and wood processes”;

04

Liaise with sustainability schemes to ensure that ISO standards do not undermine the already well-established and more ambitious certification systems;

05

Examine new partnership possibilities with voluntary sustainability schemes and other private initiatives with a view to improve their governance and ambition levels.

[Learn more](#)

Sustainable Finance

We aim to channel investments towards environmentally sound initiatives.
We will work to:

- Ensure an appropriate distinction between green activities and the necessary transitory solutions (grey investments) as well as brown activities;
- Support only investments that substantially contribute to environmental objectives, provided their overall environmental benefits are high, unequivocally measurable and significantly outweigh their potential environmental impacts;
- Support the identification of activities substantially contributing to the transition to a circular economy, and which should be included in the EU taxonomy for sustainable finance;
- Enable disincentivising of brown investments;
- Prevent false, misleading claims or greenwashing;
- Effectively support a transparent and open financial system.



Activities

01

Work as an appointed member of the [EU Platform on Sustainable Finance](#) on defining activities substantially contributing to the transition to a circular economy;

02

Finalise the development of standards on green bonds and green loans, including a taxonomy listing green activities as well as disclosure requirements, as part of ISO/TC 207 “Environmental Management”;

03

Finalise the development of a standard on climate finance, which aims to define, manage and disclose the contribution of investments to long-term climate goals (and the resulting risks), in relation to both mitigation and adaptation to climate change, as part of ISO/TC 207;

04

Participate in the work of ISO on green finance, laying down criteria to characterise green projects and help monitor their contribution to environmental objectives;

05

Monitor the development of standardisation deliverables on Sustainable Finance within ISO/TC 322, focusing on principles for sustainable investments, including environmental and social aspects;

06

Ensure a close link between the work of the EU on sustainable finance and that of ISO.

[Learn more](#)

Air Quality

Our goal is to improve the monitoring of air quality in the EU to safeguard people's health and protect the environment. We will work to:

- Ensure the development of solid mercury measurement methods in the context of the Industrial Emissions Directive;
- Reinforce the existing standard measurement methods for particulate matter (PM) pollution, especially PM10, PM2.5, with a focus on filter clogging and between sample variation;
- Help consolidate modelling technique standards to assess air quality in a comparable manner, and push for a better modelling technique to widen the geographical coverage of air quality monitoring in the EU;
- Ensure high quality measurement of PM and gases while promoting the use of low-cost sensors by NGOs and citizen groups.



Activities

01

Ensure coherence between Best Available Technique Reference Documents and standardisation deliverables under CEN/TC 264 "Air quality";

02

Contribute to the standardisation work on mercury measurement in the context of the Industrial Emissions Directive, notably by influencing the work programme and scope of work;

03

Contribute to the development of standards on modelling technique to assess air quality in a comparable manner;

04

Participate in the work of CEN/TC 264 Working Groups on Emissions, WG8 - Total Mercury and WG9 - Quality Assurance of Automated Measuring Systems (AMS);

05

Participate in the work of CEN/TC 264 Working Groups on Ambient Air: WG15 PM10/PM2.5; WG 42 on low-cost sensors and WG43 on Modelling Quality Objectives.

[Learn more](#)



02

Ecodesign
& Energy
Labelling



02

Ecodesign & Energy Labelling

The ambitious implementation of the ecodesign and energy labelling policies is vital for the success of the circular and clean economy agendas. ECOS is the only environmental NGO looking at this policy from beginning to end: from the development of regulations, to the underpinning test method standards, up until the support in the implementation of measures.

In 2021, ECOS will continue advocating for the ecodesign framework to play a key role in the context of the implementation of the EU Green Deal and in achieving EU's environmental objectives.

We will also collaborate with a variety of partners, including co-leading the Coolproducts and the Right to Repair campaigns, and as member of the Green Electronics Council's EPEAT Advisory Council, the Coalition for Energy Savings and cooperating with the European Energy Network, to push for the highest level of environmental ambition.

— Ecodesign & energy labelling policies & standards

Our goal is to ensure ambitious implementation of the ecodesign and energy labelling policies from start to finish: from the development of a robust overarching legal framework and well-designed individual product regulations, up to state-of-the-art underpinning test method standards and proper enforcement.

[Learn more](#)



Activities

01

Play a key role in the discussions on the upcoming revision of the Ecodesign Directive, ensuring that it remains an effective tool and that its current weaknesses are addressed, including in view of its potential expansion to other sectors beyond energy-related products;

02

Influence the drafting and adoption of the Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Working Plan 2020-2024, which will guide EU's product policy in the coming years;

03

Advocate for the reinforcement of circular economy aspects throughout the life cycle in the MEER methodology to better account for product impacts beyond energy use;

04

Pave the way for product standards which consider all environmental aspects, sufficiently represent the real-life use of products and discourage circumvention attempts. Collaborate in the horizontal work of the CEN-CENELEC ecodesign-dedicated taskforce and H2020 ANTICSS project to define procedures to prevent circumvention of the ecodesign and energy labelling standards;

05

Help shape a market surveillance regime that will ensure that the forecasted environmental benefits become a reality and support the final developments of the European Product Registry for Energy Labelling (EU EPREL) database;

06

Support a smooth transition towards the new generation of rescaled Energy Labels.

Household appliances

Our goal is to make everyday products, from dishwashers to kettles, consume less energy, be easier to repair and last longer, in order to reduce resource use and the mountain of e-waste generated each year.

[Learn more](#)

Activities

- 01** Push for new dedicated laws on electric kettles and taps and showerheads, and ensure the resolution of delayed decisions notably on vacuum cleaners;
- 02** Ensure the revisions of the existing laws on cooking appliances and tumble dryers are ambitious on the energy front and include provisions to make products last longer and be easier to repair;
- 03** Strive for material efficiency requirements to be adopted for all products and a dedicated repair score to be progressively included on their label;
- 04** Contribute to the development of product-specific material efficiency standards that help effectively extend the lifetime of fridges, washing machines and dishwashers;
- 05** Support initiatives aimed at reinforcing consumer-relevance and deterring circumvention in performance standards, notably for cooking appliances and dishwashers;
- 06** Provide input to ecodesign standardisation requests issued by the European Commission, and flag standards development needed to facilitate regulatory work.



Circular electronics & ICT

Our goal is to make sure that policy and standards make electronics and ICT more circular. We will work to:

- Effectively tackle premature obsolescence of electronic devices;
- Ensure reduced energy use;
- Embed circular thinking at design stage.

[Learn more](#)

Activities

- 01** Push for ambitious laws on key ICT products such as smartphones, tablets, computers and printers, particularly to make them more durable and repairable;
- 02** Ensure that EU legislation introduces a repairability scoring system for these products, to provide consumers with reliable information;
- 03** Help develop robust energy and material efficiency standards, notably in support of server reuse and the repair of electronic displays;
- 04** Contribute to the shaping of the Circular Electronics Initiative, pushing for a genuine 'right to repair' and an ambitious Common Charger Initiative.

Industrial products

Our goal is to ensure that energy efficient industrial products – from electric motors to transformers – increasingly become the norm in the EU.

[Learn more](#)

Activities

- 01** Influence the development of new or updated laws on key industrial products such as industrial fans, water pumps and ventilation units.
- 02** Contribute to the drafting of test method standards for measuring the performance for industrial products, focussing this year on transformers, ventilation units, industrial fans, pumps and motors.
- 03** Ensure a proper and effective drafting and implementation of ecodesign standardisation requests, notably for industrial fans.

Heating

Our objective is the decarbonisation of heating, which is responsible for 12% CO₂ emissions and 28% of the final energy consumption in EU.

We will work to:

- Advocate for a complete phase-out of fossil fuel operated appliances by 2025;
- Ensure that products put on the EU market are highly efficient and do not perpetuate the use of fossil fuels in the future.

[Learn more](#)

Activities

- 01** Push for ambitious revised regulations to ensure the phase out of fossil fuel operated and least efficient appliances from the EU market;
- 02** Ensure that the revised rules for solid fuel boilers restrict particulate matter (PM) emissions to increase air quality across the EU;
- 03** Build a large community of partners across the EU to advocate for the decarbonisation of heating appliances in Europe and at Member State level;
- 04** Work on test method standards for heat pumps and hybrid heat pumps, as well as contribute to the elaboration of test method standards used to measure particulate matter from solid fuel heaters to enable the decarbonisation of heating;
- 05** Participate in the H2020 HARP project to encourage consumers to replace outdated space and water heaters with more efficient products.

Cooling & cold chain

Our goal is for cooling and cold chain products to be significantly more energy efficient and circular (see also our work on refrigerants [in a separate section](#)).

[Learn more](#)

Activities

- 01** Ensure significant improvements in the – already delayed – laws for energy and material efficiency of air-conditioners;
- 02** Push for the adoption of a standardisation request to improve the test method standard used for the assessment of air-conditioner efficiency, and ensure similarly robust methods for commercial and professional refrigerating appliances;
- 03** Support the work of campaigning groups such as the Cool Coalition.



03

Sustainable
Products
& Materials



03

Sustainable Products & Materials

To shift to a circular economy, we need to address all sustainability aspects of products and materials, whether they are fossil- or bio-based. A comprehensive approach – addressing sourcing, design, production, use and recycling - is essential to minimise environmental impacts of our production and consumption patterns and maximise societal benefits.

Plastics

Our goal is to reduce plastics use, tackle plastics pollution and enable environmentally-sound recycling. We will work to:

- Advocate for ecodesign of plastic products and systems to reduce the overall use of plastics;
- Phase out substances of concern from plastic products;
- Ensure high quality of sorted plastic waste and recycled plastics;
- Counter industry narratives on false solutions such as chemical recycling and biodegradability;
- Limit microplastic pollution;
- Standardise state-of-the-art methodologies to assess overall impacts of plastics;
- Limit plastic pellet loss along the supply chain thanks to a chain of custody approach.



Activities

01

Contribute to the ambitious implementation of requirements under the Single Use Plastics Directive, including appropriate standardisation deliverables for tethered caps and lids, and the circular design of fishing gear;

02

Push for realistic and environmentally sound standards on compostability and biodegradability of plastics;

03

Contribute to the work of the [One Planet Network](#);

04

Contribute to an ambitious standardisation request to revise standards supporting the essential requirements of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive to drive reuse systems as well as post-consumer recycled content;

05

Fight microplastics emissions by contributing to harmonised data collection and analytical methods to help prevent unintentional leakage of plastics, coming from tyre abrasion, plastic pellet loss, and synthetic fibre wear-off;

06

Contribute to robust standards related to pre-treatment and sorting, mechanical recycling as well as quality of recycled plastic materials.

[Learn more](#)

Bioeconomy

We aim to promote the development of a bioeconomy, while staying within planetary boundaries. We will work to:

- Argue for the development of a sustainable and circular bioeconomy, recognising that biomass is a renewable yet limited resource and based on a prioritisation of high value applications in the use of biomass, such as food and feed rather than fuels (the so-called 'cascading use' principle);
- Raise awareness on the environmental issues around bioeconomy to avoid its being presented as sustainable per se;
- Develop tools to measure the environmental impact of bio-based products and bio-energy, as well as promote best environmental practices in these fields.

Activities

01

Participate in the reflection around the future of the CEN/TCs 383 on 'Sustainably produced biomass for energy applications' and 411 with a focus on sustainability criteria for bio-based products;

02

Continue our work on measuring the environmental impacts of bio-based products on the one hand, and on the development and promotion of best environmental practices in this area on the other;

03

Shed light on the existence of products with the so-called 'renewable attributed content', which could result in misleading claims.

[Learn more](#)



Chemicals and nanomaterials

Our goal is to make our environment toxic-free by eliminating or minimising the use of problematic substances in products, and promote the development of standards and legal requirements that ensure the safety of nanomaterials. We will work to:

- Promote strict requirements and progressive design solutions to eliminate problematic substances (such as flame retardants) and nanomaterials;
- Support the development of a comprehensive EU policy and regulatory framework on a toxic-free environment and nanomaterials;
- Help prevent external ignition requirements that prescribe the use of flame retardants in European and international standards related to the safety of products;
- Ensure the development of clear, harmonised definitions for nanomaterials and nanotechnologies and promote their safe and sustainable use through the adoption of adequate safety and risk assessment methodologies, especially for the most sensitive applications, e.g. in food additives and packaging;
- Ensure consistency between technical work and political developments concerning nanotoxicology and risk assessment.

Activities

01

Advocate for eliminating hazardous substances contained in plastics, especially in the electronics sector;

02

Contribute to the new CEN/TC 462 “Regulated Chemicals in Products” and promote public health relevant testing;

03

Promote full traceability of chemicals by facilitating the declaration of chemical content in products through regulatory tools and standards;

04

Contribute to the CEN and ISO Technical Committees on nanotechnologies, respectively CEN/TC 352 and ISO/TC 229;

05

Contribute to H2020 projects on governance of nanomaterials, notably as a partner to RiskGONE and NANORIGO projects;

06

Cooperate and exchange on best practices with other European and international experts and organisations, including the OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials (WPMN);

07

Ensure that toxic flame retardants do not prevent circularity and continue to engage within different coalitions, such as the Flame Retardant Free Furniture Alliance.

[Learn more](#)



Construction Products & Materials

Our objective is to limit the impact of construction materials, products and buildings on the environment, ensuring that standards and legislations contribute to lower GHG emissions, stimulate circular principles such as repair, refurbishment and reuse, as well as phase out substances of concern. We will work to:

- Push for an ambitious EU strategy for a more Sustainable Built Environment including a revised Construction Products Regulation with sustainable circular construction at its core;
- Ensure standards effectively complement the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) by taking a performance-based approach and incorporating environmental requirements such as climate mitigation and circularity, as well as strict limits on substances of concern;
- Ensure that the standards on the assessment of the integrated environmental performance of buildings are updated with circularity aspects in mind;
- Improve business and consumer communication on sustainability assessments of buildings and construction products.



Activities

01

Contribute to the development of horizontal standardised methods for the assessment of the sustainability of buildings and construction products under CEN/TC 350;

02

Contribute to the development of harmonised standards and corresponding regulatory requirements under the CPR for improved assessment, disclosure and communication of the environmental performance of buildings and construction products;

03

Identify and address obstacles created by CEN standards for a circular, low-carbon construction;

04

Push for standards on resource-mapping and selective demolition of buildings, as well as construction waste management.

[Learn more](#)

Textiles

Our goal is to limit the negative impacts of textile products on the environment, ensuring that standards and legislation contribute to a more durable design of (non-toxic) textile products as well as cleaner production and closed-loop recycling. We will work to:

- Ensure a robust and ambitious EU policy strategy on circular textiles that includes an integrated product policy addressing all environmental aspects throughout the product lifecycles and value chain;
- Push for EU legislation to stimulate circular design and material efficiency, as well as prevention and traceability of hazardous chemicals;
- Push for the development of standards that will help make the textile sector more circular, notably methods to determine the share of recycled content, to quantify the shedding of microfibres, to define high-quality textile-to-textile recycling, as well as labelling on durability and recyclability, and maintenance of textile products.



Activities

01

Put forward recommendations for appropriate regulatory requirements and common definitions for sustainable and circular textiles, notably as part of a coalition of social and environmental NGOs;

02

Advocate for minimum requirements for textiles based on ecodesign principles, for the introduction of Extended Producer Responsibility for textiles manufacturers, strong market surveillance, and for a quantitative binding target for a total reduction of textile waste in the EU;

03

Advocate for an ambitious Standardisation Request in the field of material efficiency of textiles;

04

Contribute to CEN TC 248 and ISO TC 38 on textiles;

05

Participate in the development of key assessment methods to support this sector's circularity.

[Learn more](#)

Batteries

We aim to push the European Union to adopt a coherent and comprehensive regulatory framework to mitigate the negative impacts of batteries production, so that they do not offset the benefits of the development of electromobility and electricity produced by renewable sources.

We will work to:

- Promote the introduction of an ambitious regulatory framework, with ecodesign principles, setting minimum sustainability criteria for batteries;
- Push for a revision of Batteries and End-of-Life Vehicles Directives so that they are fit-for-purpose, and set not only recycling targets for end-of-life batteries but also minimum recycled content;
- Help develop robust standards to support the ambition of these policies.

Activities

01

Weigh in on the development of a regulatory framework for batteries;

02

Influence the revision process of the Batteries and End-of-Life Vehicles Directive;

03

Closely follow the standardisation (request) on material-efficient recycling of batteries.

[Learn more](#)





04

Climate Change
Mitigation
& Adaptation



04

Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation

ECOS works to make sure that standards contribute to a successful achievement of the Paris Climate Agreement, the Montreal Protocol, and the EU “Clean Planet for All” strategy, by making clean-tech solutions easily accessible to consumers and the market – be they electric vehicles, smart grids, clean hydrogen or low global warming potential refrigerants. We also advocate for an accurate and transparent measurement of the carbon footprint of products and processes.

Measuring Climate Change

Our goal is to ensure that robust metrics and strict rules are in place to measure greenhouse gas emissions and any other substances causing climate change, with the aim to promote their absolute reduction rather than their mere compensation.

We will work to:

- Improve the definition and transparency requirements of such concepts as 'carbon neutral' and 'avoided emissions', and ensure their suitable use;
- Ensure that international standards are not misused to promote false solutions and/or insufficient climate action through geoengineering and massive offsetting.

[Learn more](#)

Activities

01

Under ISO, participate in the development of an international standard on carbon neutrality, ensuring a separate accounting system for emission reductions on the one hand, and emission offsetting on the other;

02

Under ISO, participate in the development of an international standard on radiative forcing management, ensuring that geoengineering remains out of its scope.

Adaptation to Climate Change

We aim to reduce our vulnerability to climate change impacts while contributing to broader environmental and climate protection objectives.

We will work to:

- Make current infrastructure standards in the field of energy, transport, buildings and ICTs more climate resilient;
- Promote nature-based solutions to reduce the vulnerability of physical infrastructure;
- Ensure that adaptation is not promoted through the implementation of harmful technologies (such as the increased use of refrigerants in cities).

Activities

01

Continue to participate in the work of the Adaptation to Climate Change Coordination Group (ACC-CG), ensuring that it extensively tackles the topic of adaptation to climate change across infrastructures, and better promotes nature-based solutions.

[Learn more](#)

Smart Homes, Buildings & Appliances

Our objective is to ensure a clean, smart and secure power system.
We will work to:

- Promote solutions that facilitate the penetration of renewable energy sources in the power grid and allow for the full use of demand-side flexibility provided by secure and cost-effective home appliances;
- Support the development of the “Customer Energy Manager” standard, an interface that facilitates the integration of renewable energy in the power grid and the possibility for consumers to change their energy usage in relation to grid signals;
- Improve interoperability, cyber-security and consumer-friendly requirements within relevant standards.

Activities

01

Contribute to European and international technical bodies of relevance e.g. CLC/TC 205 “Home and Building Electronic Systems”, CEN-CLC-ETSI Smart Energy Grid Coordination Group, CEN-CLC-ETSI Smart Meter Coordination Group;

02

Contribute to the European Commission’s Smart Grid Task Force Steering Committee and its consultation initiatives for the implementation of the Clean Energy Package;

03

Contribute to European and international standardisation technical bodies of relevance, e.g. CLC/TC 59X “Performance of household and similar electrical appliances” and IEC/TC 59 “Performance of household and similar electrical appliances”.

[Learn more](#)



Electric Vehicles

Our goal is to contribute to reducing GHG emissions from the transport sector through an increased market-share of electric vehicles (EVs), and thanks to an interoperable, secure and cost-effective electromobility infrastructure. We will work to:

- Ensure electromobility standardisation supports the implementation of EU policy for sustainable transport;
- Ensure that smart charging of electric vehicles allows for the provision of demand-side management services and facilitates the greater penetration of variable renewable energy generation sources.



Activities

01

Contribute to European and international standardisation bodies of relevance, e.g. the CEN-CLC-ETSI eMobility Coordination Group (eM-CG), IEC/TC 69 “Electric road vehicles and electric industrial trucks” and CLC/TC 69X “Electrical systems for electric road vehicles”;

02

Contribute to the development and promotion of ISO/IEC 15118 “Road Vehicles – Vehicle to Grid communication interface”;

03

Contribute to the development and promotion of IEC 63110 “Protocol for Management of Electric Vehicles charging and discharging infrastructures”;

04

Contribute to the [Platform for Electromobility](#);

05

Contribute to European Commission initiatives such as the Sustainable Transport Forum, and ensure that the upcoming revision of the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive is in line with climate goals.

[Learn more](#)

Fluorinated gases

We aim to reduce the high climate impact of fluorinated gases, and in particular of those used in refrigerating, air-conditioning and heat pump (RACHP) systems, as well as in medium- and high-voltage electric switchgear, by creating appropriate market conditions for a widespread utilisation of climate-friendly alternatives. We will work to:

- Improve requirements for natural refrigerants in European and international safety standards;
- Ensure consistency between political developments and the related standardisation activities, to safeguard hard-won political achievements;
- Contribute towards an ambitious revision of the EU F-Gas Regulation.

Activities

01

Contribute to European and international standardisation bodies of relevance, e.g. CEN/TC 182 and ISO/TC 86 “Refrigerating systems, safety and environmental requirements”, CLC/TC 61 and IEC/TC 61 “Safety of household and similar electrical appliances”, including the F-Gas Standardisation Request Working Group;

02

Contribute to the work of [the Cool Coalition](#);

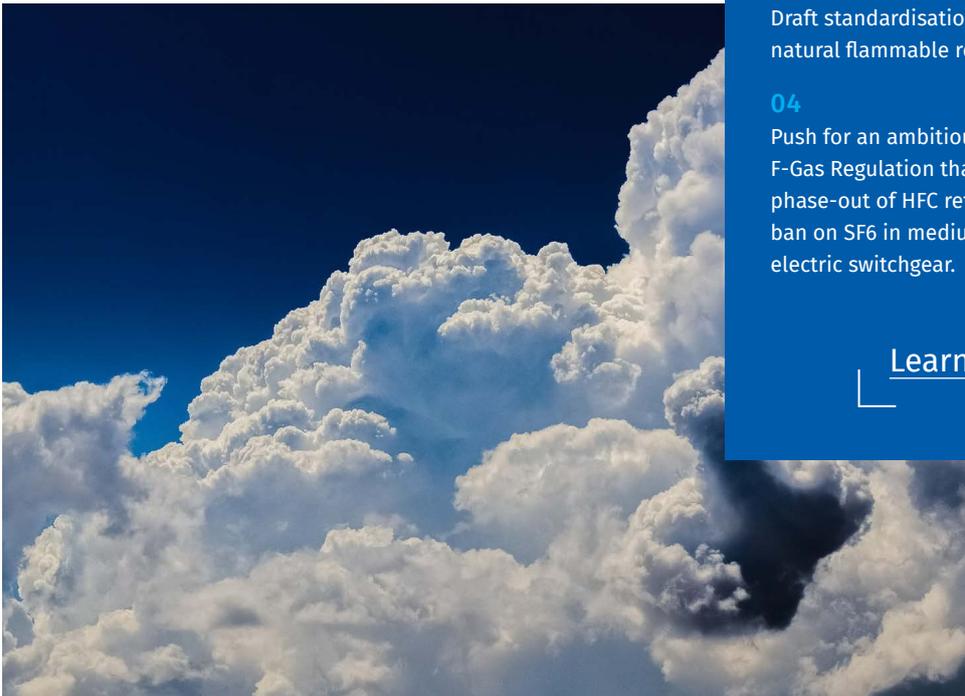
03

Draft standardisation requirements for natural flammable refrigerants;

04

Push for an ambitious revision of the EU F-Gas Regulation that includes a stricter phase-out of HFC refrigerants and a ban on SF₆ in medium and high voltage electric switchgear.

[Learn more](#)



Energy-Intensive Industries: Cement & Steel

Our objective is to create opportunities for innovative, low-carbon cements and contribute to the development of more performance-based standards for cement and cementitious materials, as well as steel and steel-based products. We will work to:

- Drive a performance-based approach to standards to make space for new, low-carbon alternatives to traditional materials;
- Ensure alternative constituents or secondary materials can qualify as supplementary or input materials respectively to drive circularity in both sectors;
- Support product standards that improve the environmental impact of key industrial production processes;
- Support the development and implementation of ambitious environmental standards under an EU Raw Materials Action Plan.

Activities

01

Contribute to CEN/TC 51 on cement and building limes and CEN/TC 104 on concrete and related products;

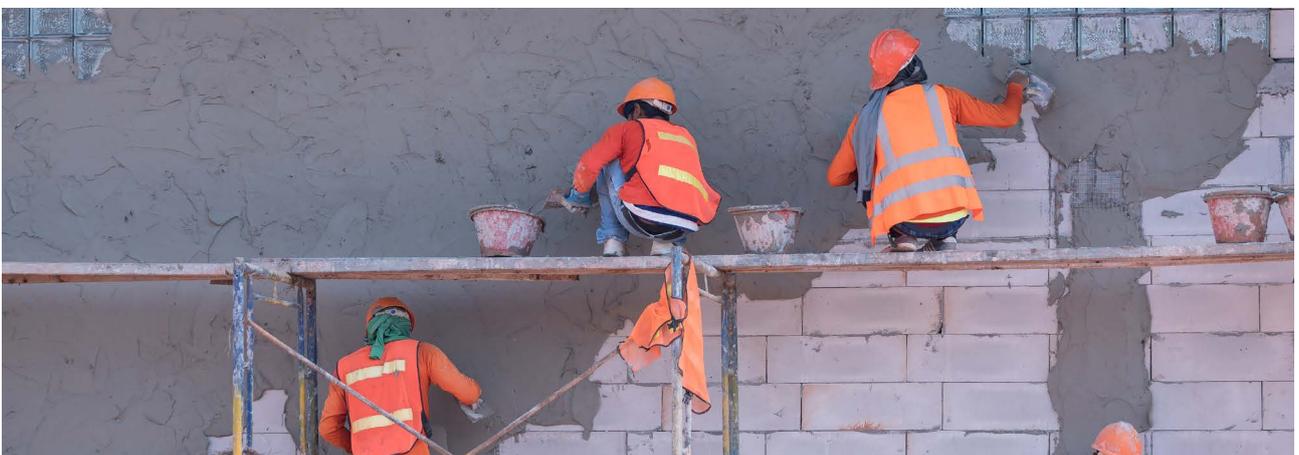
02

Contribute to CEN/TC 459 Sub-Committees for iron- and steel-based products;

03

Carry out advocacy activities towards an improved cement and steel policy framework.

[Learn more](#)



Hydrogen

Our goal is to ensure that hydrogen is a clean renewable-sourced energy carrier, by supporting truly clean production technologies that do not make use of fossil (natural) gas. We will work to:

- Ensure that standardisation on terms and definitions does not result in a misleading terminology that justifies hydrogen production from non-renewable sources;
- Ensure that Guarantees of Origins are a real tool to trace sustainable and renewable energy sources.

Activities

01

Participate in CEN-CLC/TC 6 “Hydrogen in Energy Systems”, contributing to the work on Terms and Definitions and European Commission’s standardisation initiatives;

02

Contribute to the drafting of a Guarantees of Origins standard that will cover not only electricity, but also hydrogen;

03

Contribute to such EU initiatives as the Gas Decarbonisation Package, the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Directive and the Clean Planet for All strategy.

[Learn more](#)





05

Waste to Resource

05

Waste to Resource

Waste prevention should always be the priority. However, even in the transition to a circular economy, residual streams from production and consumption processes will remain. Turning waste into a resource helps reduce the use of virgin materials and further environmental degradation. Our goal is to ensure that reliable, harmonised standards promote the sustainable recycling and preparation for reuse. Our priorities are reusing organic waste as fertiliser, ensuring a sustainable treatment of WEEE and facilitating the recovery of critical raw materials.

Waste of Electronic & Electrical Equipment (WEEE)

We aim to ensure that European harmonised standards reflect state-of-the-art waste management and treatment technologies, are aligned with EU legislation and policy objectives, and ultimately prevent the release of hazardous chemicals into the environment while optimising material-efficient reuse and recycling. We will work to:

- Promote optimal collection and separation at source of Waste of Electronic and Electrical Equipment (WEEE) suitable for preparation for reuse, as well as high-quality (pre)treatment and recycling;
- Stimulate material-efficient recycling and recovery of secondary raw materials, particularly Critical Raw Materials;
- Help prevent illegal export and dumping of WEEE to developing countries;
- Raise awareness about potential negative aspects of making standards mandatory and help formulate solutions to support small (preparation for) reuse operators.

Activities

01

Participate in CENELEC Technical Committee 111x, dealing with environmental aspects of electrical and electronic products and systems at EU level, and possibly at IEC level;

02

Participate in CEWASTE, an H2020 project aiming to stimulate recycling of critical raw materials;

03

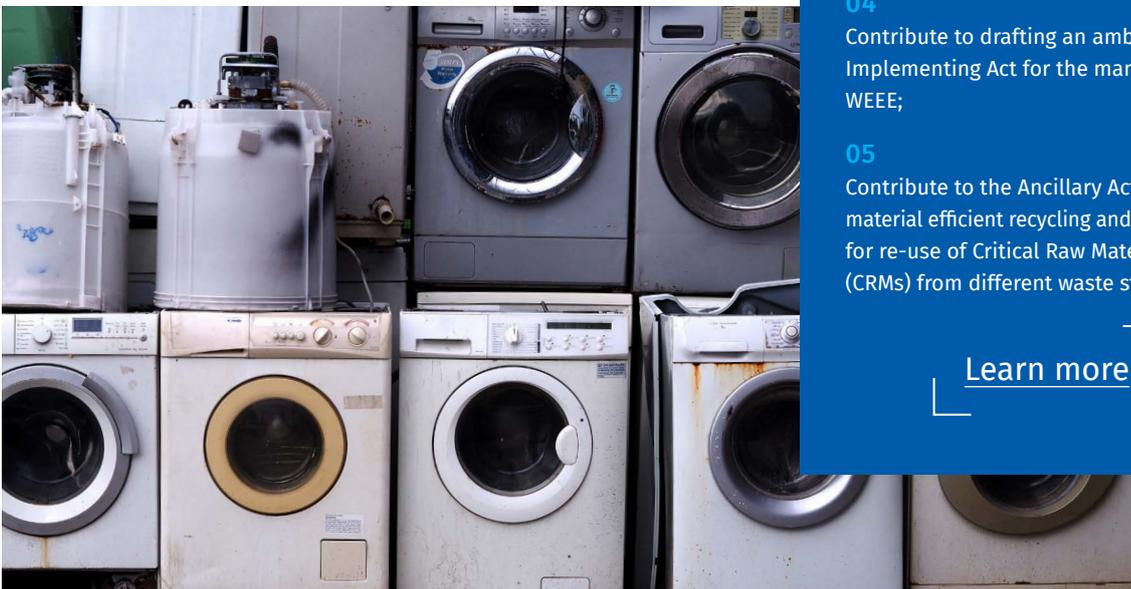
Engage in relevant policy discussions on WEEE, notably around the upcoming implementing act of the WEEE Directive;

04

Contribute to drafting an ambitious Implementing Act for the management of WEEE;

05

Contribute to the Ancillary Action on material efficient recycling and preparation for re-use of Critical Raw Materials (CRMs) from different waste streams.



[Learn more](#)

Waste Characterisation & Management

Our goal is to ensure proper environmental characterisation of wastes and improved framework conditions for reuse and recycling.

We will work to:

- Support the EU Circular Economy strategy and influence standardisation developments to minimise landfill, incineration and co-incineration of waste, as well as false upcoming solutions such as chemical recycling;
- Influence solid recovered fuels standards to ensure a high level of environmental protection and limit their wider use, especially when made largely from plastic (e.g. WEEE or textiles waste).

[Learn more](#)

Activities

01

Contribute to the activities of CEN on waste characterisation and test methods for environmental characterisation of solid matrices;

02

Contribute to ISO work on Solid Recovered Fuels (SRF) and Materials (SRM);

03

Liaise with partner NGOs to limit plastics to fuel incentives, including as SRF, certain forms of chemical recycling or recycled carbon fuels.

Sludge & Organic Fertilisers

Our objective is to ensure optimal soil quality by fostering the use of organic matter such as composts and digestate on land. We will work to:

- Promote the transition from mineral to organic fertilising products;
- Ensure the safe and sustainable use of organic materials as fertilising products.

Activities

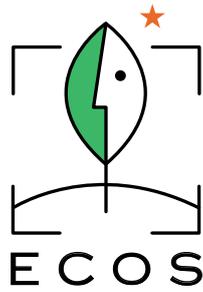
01

Participate in the work of CEN/TC 260/WG 8 on organic and organo-mineral fertilisers, including the development of methods to measure heavy metals;

02

Monitor issues associated with trading of CE-marked fertilising products in the EU (especially obstacles for organic and organo-mineral fertilisers).

[Learn more](#)



ECOS is an international NGO with a network of members and experts advocating for environmentally friendly technical standards, policies and laws.

We ensure the environmental voice is heard when they are developed and drive change by providing expertise to policymakers and industry players, leading to the implementation of strong environmental principles.

The green line to standards



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