

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022





# ABOUT ECOS

ECOS, Environmental Coalition on Standards, 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**.

Our successes consistently impact standards and laws promoting the environment, pushing for a shift to a sustainable use of resources within a circular economy, and ambitious actions to fight climate change.

We also work towards a more **inclusive, open and transparent standardisation system**, internationally and regionally, including European and national levels, at the same time ensuring an appropriate use of standards in support of environmental legislation and policy.

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 Electromobility](#), [Wardrobe Change](#), [Coalition for Energy Savings](#), [Better without Boilers](#), 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 [Global Electronics Council's](#) EPEAT Advisory Council, and several important fora, such as the EU CBAM and Carbon Removals Expert Groups or the newly created High-Level Forum on European Standardisation.

## HOW DO WE WORK?

For over 20 years now, ECOS has worked towards a healthy and clean environment, protected by **robust rules that respect nature and its resources**. Representing a network of more than 50 members, we bring our environmental expertise and vision to European and international discussions.



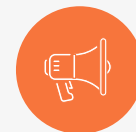
### Standardisation

We are the environmental voice in the standardisation system.



### Policy & advocacy

We advocate for a high level of environmental ambition for major legislative developments.



### Campaigns

We push for change to happen through numerous campaigns with members and partners.

# A FEW WORDS FROM JUSTIN WILKES

## OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2022 saw a big shift for ECOS, with our work leading to major impacts on the development of policies, laws and standards to require more and more sustainable products. But it was also **the fifth warmest year on record**, with climatic extremes experienced across the globe.

At international level, **ECOS pushed strongly forward on our work on climate neutrality, and circularity, among others**. 2022 also made sure that ecodesign was finally on everyone's lips: from the EU's Ecodesign Sustainable Products Regulation to high-level discussions with our partners in India – ecodesign is seen as a tool for environmental change, in line with our long-standing calls.

The insanity of continuing to use fossil fuels was also brought to evidence, as heating became an (expensive) buzzword. The EU took a step towards phasing out new fossil-fuel operated boilers – targeting a later date than we would have wished, but a date nonetheless – and **we will make sure that policymakers see their promises through**.

In 2022 we also went back to basics, and focused on the “S” in ECOS: we worked on technical cement standards, ensuring they promote low-carbon solutions, and raising awareness on the fact that we must **urgently decarbonise** this highly polluting sector to ensure that our climate targets stay within reach.

ECOS and its team gave all their energy working towards these key wins and advocating for environmentally friendly policies, laws and standards. Thanks to our work being increasingly well recognised, we grew, allowing us to be present in more discussions than ever, and to intensify our impact.

**I would like to thank our staff – without their relentless dedication ECOS would not be where we are today.** We are also deeply grateful to our experts, members, and funders for their continuous support, and for helping us make 2022 a success.

“**ECOS and its team gave all their energy working towards these key wins and advocating for environmentally friendly policies, laws and standards.**”



# 2022 IN NUMBERS



# KEY MOMENTS

## JANUARY

### We set the tone for the year

Our annual work programme revolves around five key priorities: product design, clean energy, sustainable built environment, cooling & cold chain and environmental transparency, allowing us to never lose focus and deliver impact.

[Read more](#) >

## FEBRUARY

### ECOS welcomes EU Standardisation Strategy

A unique opportunity for the EU to make standards work for the environment and strive for civil society voices to be properly represented in standard-setting at all levels – international, national and European.

## MARCH

### Circular Economy Package

Circular Economy Package is out! We are so glad to see ecodesign finally mainstreamed to all sectors, with many of our long-standing asks reflected in the proposal.

[Read more](#) >

## APRIL

### Making sustainable batteries a reality

In an influential report, we explain the crucial role batteries play in a renewable energy system and how legislation and standards can make batteries environmentally sustainable.

[Read more](#) >

## JUNE

### ECOS conference: Sustainable by default – ecodesign as a tool for change

Our annual conference gathers high-level speakers and revolves around discussions on how to ensure the new Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation lives up to its full potential.

[Read more](#) >

### Towards clean and sustainable heating

In the REPowerEU communication, the European Commission hints at 2029 as date to end sales of fossil fuel boilers – a moment ECOS has long been waiting for!

### Putting an end to greenwashing

In a webinar, we convene the most prominent experts for a discussion on current and upcoming initiatives aiming to ensure that 'green claims' are accurate.

## MAY

### Towards greater inclusiveness in standardisation

ECOS and international standardisers come together for a discussion on inclusiveness and diversity within the international standardisation organisations.

[Read more](#) >

## JUNE

### AGM & new Executive Committee

ECOS members meet at the Annual General Assembly and elect three new members to our Executive Committee.

## JULY

### Time to green the construction sector

We add a new topic to our growing portfolio, kicking off our work on the use of sustainable timber in construction.

## SEPTEMBER

### Calling on waste prevention targets

Together with a number of NGOs, ECOS demonstrates the need for EU quantitative waste prevention targets, setting the tone for the upcoming Waste Framework Directive revision.

## OCTOBER

### World Standards Day

On 14 October, we celebrate World Standards Day – a great opportunity to reflect on the important role that standards play in our transition to an environmentally sustainable world.

## NOVEMBER

### Circular Economy Package 2

The European Commission publishes the second part of its Circular Economy Package, but we denounce the progress as too slow.

### Solid fuel heating – a sustainable alternative?

In our webinar and report, we explain how solid fuel heating can become a rarely used solution instead of a widespread problem.

### We celebrate as the EU finally rubberstamps common charger

USB Type-C will be the only charging port for small devices allowed in the European Union. ECOS expects this groundbreaking decision makes waves internationally.

### ECOS Members & Experts Training

We bring together our members and experts for a training on standards and the environment – an opportunity for networking, learning, peer-exchange and... fun!

## DECEMBER

### Focus on environmental design & labelling - joint workshop in India

With our partners in India, we organise a workshop to engage policymakers and standardisation organisations in a lively discussion on the Indian transition to a circular economy.

### Focus on cement: national events in Greece & Denmark

Together with our member Ecocity in Greece, and our member Green Transition Denmark, we organise events with a national focus, looking at how standards could help decarbonise the cement and concrete sector.

### ECOS appointed as a member of the High-Level Forum on EU Standardisation

ECOS joins the EU High-Level Forum on Standardisation, focusing on standardisation priorities in support of EU policies and legislation. We are very much looking forward to working within the group!

### Smart cities, you've got a friend in electric cars

How can local authorities deploy a future-proof, robust smart charging network? Together with The Regulatory Assistance Project, we organise a webinar and present a new guide!

“2022 saw a big shift for ECOS, with our work leading to major impacts on the development of policies, laws and standards to require more and more sustainable products. We also went back to basics, and focused on the “S” in ECOS: we worked on technical cement standards, ensuring they promote low-carbon solutions.



# OUR IMPACT

## Making sustainable products the norm – ecodesign as a tool for change

We have long known that we need to make sustainable products the norm. Without policy intervention, by 2050 we are expected to be consuming resources at a rate three times higher than the Earth can regenerate. In 2022, and following many years of advocacy from ECOS, the EU finally launched an initiative which could make this happen – with important repercussions for all products worldwide!

[Read more](#) ➤

### What difference did we make?

- We were among the very first to call for ecodesign principles to be applied to all sectors.
- We have been extremely active all along the process, providing policymakers with ready-made solutions for extending ecodesign to all products and services.
- We spoke at countless events, published papers, built capacity within our networks and leveraged the power of our long-standing campaigns on the ecodesign framework - all the while exchanging with decision makers on our proposals and how to turn them into reality.





## OUR IMPACT

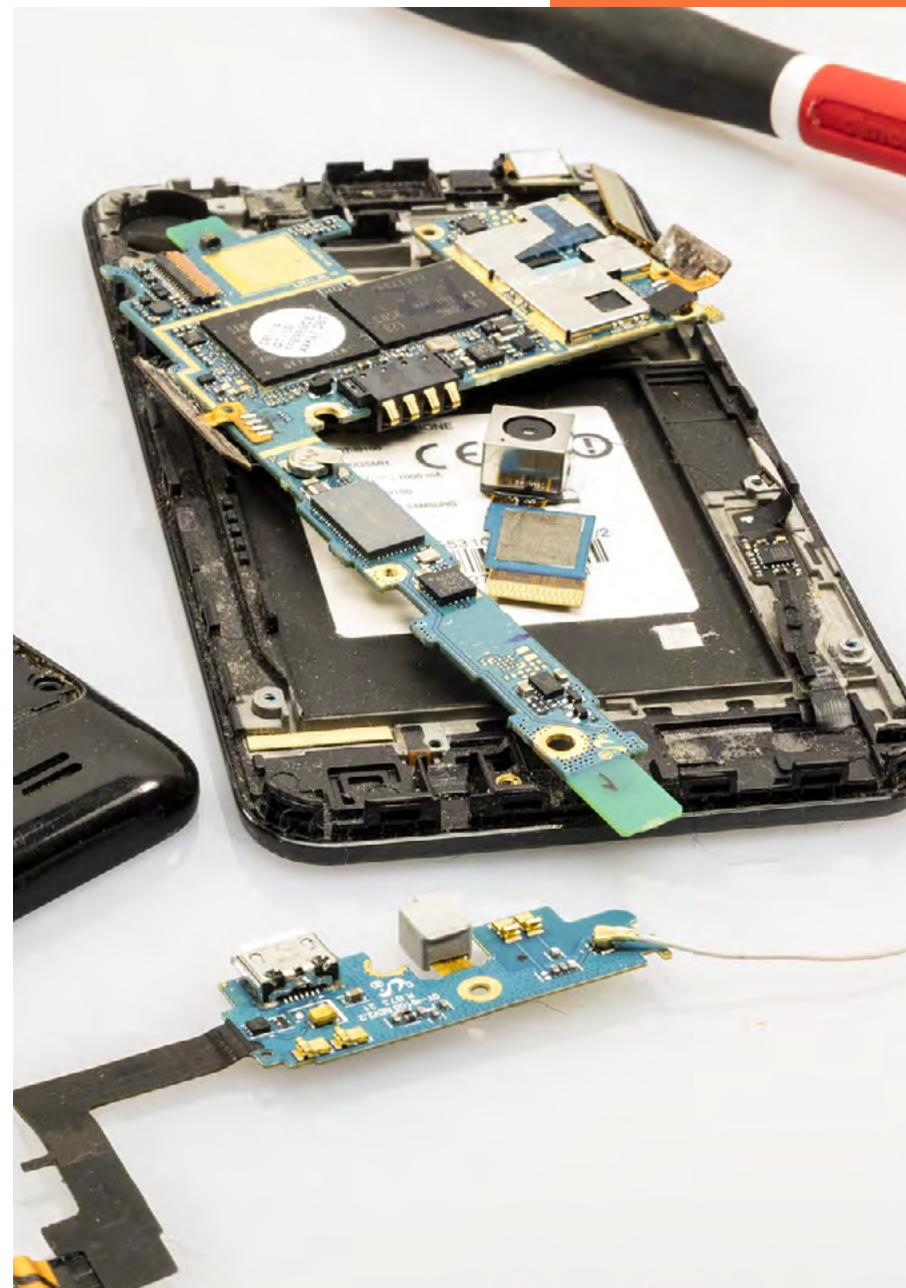
### Ensuring greener electronics – sustainable solutions for our everyday devices

2022 brought far-reaching new rules to reduce the environmental impact of everyday devices such as smartphones and printers. ECOS worked behind the scenes to make this happen. Let us walk you through the highlights of new ecodesign rules for phones and tablets, a common charger, and the upcoming mandatory rules for printers.

[Read more](#) >

#### What difference did we make?

- We pushed for ambitious ecodesign rules to regulate smartphones, raising awareness on the huge environmental impact of these everyday devices, mobilising partners, drafting reports and shaping crucial standards which now serve as a base for the repair score.
- Thanks to our advocacy, small electronic devices will be required to use USB Type-C chargers, cutting tonnes of unnecessary e-waste.
- We firmly said no to throwaway printers. As a result, manufacturers could soon be obliged to abide by mandatory minimum requirements in order for their devices to be allowed on the market.



## OUR IMPACT

### From Portland to Paris: a step towards a more sustainable cement and concrete industry

The billions of tonnes of cement made each year account for a staggering 8% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions – more than the combined emissions of aviation, trucking, and shipping! Given that the global demand for cement will continue to rise, there is no alternative: it is essential to rapidly decarbonise the production of cement. ECOS is helping policymakers and standardisers take steps in this direction, and 2022 saw the development of a new cement standard: prEN197-6, which has the potential to reduce the overall consumption of clinker, the extremely polluting component of traditional cement.

[Read more](#) >

#### What difference did we make?

- We heavily pushed for the development of the prEN197-6 standard, which presents a high level of ambition in that it allows to substitute clinker with less environmentally damaging recycled concrete fines.
- We strategically joined forces across a number of countries, facilitating the involvement of national partners in their national standards bodies. This, in turn, ensured that our position was represented in various countries, giving it much greater influence in the Technical Committee that developed the new cement standard.
- We led a constructive dialogue both at national and European level, successfully creating momentum and pressure to bring forward an ambitious standard.





## OUR IMPACT

### Construction products – will regulation finally green the sector?

Concrete, bricks, wood beams, windows... Construction products are essential components of the built environment that surrounds us. However, they also have a huge environmental impact throughout their entire lifecycle. In 2022, we pushed for the EU Construction Products Regulation to live up to its full potential. While the fight is not yet over, we have won some important battles.

[Read more](#) >

#### What difference did we make?

- ECOS has become the most prominent environmental NGO actively working on construction products, advocating for sustainable (construction) products to become the norm.
- We contributed our environmental expertise and experience to the development of standards and legislation, ensuring an environmental voice in the largely biased, industry dominated fora.
- The proposal for a CPR revision, published by the European Commission in 2022, set a new vision for the sector and rightly acknowledges the role of ecodesign for construction products - in line with what we have long been saying: construction products are... products, and their environmental impacts should be tackled, starting with design.



## OUR IMPACT

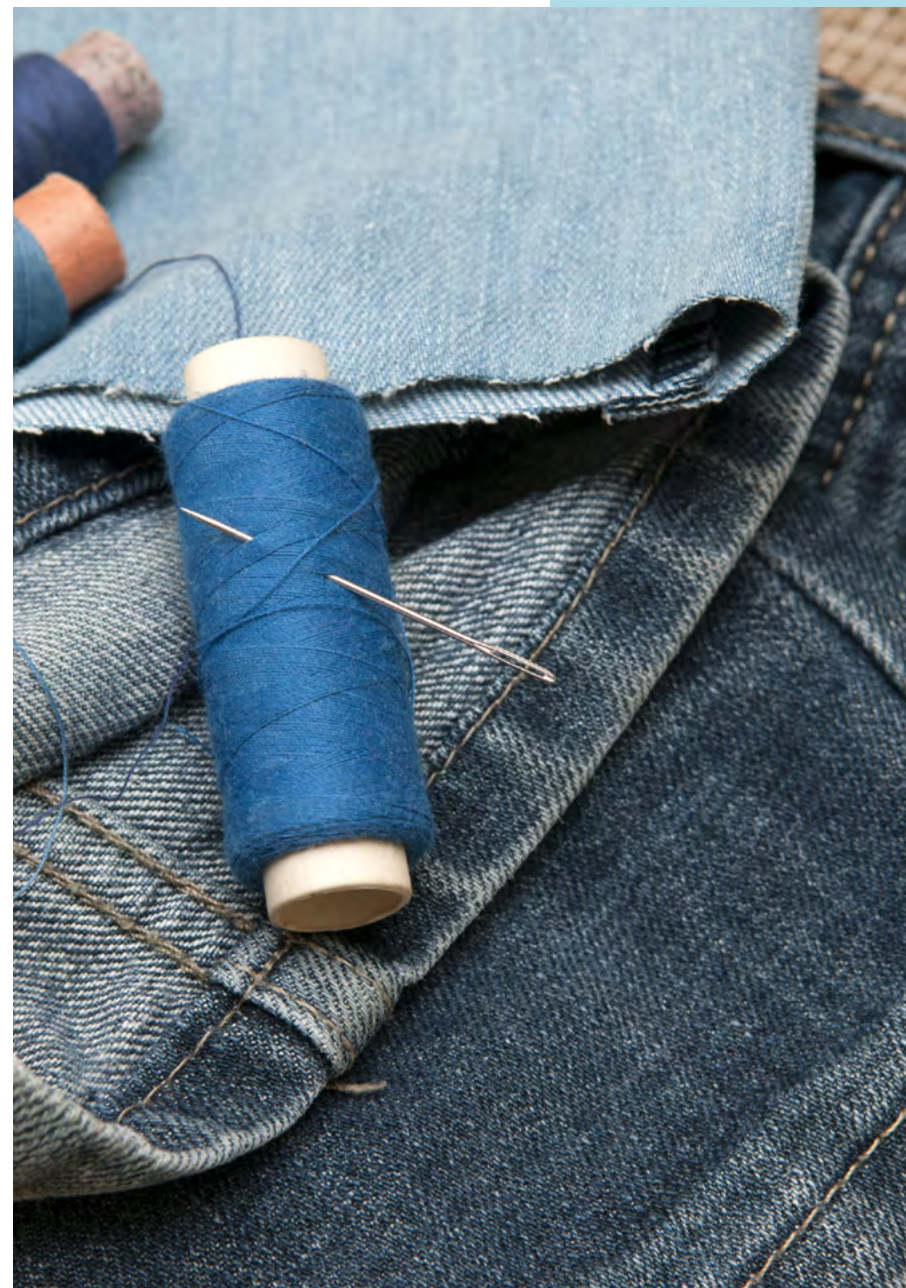
### Durable, repairable and mainstream – on our way to more circular textiles

In 2022, ECOS welcomed the EU Strategy on Sustainable Textiles. The Strategy sets the vision for reforming an extremely polluting sector, in line with what we had been repeating for years: unless we slow down, our planet will become the ultimate fashion victim.

[Read more](#) >

#### What difference did we make?

- Our key demands made it to the European Commission's Textiles Strategy, which went as far as to quote our 2021 report calling for ecodesign requirements for textiles.
- We mainstreamed the issue: some of the biggest outlets in Europe wrote about our work, and, more importantly, the problem, ensuring widespread awareness-raising.
- We used all possible channels to profile and amplify our calls, and this included presenting at key EU fora, leading joint campaigns, direct advocacy towards MEPs, progressive industry, the EU institutions and media outreach.





## OUR IMPACT

### Towards a future of efficient, renewable and clean heating

A timely phase-out of fossil fuel boilers would result in an environmental gain of about 110 Mt CO<sub>2</sub> by 2050. This represents two thirds of the total emissions reduction needed from residential and public buildings to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. And 2022 brought important steps in that direction, not least thanks to our expertise and push.

[Read more](#) >

#### What difference did we make?

- We successfully built momentum for a fossil-fuel boiler ban, which in 2022 was mentioned in the RePowerEU communication, targeting a date for 2029.
- Together with a number of like-minded organisations, we launched a new campaign, Better Without Boilers, which will push policymakers to keep, and increase, their environmental ambition.
- Thanks to our long-standing advocacy including detailed standardisation work, we can finally expect a new energy efficiency testing method for heat pumps, which will ensure testing in real-life conditions for a more accurate result.



## OUR IMPACT

### EU Standardisation Strategy – our chance to ensure that standards truly work for the environment

In February 2022, the EU published its new Standardisation Strategy. It is a unique opportunity to make standards work for the environment and strive for civil society voices to be properly represented in standard-setting at all levels – a priority for ECOS, and something we have long advocated for.

[Read more](#) >

#### What difference did we make?

- For over 20 years, we have been defending the environmental interests in standardisation, aiming to strengthen the inclusiveness of the international, national and regional standardisation bodies.
- Throughout the consultation period and preparatory work, we advocated for a political approach to standardisation, which would enable a more effective participation of environmental actors.
- We worked with our broad network, coordinating and mobilising European engagement at national level, all the while influencing the standardisation system's strategic groups and discussions.
- The EU Standardisation Strategy reflects many of our calls, recognising the need to modernise the system and engage all relevant actors in standards-making, as well as setting out the intention to leverage the European Standardisation System to deliver on the green transition.



# PUBLICATIONS

## STANDARDS & THE PLANET

- **BRIEFING** on the EU Strategy on Standardisation
- Joint call: Time to give civil society a stronger voice in standardisation

## ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSPARENCY

- Sustainability Reporting Standards: Will they nail it or fail it?
- Empowering Consumers for the Green Transition: A first step in dire need of more

## DECARBONISING KEY SECTORS

### Batteries & smart charging

- **BRIEFING** Standards for EV smart charging – A guide for local authorities (ECOS & RAP)
- Making sustainable batteries a reality – ECOS position on the European Commission's Standardisation Request on batteries

### Heating

- Obstacles posed by heat pump standards to ecodesign regulations and how to solve them

- **REPORT** Out of the woods: Using ecodesign to reduce the negative impacts of solid fuel heating (ECOS & Coolproducts)

### F-gases

- **NGO RECOMMENDATIONS** Breaking free from the world's most potent greenhouse gas
- Joint NGO Position Paper on the Proposal to Revise the EU F-Gas Regulation

## SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION

### Ecodesign

- **POSITION** Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation: How to ensure it makes sustainable products the norm
- **FACTSHEET** Ecodesign as a tool for change
- Topical factsheets: Make-or-break aspects of the EU's Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation: Revision of the Ecodesign Directive, Intermediary Products, Digital Product Passports, Hazardous Chemicals

- ECOS position: Ecodesign for intermediate products: essential ingredients for a more sustainable economy
- ECOS position: How the Sustainable Products Initiative should address hazardous chemicals in products
- ECOS position: Building blocks for sustainable construction through a revised Construction Products Regulation

### Plastics

- Report: What future for plastic recycling in a circular and toxic-free economy?
- Joint paper: How can EU legislation tackle microplastic pollution?
- Factsheet: Spotlight on Plastic Fishing Gear

### Waste

- **JOINT PAPER** Why we need waste prevention targets now

# OUR MEMBERS

## National member organisations

### Austria

- Umweltdachverband
- GLOBAL 2000

### Belgium

- Bond Beter Leefmilieu Vlaanderen (BBLV)
- Canopea
- Repair Together
- Repair & Share

### Bulgaria

- Institute for Ecological Modernisation (IEM)

### Croatia

- Society for Sustainable Development Design (DOOR)

### Cyprus

- Terra Cypria – The Cyprus Conservation Foundation

### Czech Republic

- Zelený Kruh (Green Circle)

### Denmark

- The Danish Society for Nature Conservation (DN)
- Green Transition Denmark

### France

- CLER - French Energy Transition Network
- Association HOP
- Zero Waste France

### Germany

- Women Engage for a Common Future
- Ethikis
- Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND)
- Bundesverband Bürgerinitiativen Umweltschutz (BBU)
- Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)
- Nature Friends Germany (NFD)
- Deutsche Umwelthilfe
- Runder Tisch Reparatur

### Greece

- Ecocity Greece

### Hungary

- Clean Air Action Group (CAAG)

### Ireland

- Community Reuse Network Ireland (CRNI)

### Italy

- Legambiente Onlus
- Giacimenti Urbani
- Kyoto Club

### Latvia

- Friends of the Earth Latvia (Zemes Draugi)

### Lithuania

- Žiedinė ekonomika

## International member organisations

- Bellona Europe
- European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- Friends of the Earth Europe (FoEE)
- Health Care Without Harm Europe (HCWH)
- Health & Environmental Alliance (HEAL)
- European umbrella for social enterprises with activities in reuse, repair and recycling (RREUSE)
- European Federation for Transport & Environment (T&E)
- WWF – European Policy Office (WWF-EPO)
- Zero Waste Europe (ZWE)

### Luxembourg

- The Luxembourg Ecological Center (Oekozer Pafendall)

### Netherlands

- Stichting Natuur en Milieu (SNM)
- Leefmilieu

### Norway

- BELLONA Norway

### Poland

- Polish Foundation for Energy Efficiency (FEWE)
- ClientEarth Poland

### Portugal

- ZERO
- Circular Economy Portugal

### Romania

- 2Celsius

### Slovakia

- Repairably

### Spain

- ECODES

### Sweden

- The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC/SNF)

### Switzerland

- WWF Switzerland

### United Kingdom

- Energy Saving Trust (EST)
- UK Sustainability Network for Standardisation (UK SNS)

### USA

- Green Science Policy Institute



# OUR PEOPLE

## SECRETARIAT

### Executive Management Team



**Justin Wilkes**  
Executive Director



**Chloé Fayole**  
Strategy Director



**Kasia Koniecka**  
Communications  
Director



**Stefania Macchioni**  
Operations Director



**Nerea Ruiz Fuente**  
Policy Director



**Pamela Tarif**  
Global Engagement  
Director

### Climate & Energy Department led by Nerea Ruiz Fuente



**Rita Tedesco**  
Head of Energy  
Transition



**Carolina Koronen**  
Programme  
Manager



**Erwin Cornelis**  
Programme  
Manager



**Elisa Martelucci**  
Programme  
Manager



**Luka De Bruyckere**  
Programme  
Manager



**Mathieu Rama**  
Programme  
Manager



**Marco Grippa**  
Programme  
Manager



**Valeria Botta**  
Head of Nature  
Protection &  
Restoration



**Mathilde Crêpy**  
Head of  
Environmental  
Transparency



**Ioana Popescu**  
Head of Circular  
Economy



**Emily Best**  
Programme  
Manager



**Mathias Falkenberg**  
Programme  
Manager



**Margaux Le Gallou**  
Programme  
Manager



**Mariana López  
Dávila**  
Programme  
Manager



**Michael Neaves**  
Programme  
Manager



**Samy Porteron**  
Programme  
Manager



**Federica Pozzi**  
Programme  
Manager



**Fanny Rateau**  
Programme  
Manager



**Joren Verschaeve**  
Programme  
Manager



**Martina Forbicini**  
Sustainability  
Trainee

# SECRETARIAT

## Global Engagement Department



**Pamela Tarif**  
Global Engagement  
Director

## Communications & Membership Department led by Kasia Koniecka



**Ivo Cabral**  
Press &  
Communications  
Manager



**Sabela González  
García**  
Campaigns &  
Communications  
Manager



**Pia Cencig**  
Membership  
Manager



**Polina Peredera**  
Communications &  
Events Trainee

### We would also like to acknowledge our colleagues who left in 2022:

- Patrick Mihalaras, Senior Manager, Finance & Grants
- Andrew Murphy, Head of Buildings & Industry
- Ernestas Oldyrevas, Programme Manager
- Mélissa Zill, Programme Manager

#### Our Trainees:

- Costanza Chimisso
- Benjamin Goodwin
- Maria Luís Gonçalves Fernandes

## Operations Department led by Stefania Macchioni



**Olivier Lion**  
Head of Finance



**Cristina Mariniuc**  
HR & Administration  
Manager



**Anna Arcuri**  
Partnership &  
Development  
Manager



**Kami Tiba Baptista**  
Administrative  
Officer



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Emilie Carmichael**

Energy Saving Trust

**President**

**Marion Hasper**

Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND)/  
German environmental NGOs coordination  
network for standardisation (KNU)

**Vice President**

**Gianmarco Santirocco**

Individual capacity

**Treasurer**

**Robert Brett**

Individual capacity

**Greg Archer**

Transport & Environment  
(until March)

**Carlos Calvo Ambel**

Transport & Environment  
(as from June)

**Julika Dittrich**

Individual capacity

**Francisco Ferreira**

ZERO

**Patrick ten Brink**

European Environmental Bureau (EEB)  
(until June)

**Jean-Pierre Schweitzer**

European Environmental Bureau (EEB) (as  
from June)

**Meletis Fouskaris**

Individual capacity (until June)

**Esra Tat**

Zero Waste Europe (as from June)





# OUR FUNDERS

We are grateful for the trust placed in us by the following organisations and entities who support our activities and make our work possible.

- Adessium Foundation
- Breakthrough Energy
- Built by Nature
- European Climate Foundation
- European Commission
- European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
- Horizon Europe, the EU research and innovation programme
- KNU
- Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation
- Laudes Foundation
- Plastic Solutions Fund
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Umweltbundesamt

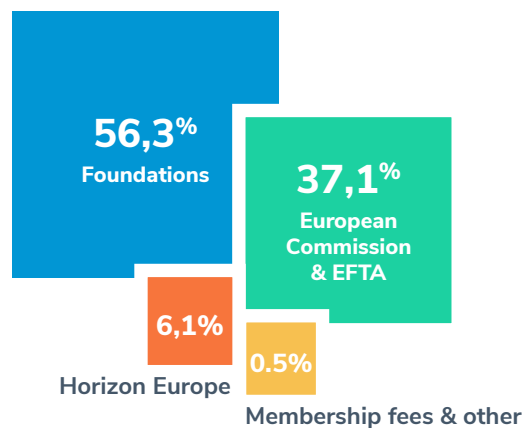




# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

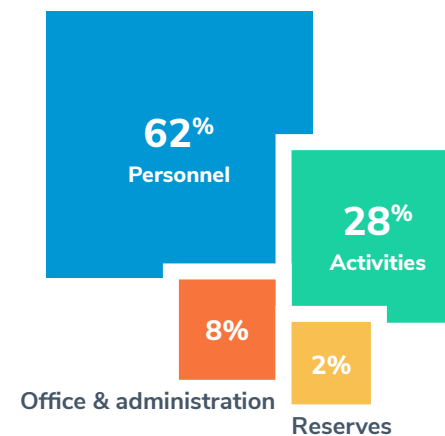
## Income

4.3 Million €



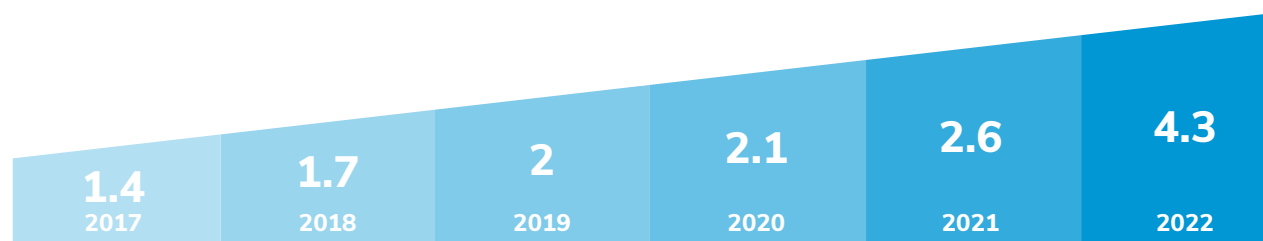
## Expenditure

4.2 Million €



## Total annual income

Million €



## ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION ON STANDARDS

**WeWork**

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**ECOS-NGO**



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