



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



CONTENTS



3 ABOUT ECOS

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

4 FOREWORD

A few words from Justin Wilkes, our Executive Director



21 OUR MEMBERS

22 OUR PEOPLE



25 OUR ALLIANCES AND CAMPAIGNS

26 OUR FUNDERS

We are grateful for the trust placed in us by our funders, who support our activities and make our work possible.

27 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



5 2025 IN NUMBERS

6 KEY MOMENTS

Take a look at our 2025 timeline - key milestones, new developments, impactful events and more!



10 OUR IMPACT

From mainstreaming ecodesign to growing our impact in Africa, to reducing marine plastic pollution and pushing for mandatory Green Public Procurement – 2025 brought many exciting developments.

20 PUBLICATIONS

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.

HOW DO WE WORK?

For over 25 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 over 60 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

Against a backdrop of political shifts, competing interests, and the stark realities of a changing climate, 2025 was demanding in many ways. **We faced a more polarised political environment, with increasing challenges to global cooperation.**

At the regional level, the EU moved to dismantle important environmental protections that support our health, our economy, and our wellbeing.

While Africa continues to experience severe and disproportionate climate impacts, the push for the green transition of the continent seems to consolidate through key developments such as the African Leaders Declaration on Climate Change.

Amidst all this, science is clear, and alarming: we are experiencing a triple planetary crisis, and have exceeded seven out of nine planetary boundaries.

In 2025, we worked to highlight that environmental ambition is an effective stepping stone for long-term competitiveness. A green industrial transformation can help in this journey if and only if it also safeguards natural resources, biodiversity, social justice, and environmental health.

We secured many victories from mainstreaming ecodesign, to highlighting the importance of green public procurement, to impactful work on material efficiency standards, working from both the Brussels headquarters and our Africa office, which had some first tangible impacts in 2025.

I would like to thank our staff – without their energy, expertise, and dedication we would not be where we are today. We are also profoundly grateful to the ECOS network - our experts, members, Board, partners, and funders - for their continuous support, and tireless work towards a more sustainable future.

“**In 2025, we worked to highlight that environmental ambition is an effective stepping stone for long-term competitiveness.**”



2025 IN NUMBERS



KEY MOMENTS

JANUARY

Our new Strategy 2030 kicks off

Solutions to our environmental challenges exist and are attainable – but we have no time to lose. Our new Strategy ensures that ECOS is equipped to deliver impact over the next five years.

[Learn more](#) >

We set the tone for the year

Our annual work programme revolves around five key priorities: clean energy, industrial decarbonisation, circular economy, environmental transparency and nature health.

[Read more](#) >

Inclusive standards on the agenda

ECOS Executive Director Justin Wilkes speaks at the High-level Forum on European Standardisation meeting.



FEBRUARY

ECOS joins the first meeting of the EU Ecodesign Forum

As a newly appointed member of the Forum, we contribute to the discussions around the first working plan.

[Learn more](#) >

APRIL

A milestone for ECOS and for ecodesign in the EU: First ESPR Working Plan

We are thrilled to see tangible progress towards the phase-out of the worst-performing products from the EU market.

[See more](#) >



Focus on textiles – in the EU and Africa

In our report we reimagine a textiles sector that uses fewer resources and ensures dignity and social justice for all. At the same time, our Africa office works to define recommendations on how to reduce the impacts of textile overproduction.

[Read our report](#) > [Learn more](#) >

MARCH

Webinar on tackling greenwashing: Best practices from Africa and Europe

Together with our Cameroonian member ACDESPE, we organise a webinar to facilitate the exchange of knowledge on tackling greenwashing.

[Watch here](#) >

ECOS welcomes two new members

Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE) and Earthworks join the ECOS network, bringing it to 60 members.

[View all our members](#) >



MAY

Focus on repair

We organise two online events to discuss the standardisation of repairability, and how to tackle the issue of expensive spare parts.



[Watch here](#) >

[Watch here](#) >

Buy Better to Build Better – launch of our new coalition on green public procurement

Industry, business associations, public authorities, and civil society unite in a new ECOS-led coalition calling for green public procurement to drive sustainable construction through smarter public spending in the EU.

[Learn more](#) >

JUNE

ECOS members, experts and partners meet for our Network Days

Packed with stimulating exchanges, learning about standards, as well as networking, the two days are key in shaping priorities for the ECOS network.

[Read more](#) >

Celebrating the African Day of Standardisation

ECOS joins the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO) and other key stakeholders to celebrate the African Day of Standardisation.

[Read our joint article](#) >



AUGUST

Plastics Treaty work continues

ECOS is present at the INC 5 Plastics Treaty negotiations, voicing concerns about the slow progress of the work.



[See more](#) >

Towards more durable appliances, one standard at a time

A new European standard, full of contributions from ECOS, introduces a new testing methodology to measure the longevity of washing machines, and is a step towards unlocking the full load of environmental and consumer benefits.

[Read more](#) >

JULY

European standards: Inclusive, fit for purpose, and environmentally ambitious

The revision of the European Standardisation Regulation kicks off with a call for evidence, and we propose targeted improvements to help address existing challenges effectively.

[Read more](#) >

ECOS Africa at ARSO General Assembly

We take part in a panel on renewable energy, sustainability standards, and certification – our first opportunity to directly engage with African national standardisation bodies and other regional standardisation organisations on a continental platform.

[See more](#) >

SEPTEMBER

How data centre expansion risks derailing climate goals

In our new report, written with Open Future, we analyse the environmental impacts of data centres, the solutions, and the possible EU policy responses.

[Read our report](#) >

We welcome two new members

INCIEN and Protect the Forest join the ECOS network, bringing it to 62 members.

[View all our members](#) >



OCTOBER

Unpacking the EU's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation

We host an expert webinar to discuss how standards will play an essential role in implementing the goals of the PPWR.

[Watch here](#) >

World Standards Day 2025

World Standards Day focuses on the power of partnership and the impact of working together, and we highlight how the expertise from civil society organisations helps make standards fit for purpose, planet and people.

[Read more](#) >

[Share](#) >

NOVEMBER

ECOS Africa on addressing the global e-waste crisis

We participate in important discussions on e-waste with our partners in Africa to mark International E-waste Day.

[Read more](#) >



Setting the standard for inclusiveness in the EU standardisation system

Together with partners from CEN and CENELEC, ANEC, SBS and ETUC, we organise a debate on how to make sure European standards are developed in an inclusive way, balancing private and public interests.

[Take a look](#) >

Dual legal basis for EU Circular Economy Act

We mobilise over 50 businesses and organisations to write to EU leaders to call for a dual legal basis for the Circular Economy Act, incorporating environmental protection as well as internal market considerations.

[Read our letter](#) >

[Read our position](#) >

ISO Annual Meeting in Kigali

ECOS stresses that ISO's 2030 goals and climate commitment should be driven forward and implemented – to strengthen effective engagement of civil society for better development of standards.

[Read more](#) >



DECEMBER

UNEA-7: Shaping an ambitious global environmental agenda

We take part in the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly as accredited NGO observers, contributing to two key resolutions: on sustainable use of AI and sound management of chemicals and waste.

[Read more](#) >

We call for inclusiveness to be reinforced as part of the revised Standardisation Regulation

Standards can accelerate environmental innovation and foster competitiveness - if they are developed with input from environmental organisations and wider civil society.

[Read more](#) >

[Check our response](#) >

“We secured many victories from mainstreaming ecodesign, to highlighting the importance of green public procurement, to impactful work on material efficiency standards, working from both the Brussels headquarters and our Africa office, which had some first tangible impacts in 2025.”

OUR IMPACT

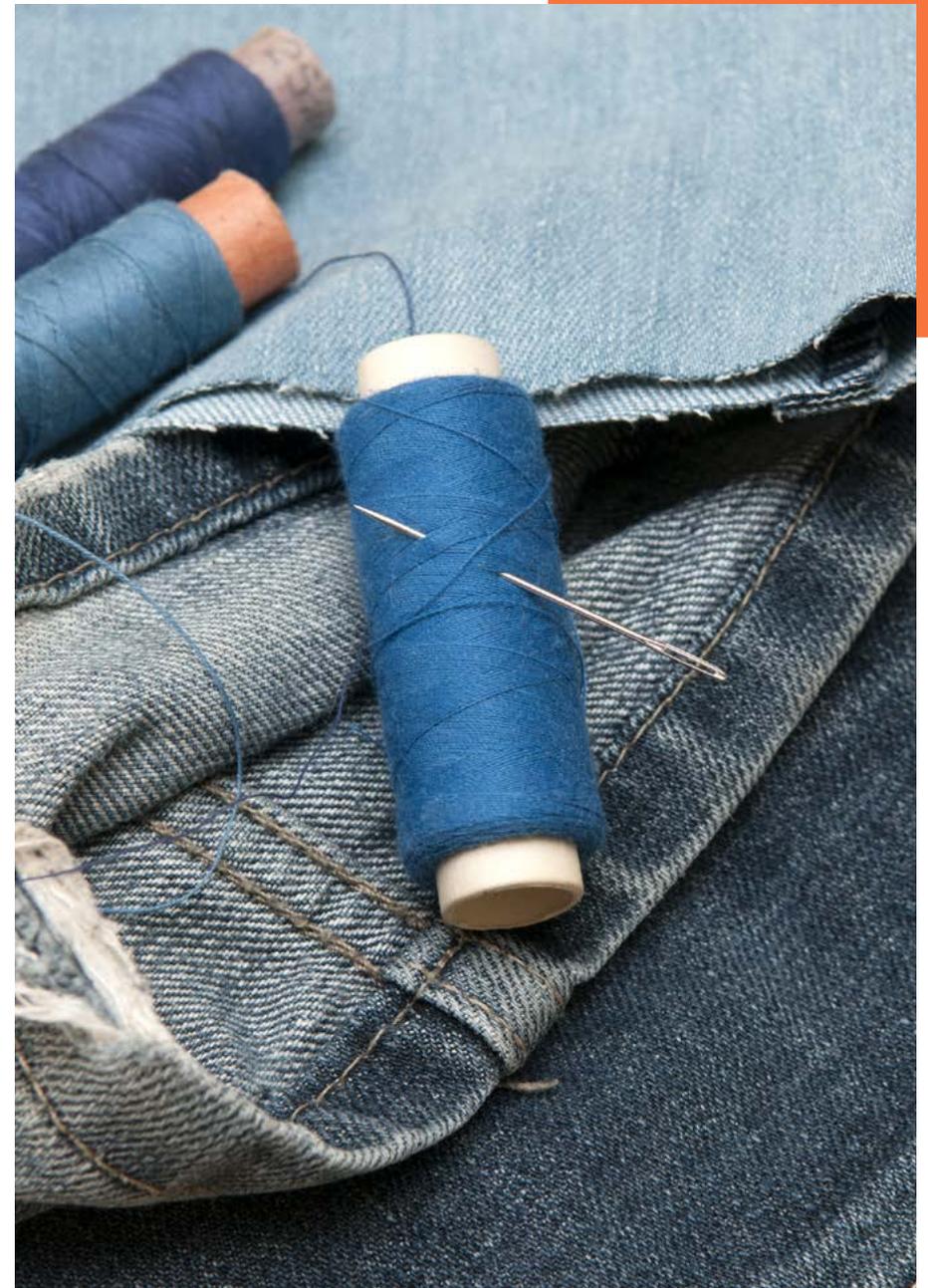
Making ecodesign a success in Europe

At the beginning of 2025, ECOS was appointed a member of the EU's Ecodesign Forum, and we wasted no time in working to fulfil the potential of this new and ambitious piece of EU legislation, which holds the key to pushing polluting goods off the market.

[Read more](#) 

The difference we made

We helped ensure that several high-impact products made it to the first **ESPR Working Plan**, which also introduced one of our long-standing asks: horizontal measures for repairability, recyclability, and recycled content in electronics. In addition, we brought attention to very important issues and sectors such as chemicals, plastics, and footwear.



OUR IMPACT

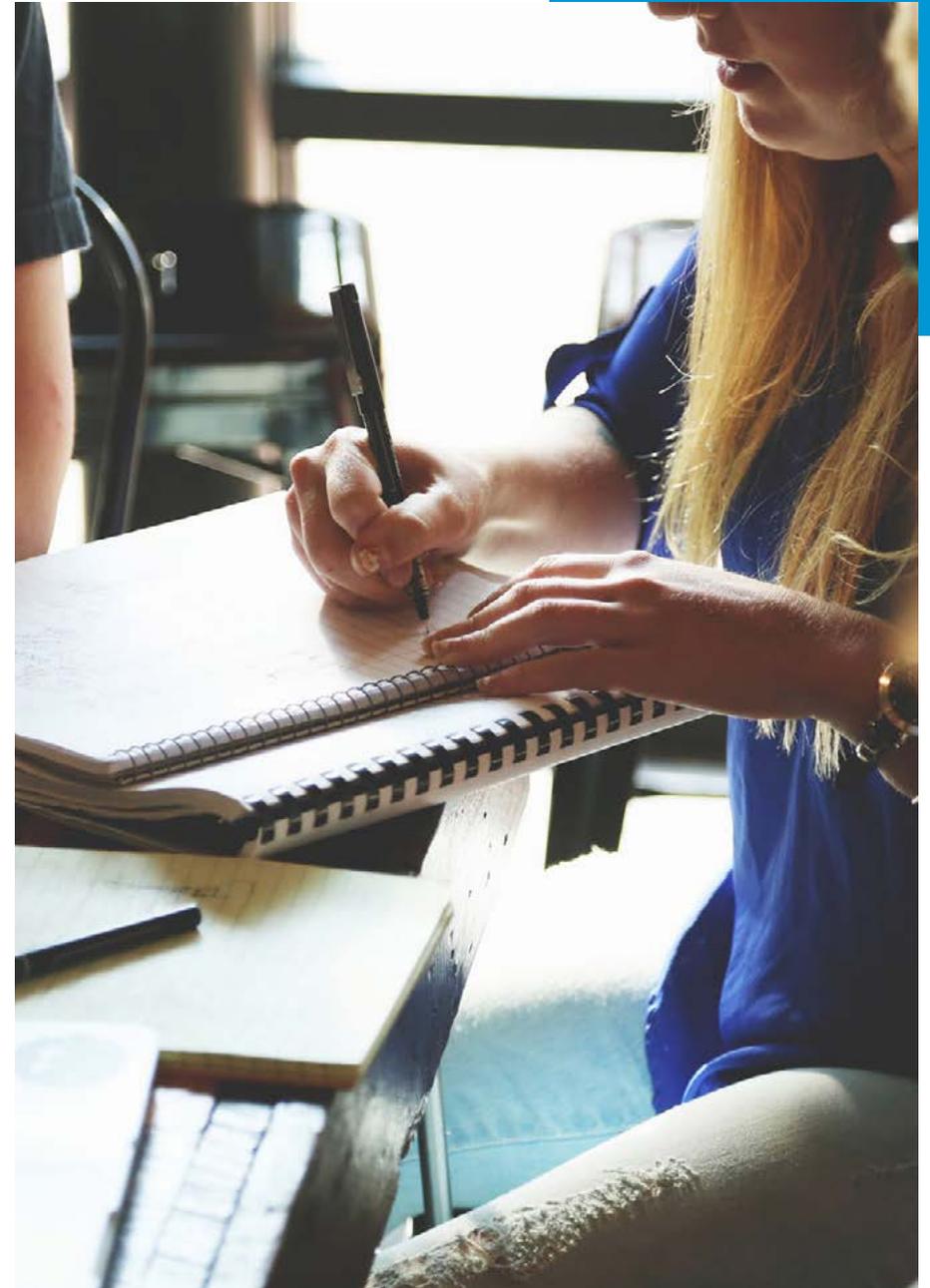
Access granted? An inclusive approach to standards-making

Standards are more than just a market tool, they directly impact people and the environment, which means an inclusive and multi-stakeholder approach that involves civil society experts is essential to develop them. Inclusive processes, supported by reliable and sufficient resourcing, are the only way to ensure that civil society can participate on equal terms, bringing balance, legitimacy, and real-life insight into standardisation.

[Read more](#) >

The difference we made

We increased eNGO engagement in standards-making in a number of EU Member States, and ensured a strong voice within the European Standardisation System, including work within the High-Level Forum on EU Standardisation, as well as many events. **We partnered with the African Organisation for Standardisation**, bringing more visibility on the benefits of including environmental stakeholders in regional standards-making, and worked closely with ISO, IEC and the ITU, highlighting the importance of inclusiveness in standardisation.



OUR IMPACT

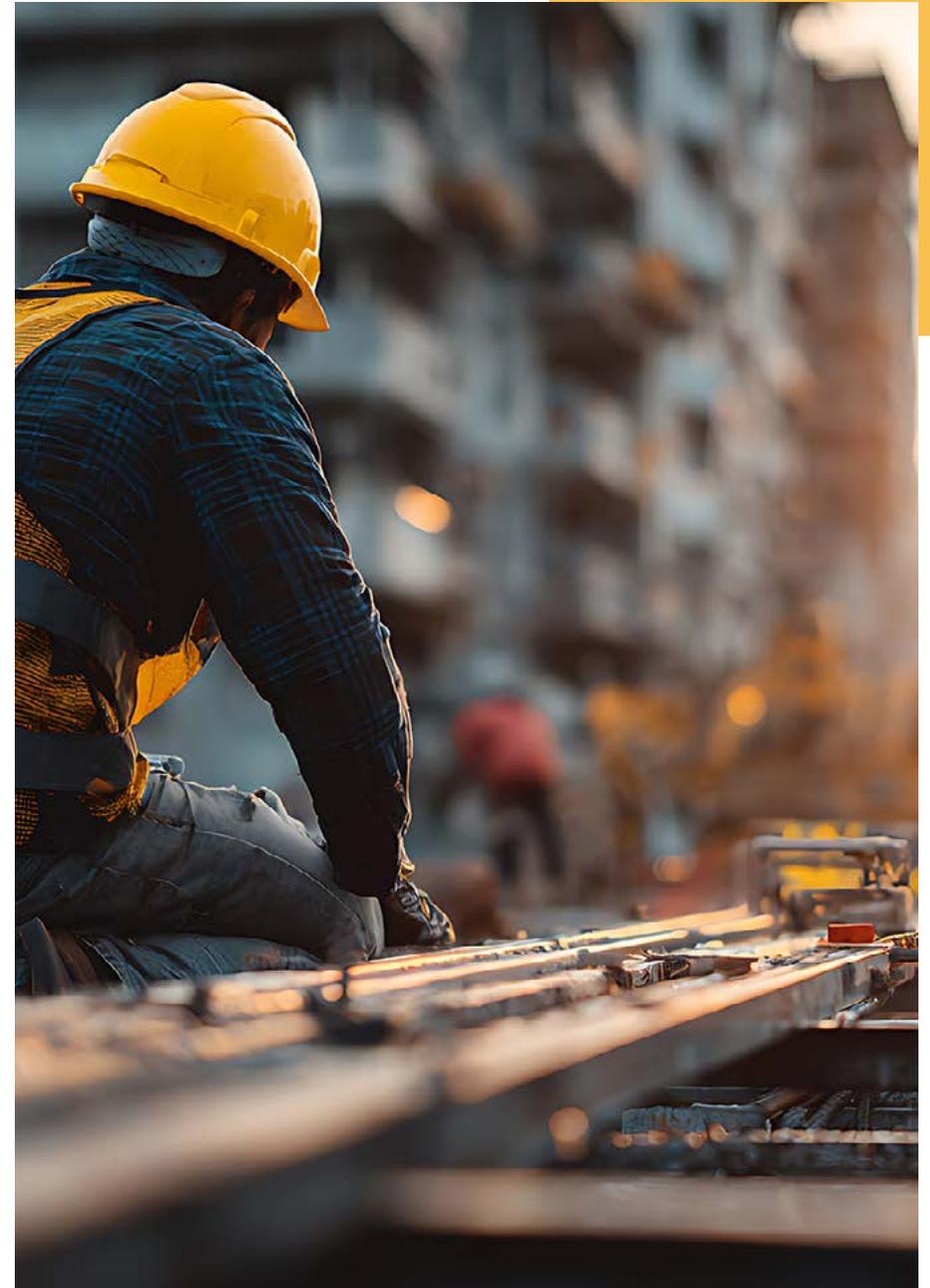
Driving a 2030 vision for green public procurement

Europe's 250,000+ public authorities can leverage their purchasing power to support decarbonisation efforts. With 31% of the construction sector's purchases tied to public projects, it is the perfect place to start. If done well, green public procurement could lower emissions by over 40%.

[Read more](#) 

The difference we made

Our work showed policymakers that **green public procurement in the construction sector can and should be mainstreamed across Europe** – fostering decarbonisation and contributing to a competitive economy. We also brought **37 stakeholders together from across industry, civil society and think tanks, to form the Buy Better to Build Better (BBBB) coalition** – and showcase that green public procurement is widely supported.



OUR IMPACT

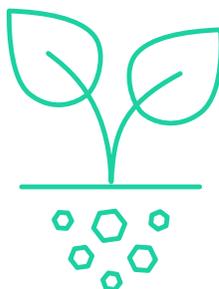
New EU-wide rules to support healthier soils

Soils provide essential ecosystem services that are at the basis of our health and economy - they play a key role in food production, carbon storage, as well as preventing floods and erosion. Yet up to 70% of soils in the EU are degrading, and as soils are lost, European farmers, foresters, and ultimately society at large lose resilience and competitiveness.

[Read more](#) >

The difference we made

We helped secure the EU Soil Monitoring Law, an essential step for improving the harmonisation of data collection and monitoring of soil health status. **We also heavily contributed to the upcoming international Soil Quality standard**, working towards the best possible outcome for the environment.



OUR IMPACT

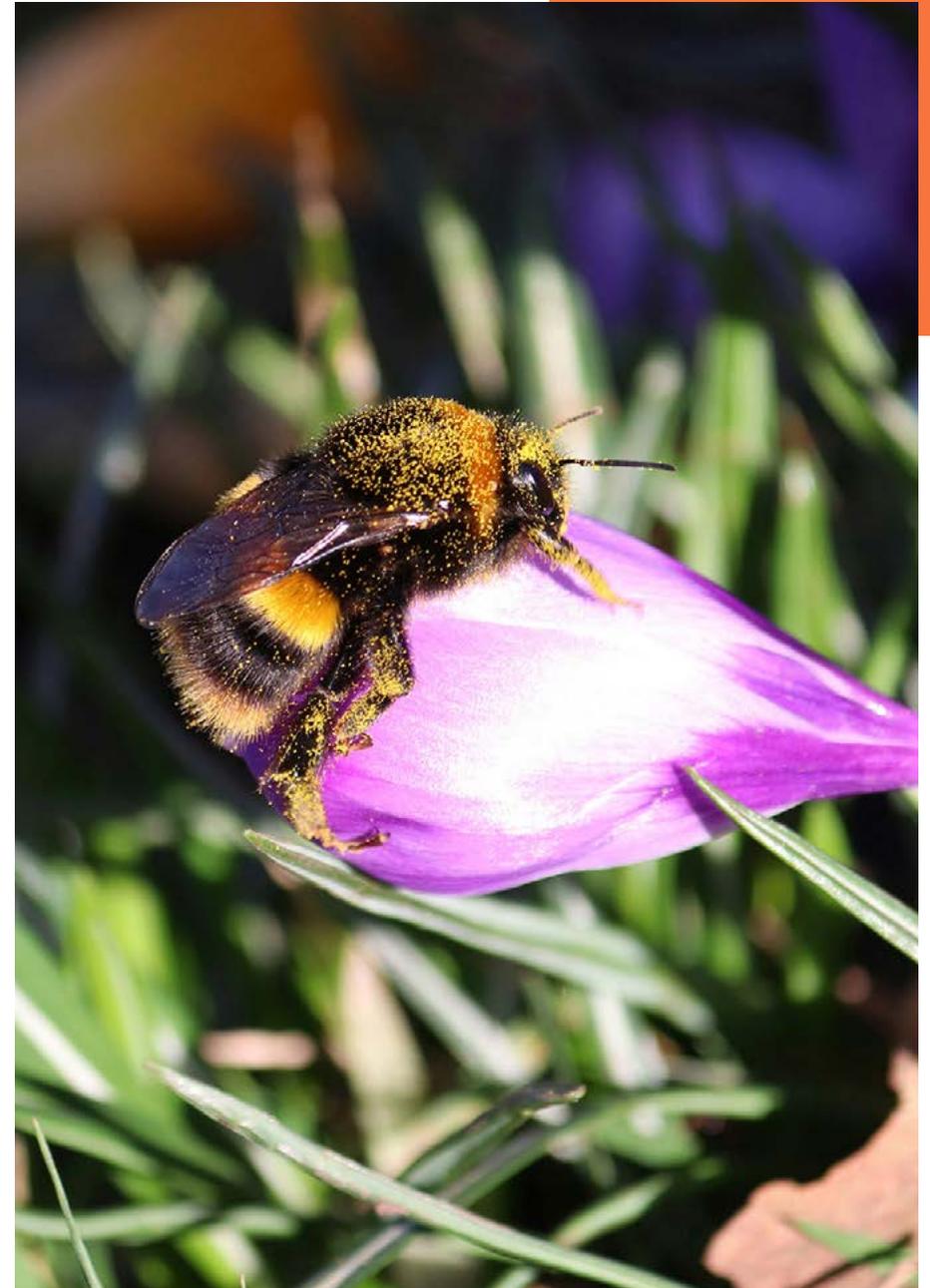
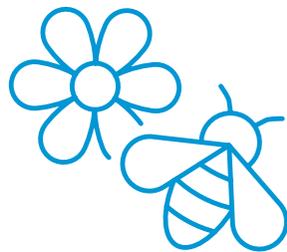
Addressing biodiversity with standards

ECOS is a key voice when it comes to biodiversity standards: in 2025 we worked to raise the level of ambition of key standards meant to ensure ecosystem protection and restoration.

[Read more](#) >

The difference we made

We helped shape the first-ever ISO 17298 standard on biodiversity, pushing for a real commitment to driving positive change for biodiversity and local communities. We also ensured that biodiversity standards do not frame progress against low baselines, bringing the focus back to preventing harm, avoiding irreversible impacts, and respecting ecological thresholds.



OUR IMPACT

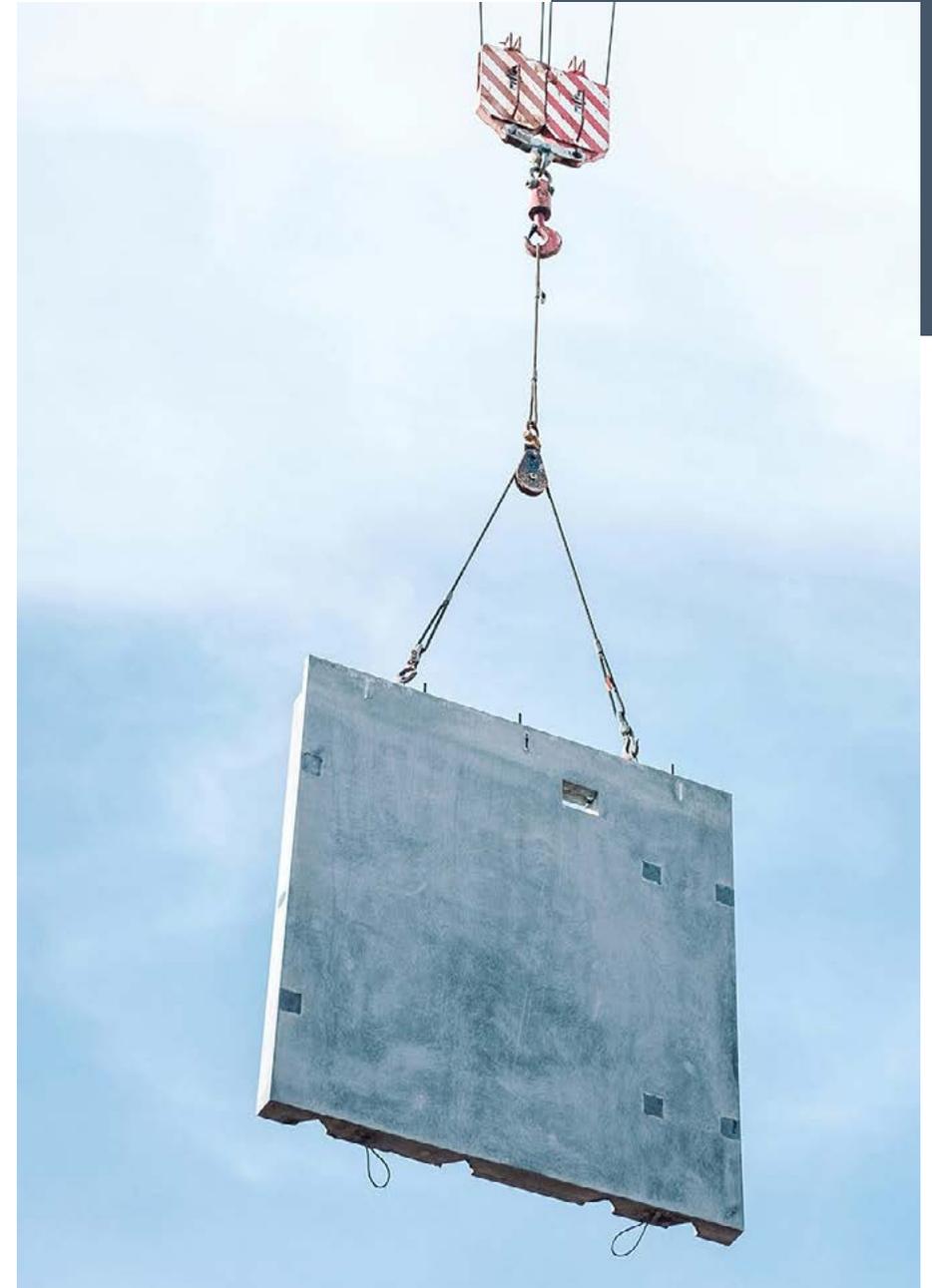
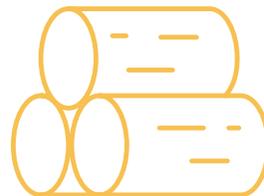
Managing what is measured: Making Environmental Product Declarations better

With approximately 97% of the EU building stock to be upgraded, sufficiency and proactive material selection are necessary to reduce resource extraction and embodied carbon in the construction sector. However, we can only choose sustainable materials if information on the environmental performance of products is reliable and comparable.

[Read more](#) >

The difference we made

We ensured that the Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) behind Environmental Product Declarations will be more comparable and accurate. **By pushing for a unified database of environmental information and keeping dubious Chain of Custody (CoC) models out of EPDs**, our efforts tightened the reins on greenwashing of construction products.



OUR IMPACT

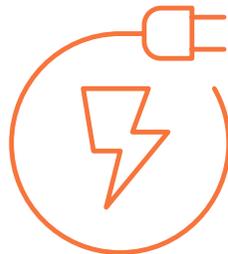
Making smart devices more flexible

Demand-side flexibility is a key ingredient of the EU's energy transition, making widescale electrification a reality by coordinating how and when large devices such as heat pumps, electric vehicle batteries (and their chargers), solar panels, and stationary batteries use the most electricity. ECOS advocates for the best tools to help protect the grid, unlock energy savings, and maximise the use of renewables.

[Read more](#) >

The difference we made

We ensured important gains in standardisation to make demand-side flexibility more future-proof and interoperable – and ready to be deployed in the real world. We also helped to make sure that all new and renovated EV charging stations apply the ISO 15118-20 standard, making them capable of bidirectional charging and ensuring a better EV charging experience in general.



OUR IMPACT

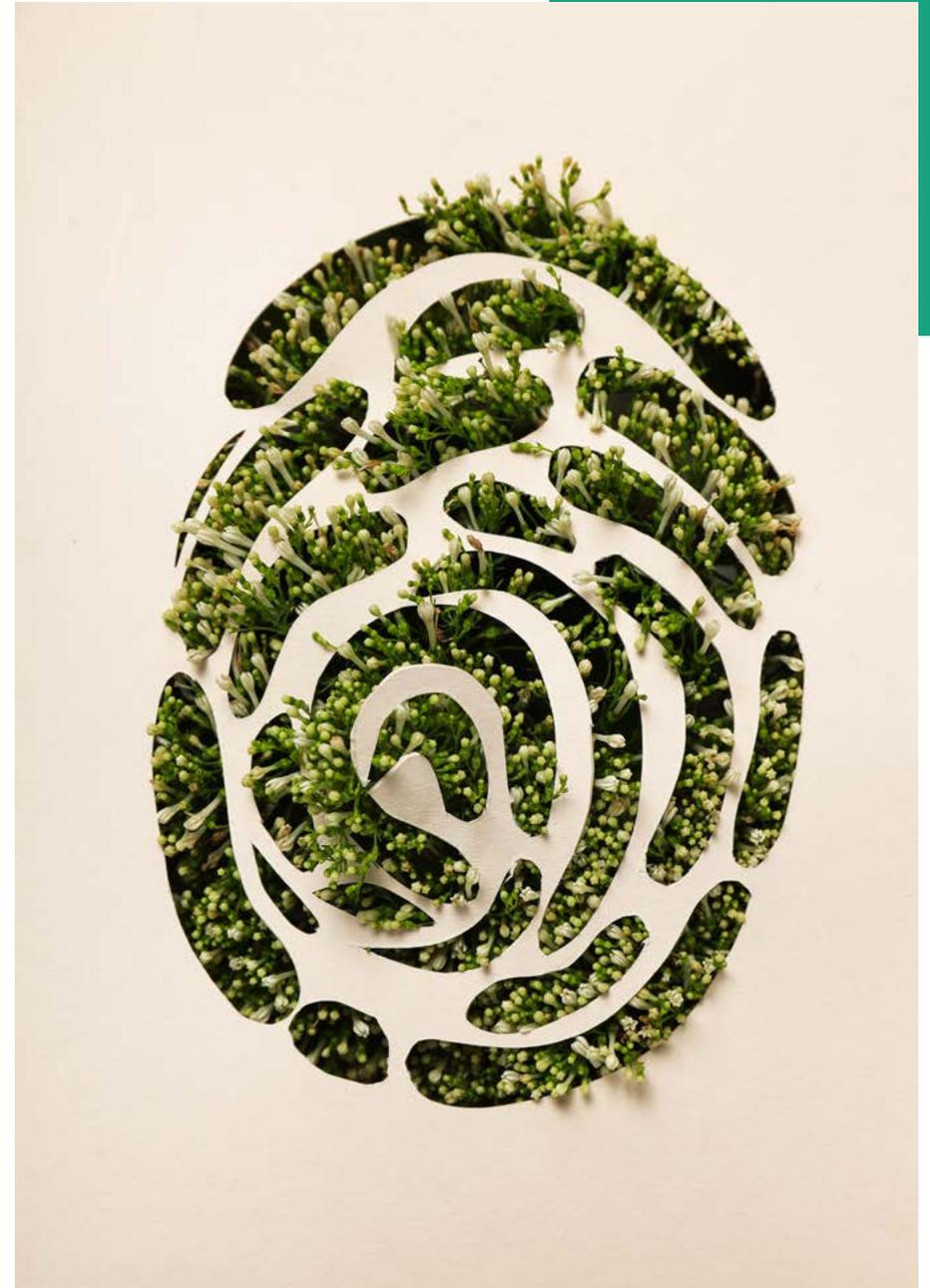
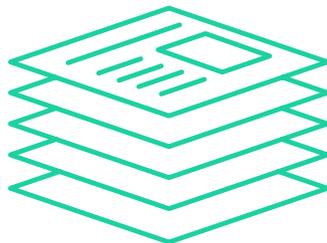
Rooting carbon accounting techniques in reality

Over 1000 organisations globally have committed to or have already set net zero targets. With unique expertise on carbon accounting techniques and standardisation processes, ECOS continues to be a leading voice in the global debate that will determine if these commitments are translated into real and deep emissions reductions.

[Read more](#) 

The difference we made

Key climate target-setting and carbon accounting standards are currently being reviewed. **ECOS works to ensure that they contribute to real decarbonisation efforts.** Without us, carbon removals and offsetting could have been accepted as viable alternatives to real reductions.



OUR IMPACT

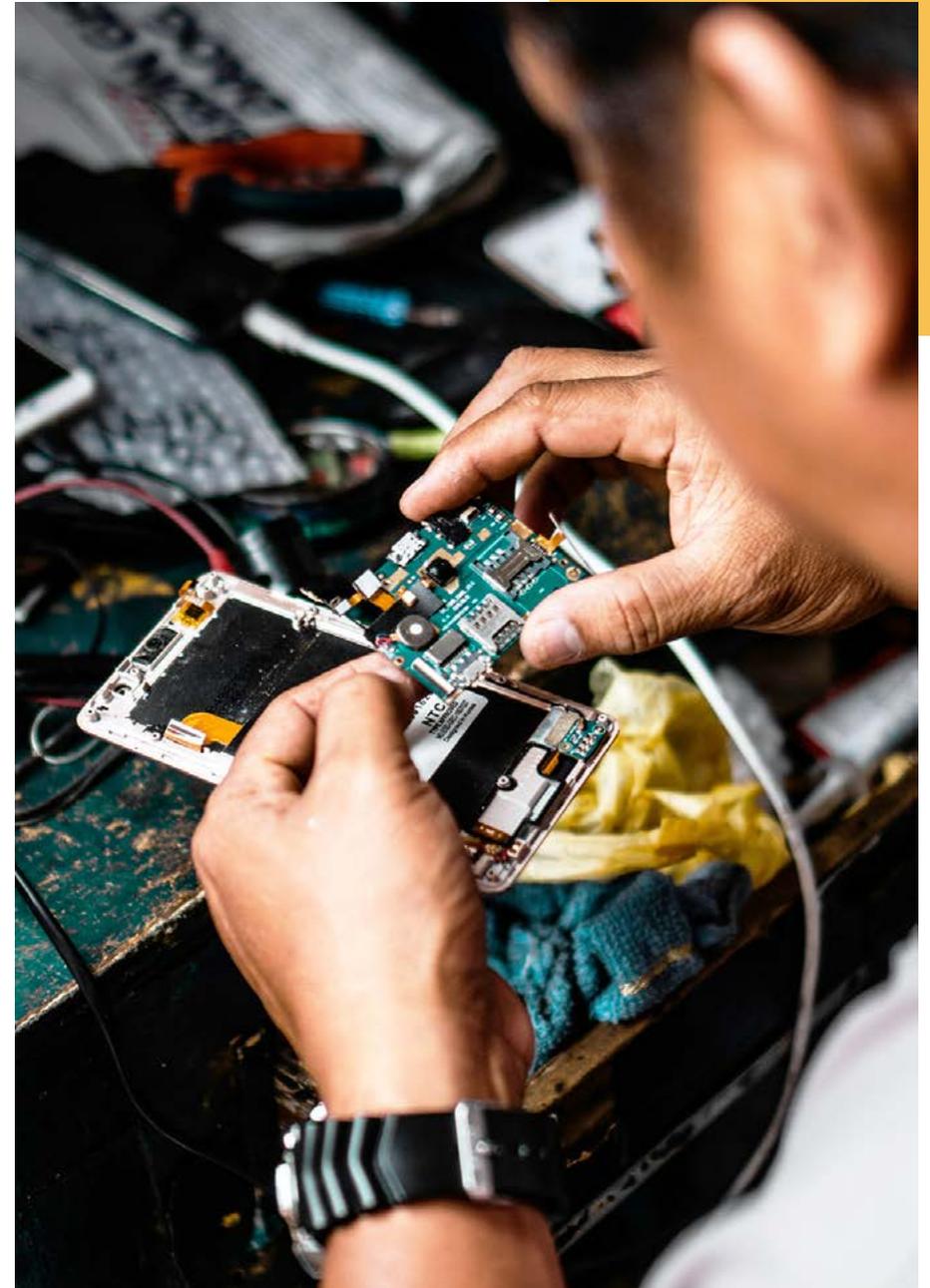
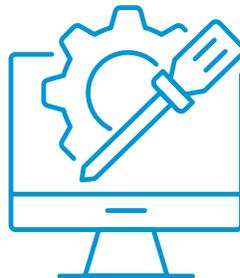
We set the bar high for energy-using products that last

Our homes and workplaces are full of energy-using products – from phones and tablets, computers and printers, servers, to washing machines. In 2025, ECOS work on material efficiency helped to prolong the life of these products, saving energy for the planet and money for consumers.

[Read more](#) >

The difference we made

We pushed for an EU-level methodology that scores the durability of products, and made sure that **repairability and reusability remained an important part of new standards on servers and data storage products**. We also helped make the EPEAT label on the sustainable use of resources more ambitious.



OUR IMPACT

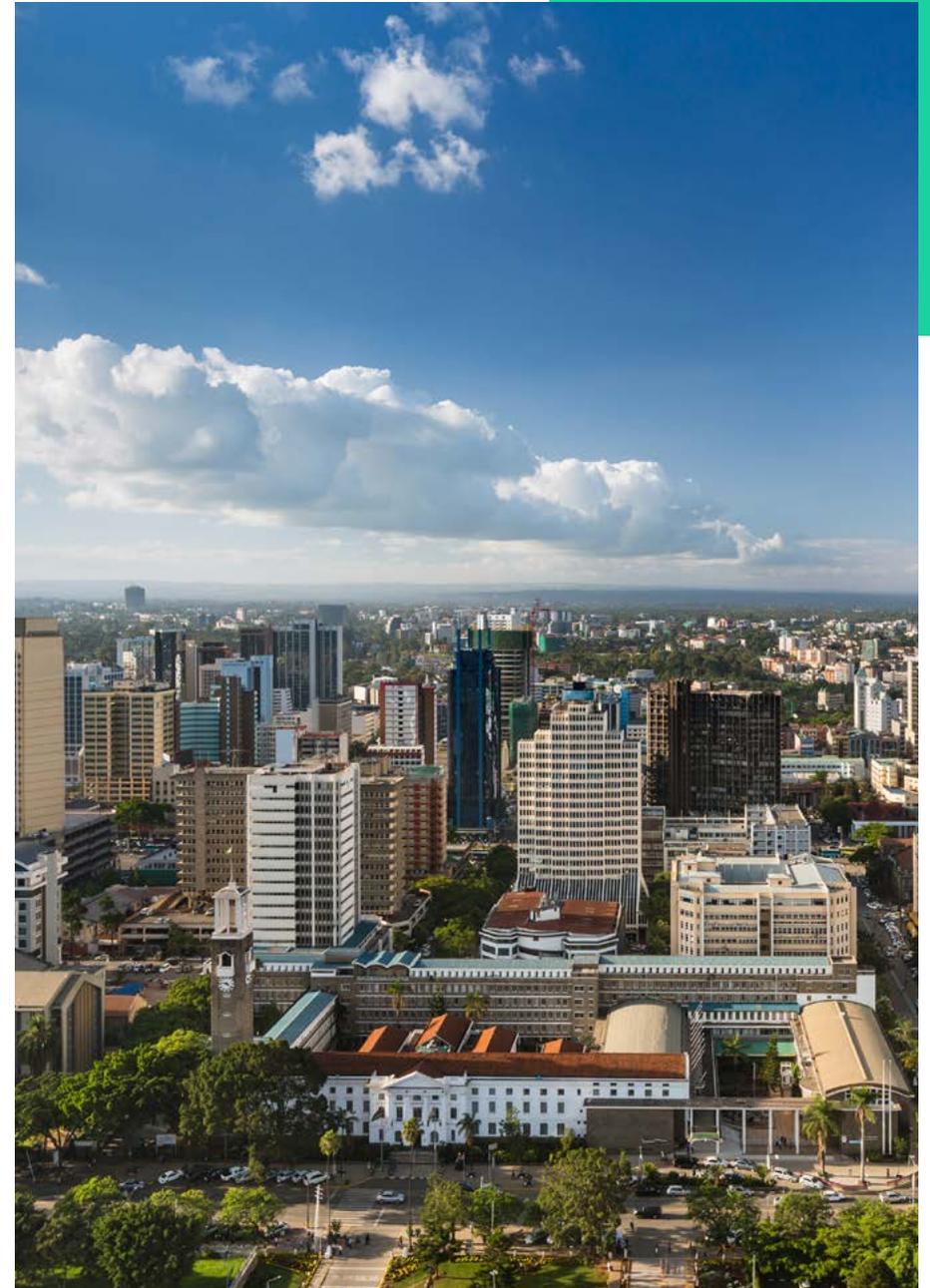
ECOS Africa: Making a greater impact

The ECOS regional office in Nairobi, Kenya is shifting from programme design to implementation, with new and expanded partnerships, projects, and topics that reinforce our work towards global standards and policies with strong environmental principles.

[Read more](#) 

The difference we made

We established a solid regional presence, working with members, experts, and partners to promote the best solutions to environmental challenges affecting the African region, **creating more visibility on the benefits of including environmental stakeholders and civil society in standards making.**



PUBLICATIONS

ENERGY TRANSITION

- [Factsheet](#) | Trading raw materials responsibly
- [Report and Infographic](#) | How data centre expansion risks derailing climate goals
- [Factsheet](#) | How to decarbonise heating and cooling by 2030
- [Position](#) | ECOS vision for a successful EU Electrification Action Plan

STANDARDISATION

- [Recommendations](#) | Greater civil society and SME inclusion in international standardisation (High Level Forum on European Standardisation)
- [Factsheet](#) | An inclusive approach to European standards-making

CIRCULAR ECONOMY & SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS

- [Report](#) | Circling forward to sustainability: Unlocking the full potential of circularity to drive the green transition

Plastics

- [Analysis](#) | EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR)
- [Joint paper](#) | Scrutinising scientific standards: Sustainability criteria for plastics recycling technologies
- [Joint paper](#) | How EU Member States can slash waste when implementing new packaging rules

Textiles

- [Report](#) | Less is more: Taking a sufficiency approach in EU textiles policy

Chemicals

- [Factsheet](#) | How can standards help protect us from harmful chemicals?

ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSPARENCY

- [Factsheet](#) | Trade low-carbon steel, not credits
- [Factsheet](#) | Cemented in reality: Ensuring credible and accurate Chain of Custody models in Environmental Attribute certificates
- [Letter](#) | Businesses and NGOs call on EU to save Green Claims Directive
- [Joint letter](#) | Establishing clear rules on environmental claims to protect consumers and sustainable businesses

NATURE PROTECTION & RESTORATION

- [Infographic](#) | Reusing timber in construction
- [Infographic](#) | Strength grading reclaimed timber in construction
- [Briefing](#) | Shaping the future of sustainable construction
- [Report](#) | Laying the foundations to safely reuse timber in Europe

BUILDINGS & INDUSTRY

- [Report](#) | Beyond bandages: Towards a European Affordable Housing Plan that is fair and sustainable
- [Recommendations](#) | Creating lead markets for the construction sector through effective public procurement
- [Manifesto](#) | A 2030 vision for green public procurement
- [Briefing](#) | Securing robust Environmental Product Declarations

OUR MEMBERS

National member organisations

Austria

- Umweltdachverband
- GLOBAL 2000

Belgium

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

Bulgaria

- Institute for Ecological Modernisation (IEM)

Cameroon

- Association Camerounaise pour le Développement, l'Entraide Sociale et la Protection de l'Environnement (ACDESPE)

Croatia

- DOOR - Society for Sustainable Development Design

Czech Republic

- INCIEN
- Zelený Kruh (Green Circle)

Cyprus

- Terra Cypria – The Cyprus Conservation Foundation

Denmark

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

France

- Zero Waste France
- Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF-France)
- Halte à l'Obsolescence Programmée (HOP)
- Cler Network
- Ethikis

Germany

- Bund Für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND)
- Bundesverband Bürgerinitiativen Umweltschutz (BBU)
- Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR)
- Nature Friends Germany (NaturFreunde Deutschlands)
- Deutsche Umwelthilfe
- Runder Tisch Reparatur

Greece

- Ecocity Greece

Hungary

- Clean Air Action Group (CAAG)

Italy

- Kyoto Club
- Legambiente
- Giacimenti Urbani

Ireland

- Community Reuse Network Ireland (CRNI)

Latvia

- Friends of the Earth Latvia (Zemes Draugi)

International member organisations

- Bellona Europe
- European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- Friends of the Earth Europe (FoEE)
- Health Care Without Harm Europe (HCWH)
- 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)

Lithuania

- Žiedinė ekonomika

Luxembourg

- The Luxembourg Ecological Center (Oekozerter Lëtzebuerg)

Malta

- Circular Economy Malta (CircE)

Netherlands

- Stichting Natuur en Milieu (SNM)
- Leefmilieu

Nigeria

- Pan African Vision for the Environment (PAVE)

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)
- Protect the Forest

Switzerland

- WWF Switzerland

United Kingdom

- Energy Saving Trust (EST)

USA

- Green Science Policy Institute
- Earthworks
- Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
- National Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

OUR PEOPLE

SECRETARIAT

Executive Management Team



Justin Wilkes
Executive Director



Valeria Botta
Programme
Director



Kasia Koniecka
Communications
Director



Olivier Lion
Finance Director



Stefania Macchioni
Operations Director



Nerea Ruiz Fuente
Global Engagement
Director

Programme Department led by Valeria Botta



Emily Best
Programme
Manager



Luka De Bruyckere
Senior Programme
Manager



Thea Lyngseth
Programme
Officer



Federica Pozzi
Senior Programme
Manager



Thomas Trevisan
Programme
Manager



Luca Boniolo
Programme
Manager



Martina Forbicini
Programme
Officer



Stéphane Noel
Technical
Manager



Mathieu Rama
Senior Programme
Manager



Joren Verschaeve
Senior Programme
Manager



Tudor Cherhat
Programme
Manager



Margaux Le Gallou
Senior Programme
Manager



Victor Paschenda
Energy Transition
Trainee



Fanny Rateau
Senior Programme
Manager



Jean-Luc Wietor
Head of Buildings
& Industry



Mathilde Crêpy
Head of
Environmental
Transparency



**Mariana López
Dávila**
Head of Circular
Economy & Nature



Samy Porteron
Senior Programme
Manager



Rita Tedesco
Head of Energy
Transition

SECRETARIAT

Global Engagement Department led by Nerea Ruiz Fuente



Amina Aissani
Senior Programme
Manager



Marxine Waite
Senior Programme
Manager

Communications & Membership Department led by Kasia Koniecka



Lloyd Evans
Communications
Manager



Katarzyna Krok
Communications
Manager



Alison Grace
Senior Press &
Communications
Manager



Cécilia Rolland
Senior Membership
& Network Manager

Operations Department led by Stefania Macchioni



Anna Arcuri
Head of Partnerships
& Development



Chloé Vanacker
HR Manager



Tatiana Restrepo
Operations
Manager



Clara Viñuales
Fundraising &
Grants Officer

Finance Department led by Olivier Lion



Sona Mwenge
Finance Manager

We would also like to acknowledge our colleagues who left in 2025:

- **Marco Grippa**, Programme Manager
- **Mathias Falkenberg**, Programme Manager
- **Chloé Fayole**, Strategy Director
- **Fernando Tartaglia**, Programme Officer
- **Anastasia Tsougka**, Programme Manager
- **Laura Väyrynen**, Programme Manager

Our Trainee:

- **Simone Cimadomo**



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (BOARD)

Julika Dittrich

Independent capacity

President

Robert Brett

Independent capacity

Vice President

Gianmarco Santirocco

CircE

Treasurer

Eva Bille

European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

Emilie Carmichael

Energy Saving Trust

Francisco Ferreira

ZERO

Lucien Mathieu

Transport & Environment (T&E)

Anthi Pournara

Ecocity

Wim Verheugt

Independent capacity



OUR ALLIANCES AND CAMPAIGNS

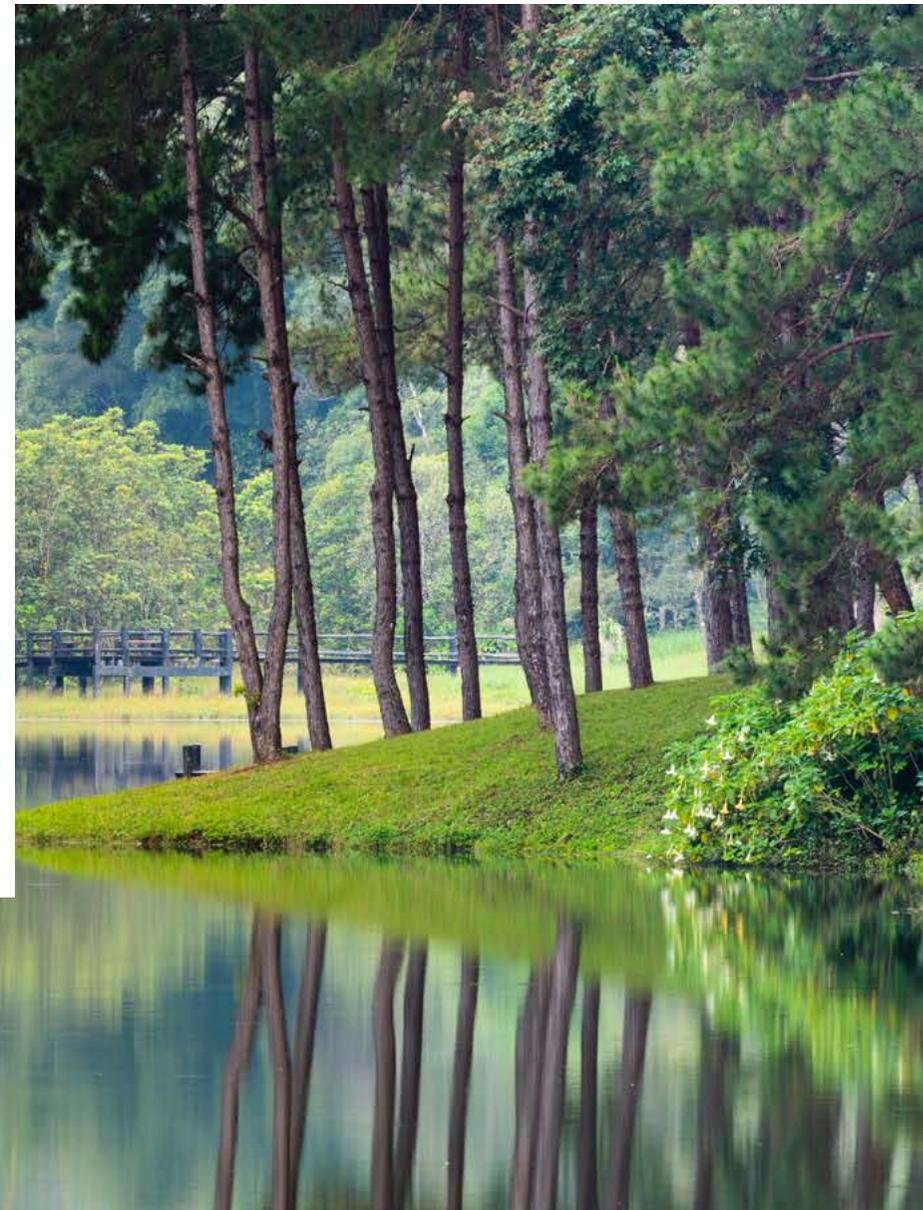
By joining forces with like-minded partners, we maximise our impact, ensuring a cleaner environment for all.



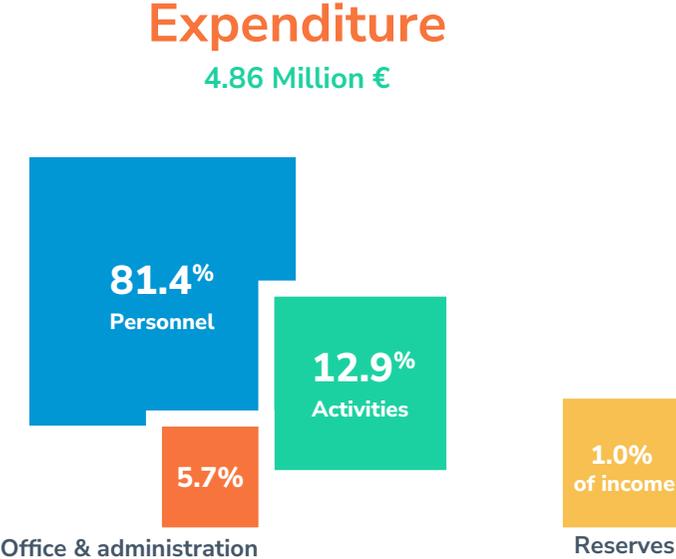
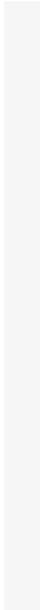
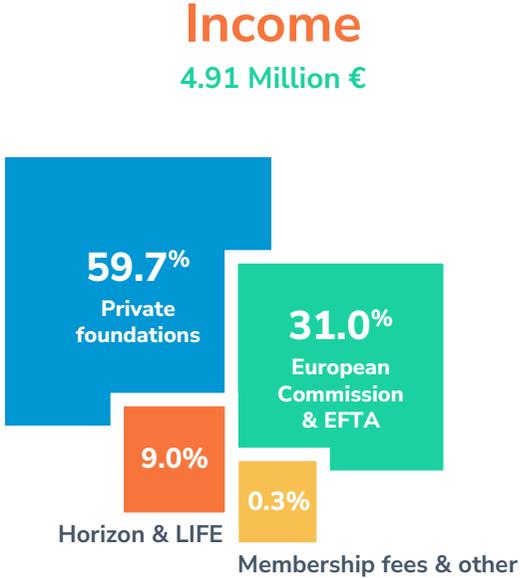
OUR FUNDERS

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
- Broad Reach Foundation
- Built by Nature
- ClientEarth
- ClimateWorks Foundation
- European Climate Foundation
- European Commission
- European Free Trade Association (EFTA)
- Green Screen Coalition
- Horizon Europe, the EU research and innovation programme
- KNU
- Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation
- Laudes Foundation
- Life Programme
- Norwegian Retailers' Environment Fund
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- Plastic Solutions Fund
- TAH Foundation
- Umweltbundesamt



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



The financial information is provisional and subject to audit and AGM approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION ON STANDARDS

ECOS Headquarters

c/o WeWork
Rue du Commerce 31
1000 Brussels
Belgium

T +32 493193766

info@ecostandard.org

www.ecostandard.org

Follow us

 ECOS-NGO

 @ecos.ngo



ECOS is co-funded by the European Commission & EFTA.
Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed
are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily
reflect those of the European Union or EISMEA. Neither
the European Union nor the granting authority can be held
responsible for them.

Images by Freepik, Vecteezy, Shutterstock and Unsplash
Designed by Tokay Digital: www.tokaydigital.com

