



WORK PROGRAMME 2024

JANUARY 2024



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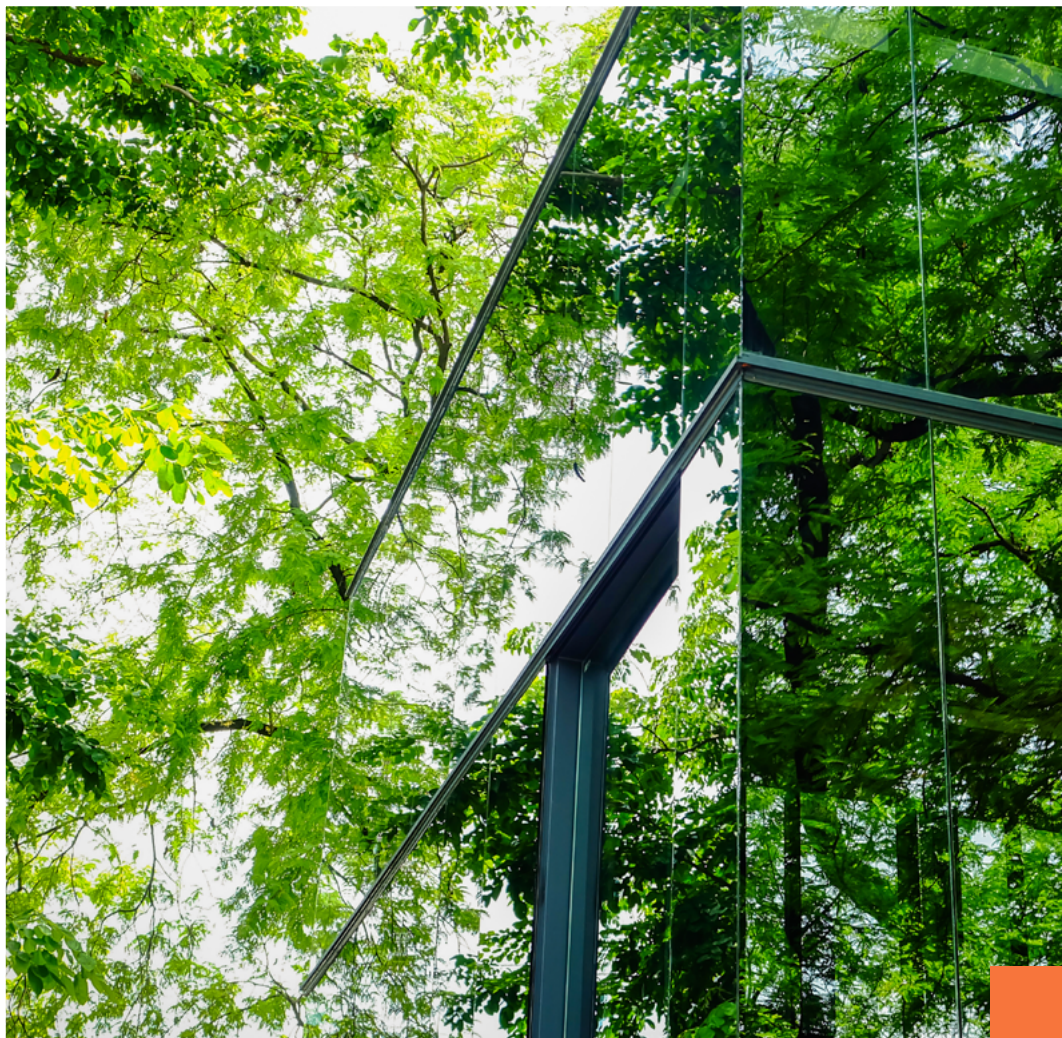
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ABOUT ECOS

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.



INTRODUCTION

The UN has declared 2021-2030 as the Decade of Ecological Restoration. The science has never been clearer: the time to step up for nature, biodiversity, and humanity is now. And this means wasting no time in putting into place an ambitious pathway to transform our societies and economies so that they operate in harmony with nature.

In 2024, we will need to create momentum for ambitious political decisions, providing a window of opportunity to tackle the triple planetary crisis: climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss. We need fundamental, systemic changes to the way we consume and produce if we are to reduce the massive pressure we are placing on our planetary boundaries.

Solutions exist and are attainable – but we have no time to lose. Moving away from fossil fuels, greening industrial processes, making sustainable products the norm, and efficiently guiding our markets towards best practices – all of the above will set us on the path to meeting our climate goals and, more broadly, to sustainability. In 2024, ECOS will work towards these priorities, and our activities will be guided by two key principles: sufficiency and impact.

Sufficiency, because we need to drastically reduce the environmental footprint of our societies and start restoring nature. Impact, because we strongly believe that environmental organisations such as ECOS must continue to strengthen their influence, including at national and international level, to bring us closer to real change.

As the only environmental NGO at the table where standards are developed, ECOS is perfectly placed to drive, define and assess how to drastically improve the environmental sustainability of key sectors and products. We will rely on our unique position and expertise to deliver on the green transition – one where environmentally ambitious policies are supported by robust standards, serving the environment, and protecting our planet.

“Without nature,
we have nothing.
Without nature,
we are nothing.”

António Guterres,
UN Secretary-General, 2022

In 2024, we will prioritise the following environmental areas:



Clean energy

A renewable, secure and resilient energy system



Industrial decarbonisation

Through supply and demand measures



Circular economy

Embracing sufficiency in global value chains



Environmental transparency

Unleashing the power of environmental communication



Nature health

Protecting and restoring nature health through robust accounting enshrined in law

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 almost 60 members, we bring our expertise and vision to environmental 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.



In standardisation

- We represent the environmental voice in the Standardisation System.
- We push for robustness and environmental ambition in the development of key standards.
- We advocate for the standardisation system to be as open and inclusive as possible, at all levels.
- At the regional level in Europe, we are recognised as an official partner. ECOS is one of the so-called “Annex III organisations” recognised by the Standardisation Regulation.
- We advocate for the development of certain missing standards that can help the implementation of crucial environmental policies or innovations.
- We make sure standards and policy objectives are compatible, as well as that policy ambition is not undermined by decisions made at standardisation level.
- We raise awareness and interest in the standardisation work, fostering greater involvement of environmental NGOs in standards-making.

Did you know?

Standards can provide important definitions, determining, for example, how much bio-based content a product should have to be called ‘bio-based’, or what criteria are needed for packaging to be termed ‘reusable’. They can also provide measurement methods that will facilitate the enforcement of policies, for instance on how to assess product repairability.



At policy level

- We bring our expertise to push for a high level of environmental ambition for major legislative and policy developments. We are there even before the legislative process starts, to help prepare the ground for discussion, and we closely follow the process all the way through to the final decisions. Finally, we remain present for the implementation phase.
- Internationally, we cooperate with the United Nations, as an accredited observer to the UN Environment Programme and its governing bodies, namely, the United Nations Environment Assembly and its subsidiary organs, as a member of the [One Planet Network](#) and the UN-led [Cool Coalition](#), and we actively contribute to the Global Electronics Council's [EPEAT ecolabel](#).
- We work with the EU institutions, particularly as a member of the European Commission's Ecodesign and Energy Labelling Consultation Forum, the High-Level Expert Group on Energy Intensive Industries, the CBAM expert group, High Level Forum on Standardisation, and as an observer on the Committee on Standards.
- We are also part of key projects which help us meet our policy goals, such as the [3CO project](#) or [Sustcert](#), which looks at sustainability certification for biobased products.



Through campaigns

- With the support of our extensive network of members and partners, we push for change to happen.
- We run advocacy campaigns to call for certain measures or reorient others, be it on heating, sustainable products, plastic packaging or refrigeration standards. Nothing is too complex, or too technical – we translate difficult issues into engaging calls to action, motivating our audiences to support our work.
- We know that by joining forces with like-minded partners, we are maximising our impact, ensuring a cleaner environment for all.
- ECOS is active in a number of impactful alliances and campaigns, operating at international and regional level, such as the [Rethink Plastic alliance](#), [Break Free From Plastic](#), [Coolproducts](#), [Right to Repair](#), the [Cool Coalition](#), [Better Without Boilers](#), the [Alliance for Low-Carbon Cement & Concrete](#), [Platform for Electro-mobility](#), [Coalition for Energy Savings](#), [Wardrobe Change](#), and the [One Planet Network](#), where we cooperate with other NGOs, progressive companies, and researchers.

“With the support of our members, experts and partners, we push for change to happen.”



MAKING STANDARDISATION WORK FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

For more than two decades, ECOS has been working to ensure effective representation of the environmental interest in standardisation. We raise awareness about the need for new standards for crucial environmental policies or innovations, pushing for robustness and environmental ambition in policies and laws. We strive for the environmental voice to be heard when these important documents are developed, and for public policy ambition to be supported by high quality standards.

We bring vision to national, regional and international discussions. We drive change by providing insights and expertise on strong environmental principles to both policymakers and industry players, and through building new partnerships with like-minded organisations worldwide.

Beyond our efforts to improve the environmental ambition of standards, we work towards an inclusive and effective system, reinforcing the participation and rights of societal stakeholders.

In 2024, ECOS will continue this work and further target inclusiveness of the standardisation processes as a fundamental overarching principle.

We will focus our work on:

National level

- Developing increasing awareness and engagement among national environmental NGOs in standardisation.
- Building meaningful partnerships at national level on common environmental challenges.

Regional level

- Influencing the implementation of the EU Standardisation Strategy to ensure standards work for the environment by delivering an inclusive and strategic European Standardisation System in support of high environmental ambition.

- Contributing to a wide range of standardisation deliverables, as well as the evaluation of standardisation needs to support EU laws and policies.
- Engaging with the European Standardisation Organisations and other relevant actors within the system to ensure standardisation serves public interest and supports sustainability.
- Seeking partnerships in Africa, to drive stakeholder engagement and support the participation of regional environmental expertise in the development of standards.

International level

- Increasing our presence in key international standardisation organisations, including ISO, IEC and ITU, pushing for greater environmental know-how in the standards, as well as facilitating access to the standards development process for environmental stakeholders.
- Continuing as an active contributor to ISO's commitment to have more environmental stakeholders at the table (London Declaration).
- Seeking more partnerships worldwide, including with environmental actors and standards organisations.

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

In 2024, we will prioritise five areas:



Clean energy

A renewable, secure and resilient energy system



Industrial decarbonisation

Through supply and demand measures



Circular economy

Embracing sufficiency in global value chains



Environmental transparency

Unleashing the power of environmental communication



Nature health

Protecting and restoring nature health through robust accounting enshrined in law

Our 2024 priorities will contribute to the attainment of the following Sustainable Development Goals:

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE ACTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



In this section, we will explore the crucial importance of these priorities for our environment, our objectives, and how we intend to deliver our work in these areas. A full list of our activities can be found in the comprehensive 'Our Work Areas' section.



OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

Clean energy



A renewable, secure and resilient energy system

Renewable, circular and... sufficient approach

2024 is a turning point: we need urgent action and unprecedented measures to mitigate the energy crisis, which greatly contributes to the global climate emergency. Our dependence on fossil fuels was brought to light in the post-pandemic years, and in the context of the war in Ukraine. Contrary to common sense, we still largely rely on oil and gas to heat our homes, generate electricity, drive cars and power key industries.

The facts speak for themselves: the world's energy consumption has increased every year since the industrial revolution. We cannot wait any longer: the energy sector needs a rapid transformation, and its decarbonisation should be a top priority. In parallel, we should make sure that the overall energy production and consumption is reduced in every sector, by means of energy efficiency and sufficiency measures.

We have reached a point when not even turning to renewable energy and electrification will be enough.

Raw materials that enable the energy transition to renewables are also limited to manufacture for instance solar panels, wind turbines or batteries. We therefore need to substantially reduce our energy consumption and accompany the energy transition with a sufficient and circular approach.

Rolling out electric vehicles and F-gas free heat pumps is the most efficient way to decarbonise two extremely polluting sectors: transport and heating, which together consume more than half of the energy in the EU (EUROSTAT, 2020).

There is hope: these sectors can become more efficient, and, under the right conditions, have the potential to ensure energy sufficiency. New heating solutions should be accompanied by efficient renovation activities and public, active and shared mobility, including walking and cycling, should always be preferred over private cars.

In 2024, ECOS will push for a future-proof transition

For years now, ECOS has been highlighting the need for a truly efficient and renewable power grid as key to a sound energy transition. The energy crisis we are facing calls for an increase in energy efficiency, while we reduce

Fossil fuels



80% of energy consumption globally



Global energy consumption

increased every year since industrial revolution

Global demand for **lithium** used in EV batteries



will increase **57 times** by 2050



our overall energy consumption and deploy a renewable energy supply that meets the demand of key sectors.

The energy transition needs to be targeted at future-proof solutions that are truly sustainable and respect planetary boundaries. This includes, for instance, a **universal deployment of sustainable heating solutions** based on renewable energy, efficiency and sufficiency.

An important part of the solution will be ensuring **flexible energy use** through smart heat pumps and smart charging of electric vehicles. Thanks to smart behaviour, EVs and heat pumps adapt to both user preferences and the conditions of the power system, secure the stability of the grid, and reduce renewable energy curtailment, at the same time allowing higher shares of renewable energy. This means EVs are charged and houses are heated when a large amount of renewable electricity is available, and electricity can be returned to the grid or building when needed.

Finally, storage systems for renewable electricity, such as sustainable batteries or solar panels, need to be produced ensuring that **critical raw materials** are retained for as long as possible. We cannot continue our dependency on virgin raw materials – circularity is an absolute must!



“We need urgent action and unprecedented measures to mitigate the energy crisis.”





Our activities in 2024

- Work to boost the uptake of F-gas free heat pumps and phase out fossil fuel operated boilers thanks to the implementation of ambitious ecodesign and energy labelling regulations for central heating products.
- Work to tighten the energy efficiency thresholds and the pollutant emissions of biomass heating through the ecodesign and energy labelling regulation for solid fuel heating.
- Ensure the uptake of sustainable PV panels thanks to the implementation of ecodesign, including carbon footprint requirements.
- Influence the implementation of the EU's 'Fit for 55' package and the Critical Raw Materials Regulation and related Standardisation Requests.
- Work towards standardised communication protocols which foster smart charging of electric vehicles and smart energy management, and ensure their uptake through the European Commission Action Plan on digitalising the energy sector.
- Contribute to the revision of EN 16147 and EN 14825 – two pivotal standards aiming at aligning heat pump testing with real operation conditions and coherence between ecodesign regulations and the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), respectively.
- Contribute to the revision of EN 16510 – to limit the pollutants emissions for solid fuel heating appliances as well as aligning standards development with real-life operations at full load and part load.

Who we work with



Our projects





OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

Industrial decarbonisation



Delivering industrial decarbonisation through supply and demand measures

Cement and steel stealing the spotlight

The sustainability of our built environment is influenced by many factors. Some, such as energy efficiency, are widely recognised. Others, however, have so far escaped the attention of policymakers and standardisers. This is the case of the so-called intermediate products, and in particular those coming from energy-intensive industries sectors, such as cement and steel, whose substantial emissions are yet to be tackled.

Intermediate products represent a significant contribution to climate change and environmental damage. Energy intensive industries are responsible for 24% of the global greenhouse gas emissions, with cement contributing a staggering 8% of CO₂ emissions worldwide! But the negative impacts do not stop here: intermediate product manufacturing leads to resource depletion, water use, land-use change, and air pollution alike.

What is more, products such as cement and steel form the linchpin of other key sectors, most notably construction, infrastructure and automotive, which need an urgent transformation if we are to decarbonise our economy.

Policy and standards for a bulletproof solution

While intermediate products receive much less public attention than other polluting materials such as plastic, ECOS has long ago identified them as crucial on our path to decarbonisation. The topic might be technical, but the solution is not more complicated than in other cases: we need to speed up industrial decarbonisation, aiming at net zero well before 2050. Intermediate products are... products. And, after all, making sustainable products the norm is our core business.

We need a strong policy framework to successfully address the environmental impact of intermediate products, backed up by robust product standards that support decarbonisation and circularity.



Energy intensive industries = **24%** of global GHG emissions



Cement productions accounts for **8%** of global CO₂ emissions



1600-3300 litres of water per **1 tonne of steel** produced



In 2024, ECOS will focus on the full picture

- We will look on the supply side, and aim to make construction products sustainable by default, thanks to an ambitious revision of the **EU Construction Products Regulation**, and removing the existing barriers that prevent innovative products from accessing the market, particularly in the case of **cement standards**.
- We will also work towards ensuring that there is a demand for sustainable construction solutions, tackling the lack of mandatory **green public procurement criteria**. Public spending accounts for a large share of the construction sector's demand, with public contractors' buying powers accounting for, for example, in the [EU 1.4% of GDP](#) – equivalent to the EU's annual spendings on defence. Yet despite a growing consensus on its potential, no mandatory Green Public Procurement approach for construction products exists. Working at national, European, and international level, we will work towards making all public procurement for construction truly green by 2030.



“While intermediate products receive much less public attention than other polluting materials such as plastic, ECOS has long ago identified them as crucial on our path to decarbonisation.





Our activities in 2024

- Ensure an effective implementation of the EU Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) and the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), including ambitious ecodesign requirements for intermediate industrial products, cement and steel.
- Drive public purchase towards truly green construction products through strong Green Public Procurement provisions for green construction products.
- Push for a swift revision of Waste Framework Directive for Construction and Demolition Waste.
- Secure a watertight implementation of Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) criteria for steel and cement.
- Push for the adoption of an EU standardisation request for a performance-based standard for common cements.
- Build the case for harmonisation of concrete standards, which would allow for the uptake of low-carbon concrete solutions.
- Mainstream reuse of steel and concrete construction products, for example through the revision of standards: EN 1090-2 on steel and EN 13369 on precast concrete.
- Ensure that the carbon accounting of steel - in the context of the EU Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation and voluntary standards - is solid, especially with regard to hydrogen-based steelmaking.

Who we work with



**ALLIANCE for
LOW-CARBON CEMENT
& CONCRETE**



OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

Circular economy



A circular economy embracing sufficiency in global value chains

The circular economy, up until not so long ago a novelty and a popular buzzword, has become a widely acknowledged systemic model, which can ensure that precious resources stay in use for as long as possible and are free from toxic substances, while waste generation dramatically slows down.

However, the pace at which we consume our resources is worrying – and it has become clear that circularity on its own will not be enough: we need to slow down, substantially limit our consumption and change the established patterns if we are to stay within a 1.5°C global warming scenario and reduce the mounting pressure on natural ecosystems.

Furthermore, we urgently need to address the chemicals elephant in the room: to avoid recirculating materials and products that contain hazardous substances, we need to ensure these substances are no longer used.

Time for a (systemic) change

The existing production and consumption patterns of industrialised societies are unsustainable and put stress on our fragile ecosystems. This is worsened by the fact that the products and materials we consume are full of toxic substances, which further contributes to skyrocketing environmental pollution levels.

The implementation of a circular economy at the global level needs to embrace the need to cut down on overall production – the same way it recognises the need for material footprint reduction.

To ensure the circular economy is sustainable and actually fits what the planet can handle, business models that enable sufficiency can be of great help. Examples are endless - efforts need to be targeted towards unlocking large-scale refill and reuse in the packaging sector, business models based on sharing, such as tool libraries, should be mainstreamed, and the second-hand sector needs to be promoted in order to give a second life to our electronics and textiles.



1/3 of what is collected for recycling in the EU could be **sold second-hand**



The US & Europe are the largest contributors to the **world's material footprint**



74% of products contain substances with properties of **serious concern**

Crucial areas of interest

- In 2024, ECOS will continue to work towards ensuring circular economy policies and standards in resource-intensive value chains contribute to dramatically reducing resource use and environmental pollution levels. We will focus on several important regulatory developments.
- **The Global Plastics Treaty** as a unique international opportunity to curb plastic pollution.
- The EU **Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation** as a visionary policy framework to make products sustainable by default.
- Sectoral EU initiatives with potential for change, notably with regards to **packaging** and **textiles**.



Our activities in 2024

- Push for the conclusion of negotiations for a binding ambitious international treaty on plastics.
- Support the global implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 12, Responsible Consumption and Production.
- Advocate for the EU Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) to seek material footprint reduction, which would bring positive spillover effects on global value chains.
- Advocate for key product and material streams to be not only long-lasting and recirculated many times, but also free from hazardous substances, by design.
- Advocate for policies and standards that unlock sufficiency, frugal use of resources, and equitable development of solutions.
- Advocate for new EU packaging laws that reduce amounts of packaging put on the market and mainstream refill and reuse, reducing the overreliance on single-use packaging.
- Continue to push for a deep transformation of the textile sector and its products through advocating for meaningful and ambitious minimum requirements for textiles, set at the right level to get the most environmental gain, making sure standards chosen are fit for purpose, and create a race to the top.
- Ensure standards supporting new EU packaging laws introduce concrete ways to tackle overpackaging, reduce packaging items consumed, as well as mainstream refill and reuse.

Who we work with





OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

Environmental transparency

Unleashing the power of environmental communication

Claims on the environmental performance of products and activities are proliferating. Sustainable products and processes, nature-positive companies, responsible investments, green bonds, carbon neutral packaging... Showcasing environmental performance is increasingly becoming a competitive advantage, regardless of how relevant the information actually is, or how reliable the data behind it.

Unlocking the transition to a circular economy with robust corporate reporting

Sustainability data is considered increasingly critical to investment decisions, business management and marketing strategies. But in order to truly be of added value, it needs to be complete, properly refined, processed and standardised.

Today, the way companies report their circular economy impacts is neither reliable nor comparable. Most of the available data is centred around what products are made of and whether they are recycled. As a result, investors,

companies and regulators have developed a laser focus on material innovation and recycling technologies, entirely dismissing key upstream circularity solutions.

To unlock the transition to a circular economy, companies should be able to demonstrate their efforts to use fewer resources, use them longer, and then ultimately use them again – an approach that fully corresponds to the three pillars of the circular economy. This is currently far from being the case.

By mandating the reporting of robust circularity data, the EU has the potential to shift the current focus away from false solutions, nudging companies to implement comprehensive circular strategies and place truly circular products on the market, allowing them access to capital.

“Today, the way companies report their circular economy impacts is neither reliable nor comparable.”



Analysis of 194 reports from 94 European companies:



40% did not mention **circular economy**



42% of circular economy targets were related to eliminating non-renewable resources within **packaging**



61% of indicators concern lower-ranking strategies **on waste**



Green claims and the fight against greenwashing

The situation does not improve in the case of green claims, meant to demonstrate the environmental performance of products. Consumers are constantly faced with misleading claims and labels often backed by unreliable data, which prevents genuine sustainability champions from receiving the recognition they deserve.

This troubling scenario is exacerbated by the surge in claims that do little to encourage the transition to a circular economy. Claims based on offsetting or environmental certification of unnecessary products (such as single-use packaging) simply perpetuate the idea that current consumption patterns need not change.

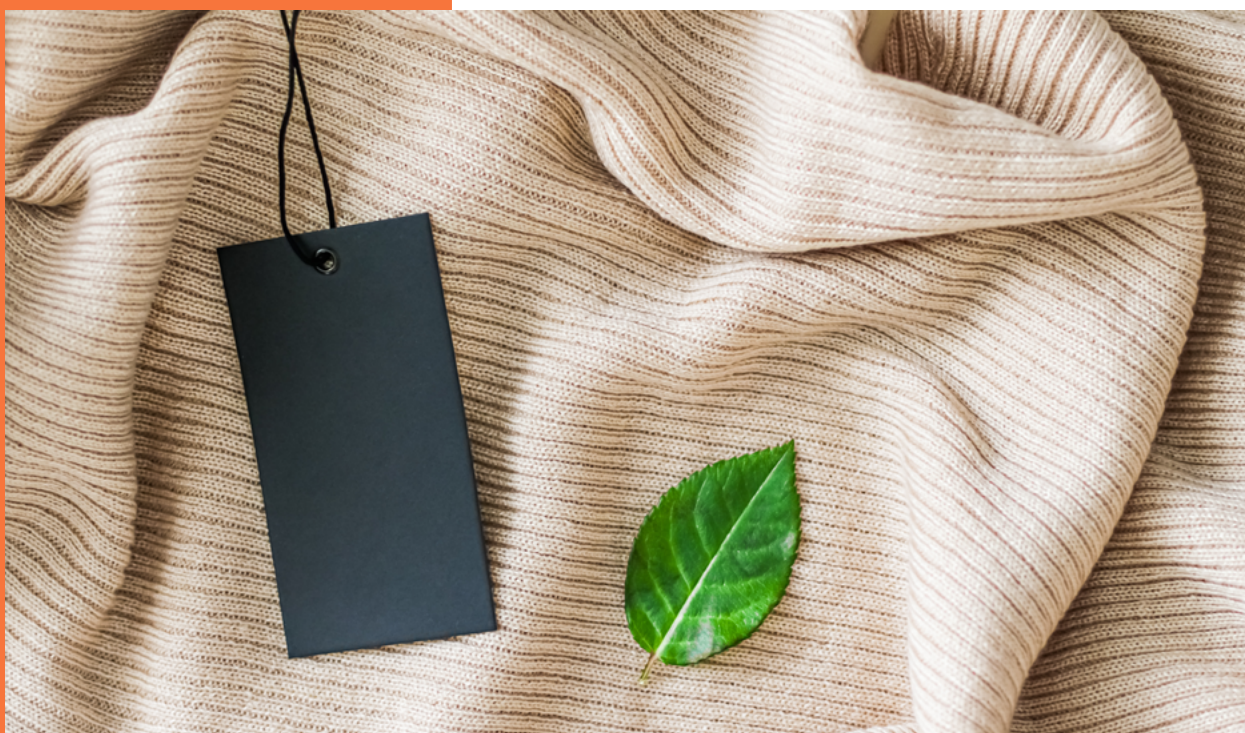
We need stricter regulations on what companies may or may not claim, and how to best share this information with consumers – the only way to ensure that sustainable practices and products truly get the recognition they deserve.

In 2024, ECOS will focus on

- **Circular economy assessment and reporting methodologies.** With circular economy gaining momentum, companies are increasingly embracing

and promoting their understanding of circularity. As you read this, EU corporate reporting standards and international circularity assessment methodologies are being agreed.

- The type of circularity data companies report will determine where companies focus their resources, investors direct their capital, and how policymakers develop legislation. It is a critical moment to ensure these laws and standards reflect an ambitious view of circularity. ECOS will work to shape circularity reporting through EU and international reporting standards.
- **Green claims.** Regulators are finally developing mandatory requirements on how to make green claims. ECOS will ensure ambitious legislation, which will, in turn, guarantee that consumers are provided with information that is reliable, relevant and clear.
- Influence the EU Carbon Removal Certification Framework Expert Group to ensure a hierarchy of decarbonisation solutions is put in place.
- Contribute to the revision of the international GHG emissions and removals quantification standards to ensure corporate climate claims and transition plans are strengthened and 1.5°C-aligned.





Our activities in 2024

- Shape circularity reporting through EU and international circular economy reporting standards, including within the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group – EFRAG and ISO TC 323 59020 on Measuring Circularity.
- Push our vision of what a true circular economy is in the development of international circularity standards (ISO TC 323 59004), meant to provide circular economy definitions, which have the potential to be used worldwide.
- Advocate for comprehensive EU circular economy disclosure requirements in key sectors, including chemicals, construction, textiles, packaging, transport and more.
- Influence the development of international corporate reporting standards as they expand their guidance to specific sectors such as plastics and textiles.
- Push for ambitious legislation on claims and certification schemes, notably the EU Green Claims Directive.
- Influence the development of the EU Digital Product Passport to improve the sharing of sustainability data across value chains.
- Promote effective enforcement practices such as pre-approval of claims and voluntary labels in the EU.

Our projects





OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

Nature health

Protecting and restoring nature health through robust accounting enshrined in law

The triple planetary crisis we are faced with today – climate change, pollution and nature and biodiversity loss – stems from an unsustainable pressure on nature and its resources, driven by unsustainable production and consumption.

We need to act, replacing our carbon tunnel vision with a holistic one, which will prioritise protection of human and ecological health, at the same time putting an end to biodiversity breakdown..

Protect, reduce, restore

Enabling healthy and thriving ecosystems is an absolute priority for ECOS, and an area we have been working to develop, given the key role standards play in it.

We work to protect and restore biodiversity, enhance the recognition of ecosystems, at the same time improving ecological health, including soil, air and water health.



To achieve this, we need to ensure that robust laws and standards promote an absolute reduction of pressure on nature.

We need sustainable, fair, long-term use of what nature can provide – and these practices should be supported by an economy which is restorative, regenerative, and distributive by intention and by design, supported by highest environmental sustainability standards. We also need to ensure that our definitions, targets and methodologies push for reducing pollution and resource consumption.

In 2024, ECOS will focus its efforts on three areas

- **Soil health**, because the EU is currently drafting key legislation and we need to make sure the plan is ambitious and backed up by solid definitions and indicators that could take stock from the ones currently being developed in ISO standards.
- **Biodiversity**, with the aim to see ambitious rules and targets set up in legislation, supported by robust biodiversity assessments that facilitate monitoring and reporting on biodiversity, and stay away from greenwashing.



2021-2030
decade of ecological
restoration



We're experiencing
6th mass extinction
in geological history



**90% of natural
disasters** are linked to
the **climate crisis**

- **Putting an end to carbon offsets or climate neutrality claims**, which risk delaying effective climate action, and perpetuate unsustainable business models. We will work towards robust carbon accounting, and policies that target emissions reduction rather than compensation.



Our activities in 2024

- Advocate for an ambitious soil health framework, with challenging targets to protect and restore soil health, while contributing to the development of a series of ISO standards that will provide the definitions, methodologies and metrics to support policy making.
- Push for a better recognition and accounting of impacts on soil and biodiversity including in forests and farms, also in lifecycle analysis tools, notably the EU Product Environmental Footprint, since these tools are backing policy decisions to promote one practice over another.
- Push policymakers to address biodiversity loss through legislation, robust reporting obligations, but also implementable methodologies, indicators and measurements, ensuring greenwashing is eliminated.
- Ensure a spillover effect of ambitious Nature Restoration Law principles and measures into other pieces of legislation and standards (such as those governing key value chains like textiles and the forestry sector).

Who we work with

OUR WORK AREAS

In addition to our carefully selected priorities, in 2024 we will work on a broad range of necessary environmental areas. You will find an overview of these below.

Climate Change & Energy

- Sustainable buildings
- Decarbonised energy-intensive industries
- Renewable, efficient & resilient energy supply
- Decarbonised & efficient energy consumption



Environmental Transparency

- Guiding the market & eliminating greenwashing
- Credible environmental assessment
- Communicating environmental impacts

Sustainable Production & Consumption

- Plastics & packaging
- Textiles & furniture
- Electronics & batteries
- Construction products
- Designing chemicals & waste out

Nature Protection & Restoration

- Forest, land and agriculture
- Measuring soil health & biodiversity loss
- Bio-based products

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