

2024 Environmental Statement

Covering the year 2023



EMAS

**VERIFIED
ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**
BE-BXL-000013
FR-000051
LU-000002



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parliament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. K...'.

Updated Environmental Statement pursuant to
Chapter III, 1. and 2., and Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and
of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a community
'Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), as amended by the Commission Regulation (EU)
2017/1505 of 28 August 2017 and the Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 of 19 December 2018

Drafted by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit

Verified by Vinçotte SA (external verifier)

The chapter on recommendations is included in the Environmental Management Review version only
as it is not subject to the external verification.

Last update: 21.05.2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
1. THE EMAS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OF THE PARLIAMENT.....	11
1.1. The European Parliament - key data of the EU institution.....	11
1.2. Background on the EMAS Project in the European Parliament.....	12
1.3. Scope of the EMAS Environmental Management System.....	12
1.4. Buildings Registered under EMAS.....	13
1.5. EMAS Registration.....	14
1.6. Organisational Environmental Context and Climate Change.....	15
1.7. Environmental Policy.....	16
2. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE	18
2.1. Evolution of Environmental Key Performance Indicators.....	18
3. ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS.....	19
3.1. Parliament's Carbon Footprint per FTE.....	21
3.2. CO ₂ e Emissions from Transport of Persons per FTE.....	24
3.2.1. CO ₂ e emissions from travel.....	25
3.2.2. CO ₂ e emissions from commuting.....	27
3.2.3. Impact of teleworking on CO ₂ e emissions from commuting.....	29
3.2.4. Fostering sustainable commuting.....	30
3.3. Energy Consumption - Gas and fuel oil.....	31
3.4. Paper Consumption.....	37
3.5. Water Consumption.....	39
3.6. Recycled waste.....	40
3.7. Non-recycled Waste.....	42
3.8. Food Waste.....	44
3.9. Other Waste Management Indicators and Trends (no target).....	45
3.10. Sustainable Procurement.....	49
3.11. Biodiversity.....	51
4. EMAS AUDITS AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE.....	56
4.1. Internal EMAS Audits.....	56

4.2.	<i>EMAS Legal Audits</i>	57
4.3.	<i>EMAS External Verification Audit</i>	57
4.4.	<i>Legal Registry for Regulatory Compliance</i>	58
4.5.	<i>Environmental Permits</i>	59
5.	EMAS ACTION PLANS	60
5.1.	<i>EMAS Action Plan 2023</i>	60
5.2.	<i>EMAS Communication and Awareness Raising</i>	61
5.2.1.	<i>Reaching out to Parliament staff and youth</i>	62
5.2.2.	<i>EMAS Sustainability Talk on World Meteorological Day</i>	62
5.2.3.	<i>Sharing good practices</i>	63
5.3.	<i>Training</i>	63
5.3.1.	<i>Mandatory training courses</i>	63
5.3.2.	<i>Optional training</i>	64
5.3.3.	<i>On-demand training</i>	64
5.4.	<i>Staff Suggestions on the Environmental Management System</i>	65
5.5.	<i>Environmental Activities of Parliament’s Political Groups</i>	65
5.6.	<i>Inter-institutional EMAS Activities</i>	66
5.6.1.	<i>GIME</i>	66
5.6.2.	<i>Eco-Net</i>	66
5.7.	<i>Cooperation with other Parliaments and Organisations</i>	67
5.8.	<i>Carbon Emission Offsetting</i>	67
6.	GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	69
6.1.	<i>The Bureau</i>	70
6.2.	<i>The Steering Committee for Environmental Management</i>	70
6.3.	<i>Environmental Management Officers and the Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management</i>	71
6.4.	<i>The EMAS and Sustainability Unit</i>	72
6.5.	<i>Political Groups</i>	73
6.6.	<i>Environmental Management Networks</i>	73
7.	DOCUMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	74
7.1.	<i>Environmental Analysis</i>	74
7.2.	<i>Environmental Policy</i>	75

7.3.	<i>Environmental Manual</i>	75
7.4.	<i>Analysis of Environmental Risks and Opportunities</i>	76
7.5.	<i>EMAS Action Plan</i>	77
7.6.	<i>Environmental Management Review</i>	77
7.7.	<i>Environmental Statement</i>	77
7.8.	<i>Compendium of Procedures</i>	77
7.9.	<i>Contacts</i>	78
7.10.	<i>References and Legal Requirements</i>	78
7.11.	<i>Environmental Verifier's Declaration on Verification and Validation Activities</i>	79
8.	ANNEXES	80
	<i>ANNEX I: Scope of the 2023 Carbon Footprint</i>	80
	<i>ANNEX II: Detailed evolution of the carbon footprint</i>	83
	<i>ANNEX III: List of Environmental Permits</i>	86
	<i>ANNEX IV: EMAS Action Plan and SEF projects</i>	88
	<i>ANNEX V: Key Performance Indicators per site</i>	93



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The European Parliament is the EU institution that represents the citizens of the European Union. It is co-legislator on EU legislation, sharing with the Council the power to adopt and amend legislative proposals and to decide on the EU budget. The European Parliament also scrutinises the work of the European Commission and other EU bodies and cooperates with national parliaments of EU countries to obtain their input. It is composed of 705 directly elected Members from 27 Member States. This number will increase to 720 Members starting with the tenth legislative term. As a large, international, multilingual democratic assembly, the European Parliament's activities inevitably generate environmental impacts.

The European Parliament is committed to leading by example on environmental sustainability. This commitment is reflected in its robust environmental management system, certified under the EMAS Regulation. This report summarises the European Parliament's environmental performance of 2023 and highlights key achievements in meeting the ambitious environmental targets set by the Parliament's Bureau in 2019 for the 9th legislative term from 2019 to 2024.

The purpose of this Environmental Statement is to provide the comprehensive information to the public and other interested parties regarding the European Parliament's structure and activities, environmental policy and environmental management system, environmental aspects and impacts, environmental programme, objectives and targets, and environmental performance and compliance with applicable legal obligations relating to the environment, as set out in Annex IV of the EMAS Regulation.

Overall Achievements

In 2023, the European Parliament achieved significant progress in reducing its environmental footprint across various areas, while maintaining legal compliance. Parliament worked towards achieving eleven environmental key performance indicator targets set for the legislative term 2019–2024, to be achieved by the end 2023 and reported on in 2024. The success in reducing its environmental footprint in 2023 was supported by the implementation of an ambitious Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) Action Plan, and can be attributed to a number of factors, including a decrease in fossil-fuel based heating consumption, a reduction in electricity consumption, and an increase in on-site renewable energy production. As environmental legal obligations become more challenging in the coming years, the European Parliament is committed to strategically leading the way to achieve best practice across its EMAS environmental management system and reducing its CO₂e¹ carbon footprint even further.

¹ CO₂e: (carbon dioxide equivalent) is a metric measure used to show the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide with the same global warming potential from a range of greenhouse gases.

The European Parliament has attained nine of the eleven environmental targets set by the Bureau for the 9th legislative term from 2019 to 2024.

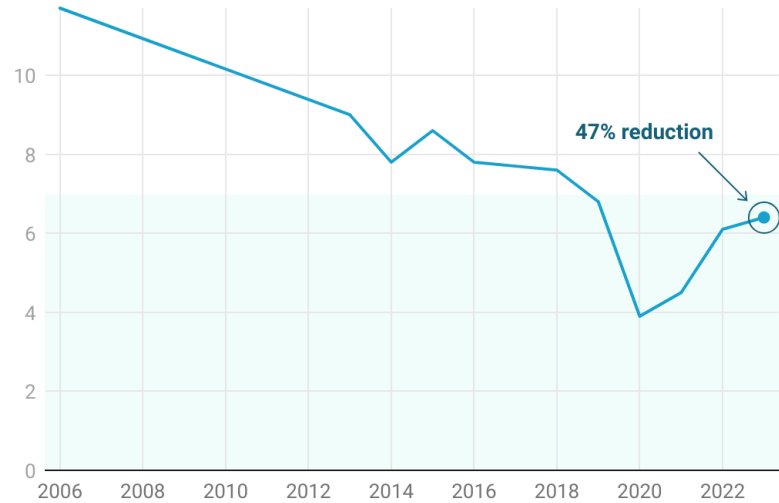
Carbon emissions:

Overall CO₂e emissions were reduced by 47%, exceeding the target of a 40% reduction set up by the Bureau over the legislative term. This success is primarily attributed to a decrease in fossil-fuel based heating consumption (-42.4%) and a reduction in electricity consumption (-38.1%).

The carbon footprint per person for the Parliament fluctuated over the past five years due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Compared to 2019 (6.8 tonnes), it decreased significantly in 2020 (3.9 tonnes) and in 2021 (4.5 tonnes) and was still relatively low in 2022 (6.1 tonnes). In 2023, it reached 6.4 tonnes, which was still slightly lower than 2019.

Carbon footprint

Measured in tonnes of CO₂e per full-time employee.
Target: 40% reduction.



CO₂ emissions from transport: While Parliament's overall CO₂e emissions were reduced in line with the target set, the emissions from transport of persons were reduced by 27%, not reaching the sub-target of a 30% reduction compared to 2006. The increased legislative activity and number of missions in 2023 contributed to this gap. Addressing this challenge requires exploring alternatives to travel, such as video conferencing for meetings, along with promoting the use of train over plane and car, and the use of public transport and electric vehicles for necessary travel.

On-site renewable energy share: One of the priorities for the current legislative term of the Parliament was to increase its own energy production. Therefore, an ambitious target of 25% was set for the first time. After significant efforts - resulting in a six-fold increase in on-site solar Photovoltaic (PV) generation - the share of on-site renewable energy attained 21% in 2023. During 2023 and in light of new environmental guidelines for the renewable energy criteria, the energy produced by cogeneration with gas was removed from the calculations, thus leading to a decrease of the overall figure. Nonetheless, in order to achieve the target, and to continue reducing its global energy consumption, the Parliament is considering to implement various short-term and mid-term solutions, including heat pumps and further optimisation of the technologies, as well as to evaluate, and to adjust, the energy related performance of all its activities and functions.

Heating: The European Parliament implemented several measures to reduce heating consumption, including adjusting indoor temperature, optimizing building ventilation, and phasing out fossil fuel-based heating systems. These measures, combined with a mild winter, significantly contributed to achieving the heating target. As a result, the Parliament achieved the target of reducing heating consumption by 25%, with an impressive reduction of 42.9%.

Electricity: The reduction in electricity consumption is linked to several factors, including lower indoor lighting levels, a temporary decrease in building occupancy due to teleworking, and the increased production of renewable energy on-site. The 20% electricity consumption reduction target was achieved with a 40% reduction. As in every year since 2008, all electricity purchased by the European Parliament was 'green' electricity, i.e. electricity from renewable sources with appropriate certificates of origin. Electricity used in external data centres was also 100% 'green'.

Paper: The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the digitalisation of Parliament's activities, leading to a reduction in paper consumption by 61% (exceeding the 50% target) in 2023. The Parliament implemented a "print-on-demand" policy and deployed multifunctional printing devices to further reduce paper usage. Parliament also continued to reduce the number of individual printers by replacing them with multifunctional network printers wherever possible.

Water: Initiatives such as repairing leaks, installing water-efficient fixtures, and raising awareness among staff on water conservation practices contributed to achieving the water reduction target of 15% with a 43% reduction in 2023.

Waste management: Parliament achieved all three waste reduction targets set for the legislative term, consisting of an increase in waste recycling, along with a reduction in non-recycled waste and food waste.

- **Recycled waste:** The Parliament exceeded its target of recycling an average of 76.5% of its total waste production over the 2016-2024 period. An impressive recycling rate of 72.3% was achieved.
- **Non-recycled waste:** Parliament significantly surpassed its target of a 20% reduction in non-recycled waste production between 2012 and 2023. A reduction of 42.7% was achieved.
- **Food waste:** The Parliament's food waste reduction programme delivered exceptional results. Food waste per meal served was reduced by 58.8% compared to 2016, exceeding the target of a 30% reduction between 2016 and 2023.

Green Public Procurement: Parliament achieved the target of 90% Green Public Procurement, with 96.6 % of contracts in the priority categories classified as 'Green' or 'Green by Nature'. The Parliament developed practical guidelines for integrating social responsibility aspects into public procurement procedures, setting an example for other EU institutions.

Biodiversity: The European Parliament's biodiversity indicator reached 46%, as a measurement of the ratio of green areas to covered areas across all three sites. Notably, the Parliament developed an active biodiversity management strategy for its green spaces. As a result, in 2023, the European Parliament received biodiversity labels for enhancing biodiversity of its green spaces in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg.

Legal compliance: With the 'Eco-Management and Audit Scheme' EMAS, the European Parliament gains a maximum certainty of its legal compliance with environmental laws. All EMAS registered Parliament's buildings are in compliance with their environmental permit requirements and environmental authorisations; for the MARTENS building in Brussels, one non-conformity is due to be resolved in agreement with the local authorities.

EMAS audits in 2023: The internal EMAS audit cycle in 2023 consisted of general audits by internal auditors of four of the thirteen Directorates-General. In 2023, four legal audits, concerning Parliament's Catering Service, the Printing and IT Equipment Services, the Medical Service and the Prevention and Protection at Work Service, and a full legal audit of the ADENAUER II building were performed by an external consultant. The internal and legal EMAS audit reports contained several positive points, which showed that audited services were well aware of the main environmental impacts of their activities, that they identified further opportunities for improvement in these areas and were working towards improvement. The internal EMAS audits were an opportunity to follow-up on previous points of attention raised in earlier audits, as well as the minor non-conformities identified in the legal audits and during the 2023 external EMAS verification.

EMAS external audits: The external verification of Parliament's environmental management system was carried out in June 2023 by Vinçotte SA, an accredited EMAS verifier. The environmental verifier confirmed that Parliament's environmental management system complied with the requirements of the EMAS Regulation, and validated Parliament's 2023 Environmental Statement for 2022, which was subsequently sent to the Competent Authorities at the three places of work. The external verification audit results included 7 positive points, 39 points for attention, 10 improvement opportunities and 4 minor non-conformities. Four minor non-conformities raised in 2022 have been resolved, while two new minor ones were reported. Furthermore, the auditor confirmed the inclusion of the ADENAUER II building in Luxembourg in the EMAS scope for 2023.

2023 EMAS Action Plan progress: The European Parliament's annual programme to improve its environmental performance, the EMAS Action Plan, contained specific actions of Parliament's services to achieve the overall environmental key performance indicators (KPI) targets, under the EMAS environmental management system. These actions included transforming the Parliament's car fleet towards electric and hydrogen emission vehicles, adding solar panels to buildings and digitalisation of procedures to lower paper use.

Building upon the momentum from 2022, the 2023 European Parliament's EMAS Action Plan has seen impressive progress:

- 49 actions were successfully achieved, exceeding the achievement rate from the previous year;
- 38 actions remain in progress, with ongoing efforts dedicated to their completion;
- 6 actions are currently on hold, requiring re-evaluation or awaiting resolution of external factors, while 17 actions have been removed due to changes in priorities or successful achievement of objectives through alternative methods.

In addition, good progress was made as part of the Strategic Execution Framework (SEF) for 2022-2024, with 17 projects under the programme 'Ecological Transformation', such as projects on biodiversity, energy efficiency of buildings and extending the EMAS certification to European Parliament Liaison Offices.

Staff engagement: Through the 'EMAS Sustainability Talks' an awareness-raising campaign, Parliament engaged with prominent figures across various disciplines, fostering insightful discussions and connecting Members and staff with a variety of sustainability issues, such as on energy efficiency, biodiversity and sustainable transport means. All DGs and Political Groups have stepped up environmental efforts and have taken an active part in EMAS meetings, training courses and activities. Political Groups have integrated their own EMAS actions in the annual EMAS Action Plans with a positive impact for the whole institution, and some have on a voluntary basis started to participate in the internal EMAS audit process. Awareness-raising efforts have witnessed a significant increase in engagement and participation of Members and staff, including from the Political Groups. Certain awareness campaigns to lower Parliament's environmental impact, such as the Walking Challenge, saw more than 1 000 participants.

International cooperation: The European Parliament shared its EMAS experience with national parliaments and collaborated with other EU institutions and bodies to further develop environmental management practices. These included meetings with organisations, like the European Investment Bank and the European Space Agency on topics ranging from carbon pricing to carbon emissions. This collaboration fosters knowledge exchange and contributes to a collective effort towards environmental sustainability across European institutions

1. THE EMAS ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OF THE PARLIAMENT

1.1. The European Parliament – key data of the EU institution

The European Parliament is co-legislator, sharing with the Council the power to adopt and amend EU legislation and to decide on the EU budget. The European Parliament plays a major role in shaping EU law, including environmental law. It has a range of supervisory and control powers. These allow the European Parliament to exercise oversight over other institutions, to monitor the proper use of the EU budget and to ensure the correct implementation of EU law. The European Parliament actively undertakes interparliamentary cooperation with national parliaments of the EU as set out in the Treaties and with parliaments from across the world.

The European Parliament is made up of 705 Members directly elected in the 27 Member States of the European Union for a five-year period. With the next legislative term 2024–2029, the number of seats will increase to 720. The total number of persons accommodated at the European Parliament's premises varies according to the location and the parliamentary timetable, as the figure for Strasbourg increases very substantially during the part-session weeks. In 2023, 12 plenary sittings took place in the Chamber in Strasbourg, France. In 2023, the institution's secretariat employed 10 249 staff of all categories, including 7080 staff in Parliament's administration, 1097 political group staff, and 2072 Accredited Parliamentary Assistants of Parliament's Members. The Secretariat's task is to coordinate legislative work and organise plenary sittings and meetings. It also provides technical and expert assistance, interpretation and translation covering all official EU languages to the Plenary, parliamentary bodies and Members of Parliament to support them in the exercise of their mandates.

In addition to officials, there are temporary staff, contract agents, political group staff, Parliamentary Assistants, interpreters and private service providers, who work in such sectors as building management, IT, cleaning and catering. Journalists, visitors, national parliament representations, diplomatic staff and lobbyists also increase further the number of people on Parliament's premises.

In 2023, the number of Full Time Equivalents (FTE) for the purpose of the carbon footprint calculation at the three main places of work was 15 844, for which reliable figures and statistics can be collected and provided. This amount includes Members, Member's assistants, staff from Political Groups, stagiaires, visitors and external contractors such as in security, IT and interpreters. At times, the total number of people present in the three main places of work in one capacity or another or visiting the European Parliament may exceed 18 000 a day.

European Parliament's activities take place in Strasbourg, France (5 main buildings), Brussels, Belgium (19 buildings) and in Luxembourg (3 buildings). In 2023 the total area occupied by the European Parliament, according to the DIN277 norm was 1 089 472 m².

1.2. Background on the EMAS Project in the European Parliament

On 19 April 2004, the European Parliament's Bureau, consisting of the President and Vice-Presidents, took the decision in principle to set up the EMAS environmental management system. Following additional technical preparations, in May 2005, the Bureau approved the environmental objectives and asked the Secretary General to take the necessary steps to attain them. The first versions of the main EMAS documents were approved by the Bureau in December 2005. The system and necessary documentation, as well as the first internal audit cycle, were put in place in 2006. The first management review exercise was carried out in June 2007. A new version of the Environmental Policy of the European Parliament was adopted and signed in November 2007.

The successful external audits led to the global ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management System certifications for the three sites on 17 December 2007. The Secretary General then started the application procedure for EMAS registration for the three sites, which was successfully confirmed in 2008, but with the official starting date of 17 December 2007. Audits to renew the EMAS registration were carried out in of 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2022 with positive results. In 2022, as in previous years, the external verification confirmed also Parliament's compliance with the ISO 14001:2015 standard.

1.3. Scope of the EMAS Environmental Management System

The European Parliament's administrative and technical work comprises certain aspects that have a direct or indirect impact on the environment, for example, energy consumption for heating and lighting in meeting rooms and offices, production of waste and waste water, consumption of paper and the environmental impact of transport of persons and goods.

The European Parliament's EMAS environmental management system is focused on these impacts caused by its own activities, which are under its own control and influence. The environmental management system applies to all technical and administrative activities of the European Parliament at its three places of work, Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg. All of the European Parliament's main buildings in the three places of work are taken into account when calculating the environmental indicators and carbon footprint.

Political activities performed by the Members of the European Parliament within the framework of their mandate are excluded from the environmental management system, unless certain activities are explicitly included.

In defining the elements of Parliament's environmental management system, its scope, environmental indicators, targets and best practice examples for public administration – as described in the relevant [EMAS Sectoral Reference Document](#) – were taken into account. The sectoral reference documents are guidance documents provided by the European Commission to inspire and guide organisations in specific sectors to enhance their environmental performance, featuring best environmental practices, performance indicators, and benchmarks of excellence.

The European Parliament is gradually extending the EMAS scope to its Liaison Offices in the Member States. The project is focused on the premises that are jointly owned, occupied and used by the European Parliament and the European Commission. The European Parliament Liaison Offices are grouped under Parliament's EMAS registration as a separate site, with the registration number LU-000009. In September 2023, the European Parliament Liaison Offices in Vienna, Austria, and Valletta, Malta, received their EMAS registration. The preparatory work for the EMAS registration, including the environmental analysis, establishing a legal compliance register and legal audit, and an internal EMAS audit, was fully completed for the European Parliament Liaison Offices in Budapest, Hungary, and Nicosia, Cyprus, and partially completed for Sofia, Bulgaria, The Hague, Netherlands, and Copenhagen, Denmark, by the end of 2023. The reporting on the environmental management system of the Liaison Offices is undertaken in a separate document, and it is published under the same "Ecological footprint" section of Parliament's website.

1.4. Buildings Registered under EMAS

In 2023, the following buildings were registered under EMAS and are buildings that undergo a periodic environmental analysis and visits by external EMAS verifiers over a three-year cycle:

FIGURE 1: EMAS REGISTERED BUILDING LIST

Site	Building	Name
Luxembourg	ADENAUER I	Konrad Adenauer I
	ADENAUER II	Konrad Adenauer II
	Senningerberg	Senningerberg
Brussels	SPAAK	Paul Henri Spaak
	SPINELLI	Altiero Spinelli
	ZWEIG	Stefan Zweig
	BRANDT	Willy Brandt
	ANTALL	József Antall
	Wayenberg	N/A
	House of European History	N/A
	ARENDR	Hannah Arendt
	Montoyer 70	N/A
	MARTENS	Wilfried Martens
	SCHOLL	Sophie Scholl
Strasbourg	WEISS	Louise Weiss
	CHURCHILL	Winston Churchill
	DE MADARIAGA	Salvador de Madariaga
	PFLIMLIN	Pierre Pflimlin
	HAVEL	Václav Havel

These EMAS registered buildings are considered the main buildings of the European Parliament. They have a total surface area of about 90% of all Parliament's buildings. In 2023, the new Konrad Adenauer II building was included in the EMAS scope. For the Scholl building, the environmental analysis and the complete legal audit have been completed. New main buildings will be progressively registered and included in the EMAS scope. The next building that is planned to be included in the EMAS scope is the Campomoro building in Brussels.

1.5. EMAS Registration

The European Parliament submitted the proof of continued compliance with the terms of its EMAS registration, including the Environmental Statement 2023 for the year 2022 as validated in the external audit report by Vinçotte SA, dated 16 October 2023, to the respective Competent Bodies at its three places of work.

The European Parliament is EMAS registered in Belgium (B-BXL-00013), in France (FR-0000051) and in Luxembourg (LU-L000002, for its Liaison Offices LU-000009). The Nomenclature of Economic Activities (NACE)² code of the European Parliament is NACE 99.

1.6. Organisational Environmental Context and Climate Change

The environmental performance of the European Parliament can be influenced by variability in external environmental conditions. Seasonal temperature fluctuations have a notable impact on the environmental performance of the Parliament. These temperature variations directly affect the consumption of gas and electricity for heating and cooling purposes. Additionally, the local environmental conditions at the Parliament's three workplaces, such as air pollution levels, play a role in determining the applicable legal restrictions on activities for the Parliament, its Members, staff, and visitors. This, in turn, has implications for the overall environmental performance of the Parliament itself.

Parliament's environmental performance is also affected by external social, political, and financial circumstances, as reflected in e.g. mirroring political priorities in the environmental management system, or limits to the amounts of financing available for environmental projects and activities.

Furthermore, internally, various circumstances can also have a significant impact, such as the amounts and scheduling of legislative activity, affecting paper consumption, election cycles affecting travel and paper consumption, and the number and location of political meetings outside of Brussels and Strasbourg influencing carbon emissions from travel and transport of goods. Additionally, increasing number of conferences and events taking place on Parliament's premises in Strasbourg outside the plenary sessions also has the potential to affect environmental performance. Related environmental impacts can be through increased energy and water consumption and waste production resulting from more intensive use of the buildings, or through increased travel emissions from those visitors attending the events whose visits are subsidised by Parliament. Public procurement needs and planning can also be variable, thus affecting the opportunities to green Parliament's contracts in a given year.

The fourth year of a legislative term is generally marked by an increase in parliamentary activities to ensure that legislative dossiers are finalised by the end of that year or the very beginning of the year to allow for voting in plenary before the end of the legislative term. The year 2023 has been no exception to this cyclical development. In addition, 2023 was also still a year marked by a backlog of meetings which had been postponed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

² Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the EU. NACE codes are used to classify businesses and organizations based on their activities and sectors.

The European Parliament is taking aspects and increasing risks from climate change into account in its operations. The European Parliament's Bureau, based on the Environmental Analysis, recognises that CO₂e emissions from its parliamentary activities is the most important aspect that needs to be addressed by the environmental management system. Consequently, the reduction of Parliament's global CO₂e emissions and the reduction of CO₂e emissions from transport of persons were made key environmental targets for the legislative term 2019–2024.

The potential impact of climate change on the organisation of Parliament's work is being assessed, to ensure business continuity. Already, Parliament has a heatwave policy and it can react should transport between the places of work be disrupted by extreme weather conditions. The reduction of water consumption is one of the eleven key environmental targets for the legislative term 2019–2024. Water saving measures are integrated in the management and renovation projects of Parliament's buildings. Optimising the reuse of water was made a Strategic Execution Framework Project for Parliament for 2022–2024.

1.7. Environmental Policy

The European Parliament's environmental management system is guided by the institution's Environmental Policy. The Environmental Policy for the legislative term 2019 to 2024 has been approved by Parliament's Bureau on 16 September 2019.



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eirópas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parliament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Evropský parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The European Parliament recognizes its responsibility for making a positive contribution to sustainable development as a long-term goal. Parliament fulfils this responsibility in its political and legislative role, but also in the way it operates and the decisions it takes on a day-to-day basis.

In 2007, the European Parliament therefore decided that its administration would embark on the path of applying the EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme) standard, with the aim of continually improving its environmental results with regard to activities, products and services.

The European Parliament's Environmental Policy is implemented through its Environmental Management System (EMS). The Environmental Policy and the EMS cover Parliament's main environmental aspects, both directly and indirectly, as well as their impact on the sites concerned, and make it possible to establish corresponding objectives.

Interest in the environmental performance of organisations has become a mainstream issue, and it continues to increase in importance. A proactive corporate sustainability strategy to tackle environmental challenges is the hallmark of successful organisations. A broad range of benefits arise from EMAS registration, including reduced costs for resources and waste management, risk minimization, regulatory compliance and improved relations with internal and external stakeholders.

The European Parliament hereby

- reaffirms its commitment to maintaining its EMAS registration and its environmental approach of continuous improvement, with a view towards achieving environmental sustainability in all its administrative activities;
- stresses the already good overall performance of the EMS at the European Parliament as demonstrated by the achievement of the key environmental performance indicator (KPI) objectives for the previous target period, while emphasising the need to further intensify efforts, particularly in the area of greenhouse gas emissions;
- aims to strengthen efforts in order to reach its newly set-up medium- and long-term key environmental performance indicator objectives in the areas of greenhouse gas emissions, electricity consumption, gas, heating oil, and district heating consumption, paper consumption, water consumption, production of waste, waste recycling, renewable energy, food waste, green public procurement, and sustainable mobility;
- undertakes to ensure compliance with objectives and requirements laid down by local, regional, national, as well as EU legislation;
- undertakes to implement preventive measures to further improve its environmental performance and to ensure that environmental considerations and sustainability criteria are integrated in all its administrative activities;
- endeavours to provide sufficient resources for its EMS and activities relating thereto, recognising that development and implementation of specific individual activities should be subject to an assessment in terms of costs, technical feasibility and availability of adequate resources;
- undertakes to include and apply strict environmental and energy efficiency criteria in all of its building policies and building projects;
- endeavours to establish a waste management strategy setting a priority order among waste prevention and management options, including recommendations in terms of prevention, re-use, recycling, energy recovery and disposal;
- aims to examine the feasibility of applying the principles of circular economy in the future planning of Parliament's infrastructure, management of stocks, and in future purchases of goods and services by, inter alia, considering relevant circular economy criteria, such as smart design, reuse of materials and recyclability;
- encourages responsible and appropriate behaviour by training, providing information and increasing the awareness of all its staff, but also its Members and their assistants, about EMAS-relevant aspects of their activities;
- undertakes to introduce best practices with regard to its main environmental impacts, in particular greenhouse gas emissions and waste management, as well as an efficient use of energy, water and paper;
- undertakes to apply best practices in activities associated with its EMS, if appropriate by offsetting carbon emissions, including possible joint offsetting projects with other EU institutions and bodies, greening events organised in and by the European Parliament, and, whenever possible, contributing to expansion and increased quality of green urban areas;
- aims for its EMS activities to contribute to achieving the current Sustainable Development Goals as set by the United Nations General Assembly
- endeavours to further strengthen its sustainable procurement approach as a key tool in environmental management by applying targets for the classification of contracts, combining implementation of established good practices in sustainable procurement with potential innovative sustainable procurement solutions while keeping in mind the specificity of each market;
- aims to promote, encourage and facilitate the use of sustainable transport for daily commutes, missions and other travel related to its administrative and political activities

The European Parliament undertakes to describe in detail, implement and pursue this Environmental Policy, to communicate it to Members, staff, contractors and any other interested parties and to make it accessible to the public.

David Maria SASSOLI, President
Brussels, 6 November 2019

Klaus WELLE, Secretary-General
Brussels, 6 November 2019

2. ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

In accordance with the EMAS Regulation 1221/2009, organisations applying EMAS must report on their environmental performance using core indicators. Objectives and achievements are outlined in relation to those key performance indicators (KPI) defined in the areas of overall CO₂e emissions, transport emissions, heating, renewable energy, electricity consumption, paper consumption, water consumption and waste management.

The EMAS Regulation also provides that, for organisations in the non-production sectors (administration/services), the overall annual output of the organisation shall relate to the size of the organisation expressed in number of employees. For that reason, the indicators are calculated based on the number of Full Time Equivalents' (FTE) employee.

2.1. Evolution of Environmental Key Performance Indicators

On 16 December 2019, the Bureau of the European Parliament adopted eleven ambitious environmental key performance indicator targets for Parliament's environmental management system for the legislative term (2019 - 2024). The increased urgency and ambition of EU environmental policies was mirrored in the objectives and activities of the Parliament's environmental management system. In addition to the ten existing areas, a CO₂e emissions sub-target in the area of transport of persons was included.

The annual actions outlined in the EMAS Action Plans are the key drivers for improving Parliament's environmental performance as measured by the KPIs. These actions, developed collaboratively with the Directorates-General, directly address the environmental programme's goals.

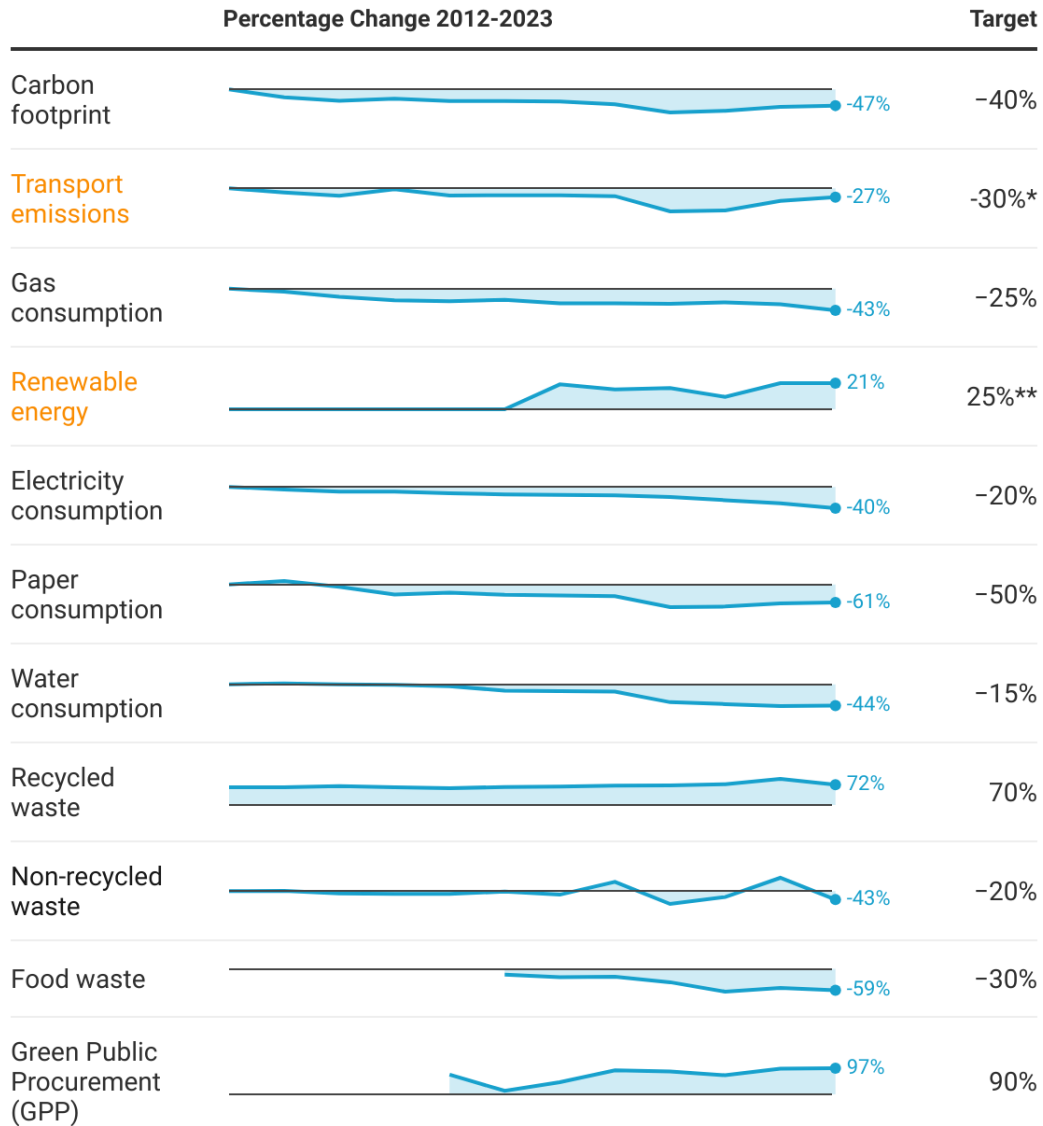
An overview of the evolution of the key performance indicators between the base year (in most cases 2012, except for the carbon footprint and its sub-target for which the base year is 2006) and 2023 can be found below.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL TARGETS

An overview of the current status³ of Parliament’s eleven key performance indicators (KPIs) between the base year and 2023 can be found below:⁴

FIGURE 2: EVOLUTION OF THE PARLIAMENT’S ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS UNTIL 2023

Evolution of the Key Performance Indicators 2023



³ The key performance indicators were calculated using the information available by the end of January 2024. If more up-to-date information is communicated after that date, it will be included in the report for the following year.

⁴ *The Transport of persons baseline is 2006 ** The share of renewable energy produced on site including cogeneration was 24%



FIGURE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL KPI TARGET AND PERFORMANCE FOR 2023

Environmental aspect	Environmental key performance indicator (KPI)	Targets set up by the parliamentary term (2019–2024)	2024: Environmental performance (data of 2023)*
CO₂ emissions	Carbon footprint in tonnes of CO ₂ e per FTE	40% reduction between 2006 and 2024	-47.0% (compared to 2006)
Sub-target CO₂ emissions from transport of persons	Carbon emissions resulting from transport of people in tonnes of CO ₂ e per FTE	30% reduction between 2006 and 2024	-27.1% (compared to 2006)
Gas, heating oil, and district heating consumption	Annual consumption of gas, fuel oil and district heating ⁵ in kWh per FTE	25% reduction between 2012 and 2024	-42.9% (compared to 2012)
Renewable energy	Share of energy used by Parliament generated on-site from renewable resources	25% attained by 2024	20.6% 23.4% (including cogeneration)
Electricity consumption	Annual electricity consumption in kWh per FTE	20% reduction between 2012 and 2024	-40.2% (compared to 2012)
Paper consumption	Average paper consumption in kg per FTE over a 5-year period	Reduction by 50% in 2019–2024, compared to the base period of 2010–2014	-60.7% (compared to the average for the 2010–2014 period)
Water consumption	Annual water consumption in m ³ per FTE	15% reduction between 2012 and 2024	-43.7% (compared to 2012)
Waste recycling	Percentage of waste recycled	Recycle on average 70% of the total amount of waste over the 2016–2024 period	72.1% (over the 2016–2024 period)
Non-recycled waste production	Annual production of non-recycled waste in kg per FTE	20% reduction between 2012 and 2024	-42.7% (compared to 2012)
Food waste	Amount of food waste (unsold and leftovers food) in kg per meal served	30% reduction between 2016 and 2024	-58.8% (compared to 2016)
Green Public Procurement	Percentage of contracts (among the priority product categories ⁶) classified as “Green” or “Green by Nature”	90% by 2024	96.6%

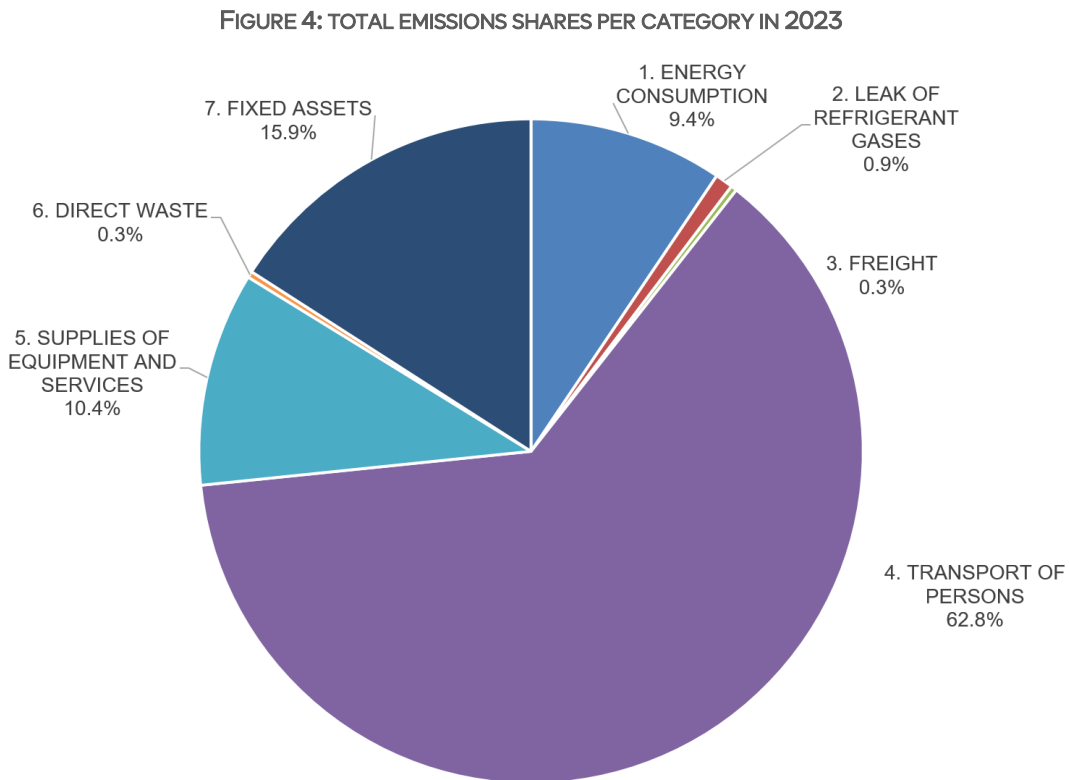
⁵ Calculated as a rolling average of the last three years to even out the effects of climatic variation.

⁶ Priority product categories defined in the European Parliament Implementation Guide on Green Public Procurement. Currently, these categories are: Buildings; Cleaning; Food and Catering; Furniture; Gardening and Green Areas; IT and Imaging Equipment; Lighting; Office Supplies; Paper; Sanitary and Water Equipment; Textiles; Vehicles and Transport; Waste management.

3.1. Parliament's Carbon Footprint per FTE

One of the European Parliament's key objectives is to reduce its CO₂e emissions per full time equivalent (FTE) by 40% between 2006 and 2024. In 2023, this indicator was reduced by **47.0%**, overreaching the environmental target set for the legislative term by 7 percentage points. The indicator stood at 6.4 tCO₂e per FTE in 2023, compared to 12.1 tCO₂e in 2006.

The Parliament's carbon footprint is composed of several emissions categories, depicted in the figure below. The main contributor to the Parliament's carbon footprint was the emissions under the transport of persons category, representing 63% of the 2023 emissions. The second and third categories contributing to the Parliament's emissions were emissions coming from fixed assets (16%) and energy consumption (9%). A detailed breakdown of the European Parliament's carbon emissions for 2023 can be found in Annex II.

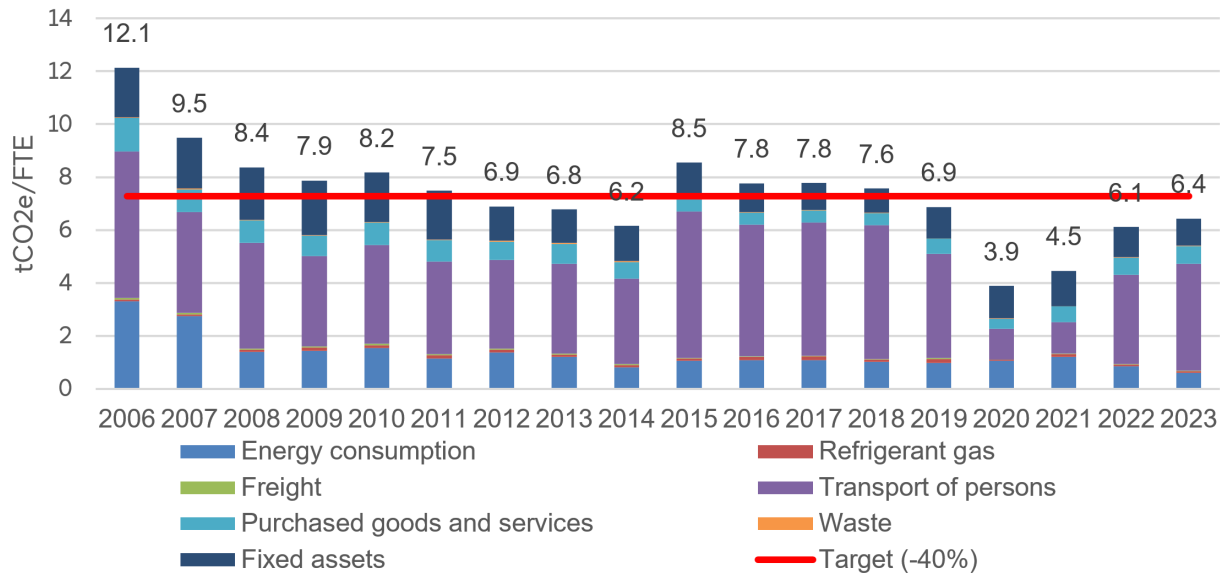


In between the baseline and target year, a decreasing trend and a slight shift in the main sources of carbon emissions can be noted, as the following figure⁷ shows:

⁷ The horizontal red line in the figure represents the KPI target for the 2019–2024 period.



FIGURE 5: EVOLUTION OF TOTAL EMISSIONS PER FTE FROM 2006 TO 2023



In 2006, the **main sources of carbon emissions** were 'Energy consumption' and 'Transport of persons'. In 2023, 'Energy consumption' was no longer among the main source, but carbon emissions from 'Transport of persons' and 'Fixed Assets' became the main sources.

In 2008, **energy consumption** emissions fell very significantly, from 3.4 tonnes to 1.8 tCO₂e per FTE thanks to the introduction of 'green electricity' at the three places of work. Parliament continued to purchase 'Green electricity' ever since and the positive effects were maintained.

The emissions generated by **transport of persons** decreased from 5.5 to 4.0 tCO₂e per FTE between 2006 and 2023, and, partly, thanks to:

- mobility projects (e.g. co-financing of public transport)
- continuous renewal of the car fleet, including electric vehicles and hybrid cars, as well as continuous extension of the bike fleet, including e-bikes
- occasional voluntary use of economy class for travel by Members, instead of business class.
- replacement of charter flights by Thalys trains between Brussels and Strasbourg.

Overall emissions per FTE decreased. Up until the pandemic, **transport of persons'** emissions decreased at a lower pace than emissions in other categories. In 2023, they represented a much larger share (63%) of total emissions than they did in 2006 (45%).

The effects of the **COVID-19 pandemic** significantly affected the evolution of CO₂e emissions over the legislative term (2019 to 2024). The extraordinary health and security measures linked to the pandemic reduced travel, working at the office, and led to a very low carbon footprint of the European Parliament in 2020 and 2021. 2022 was the year of a steady return to full activity,



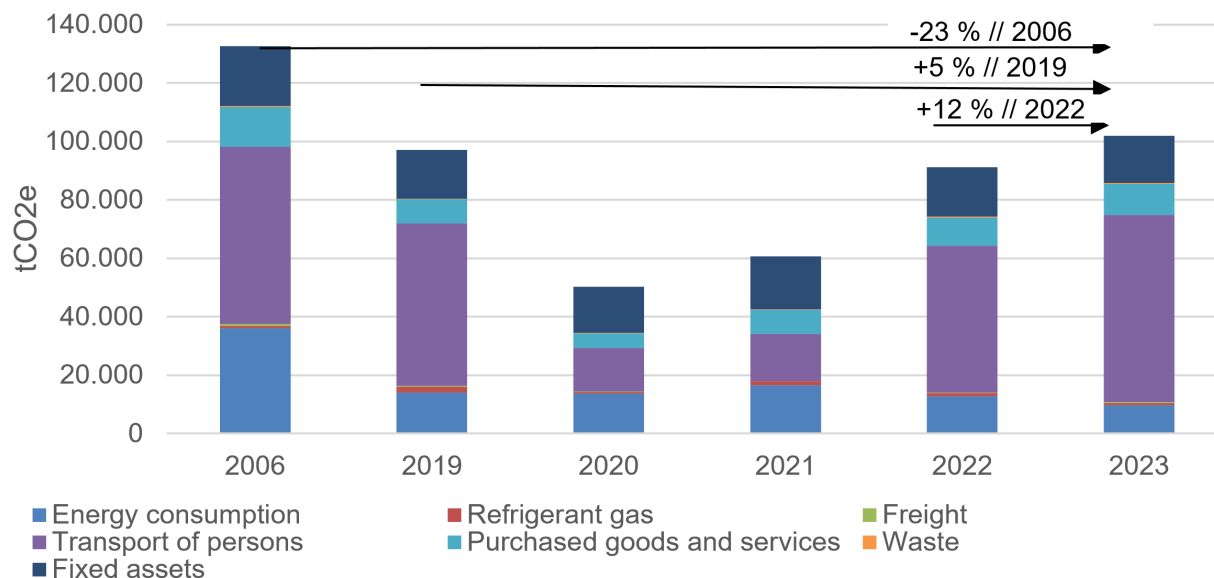
but the beginning of that year was still heavily marked by restrictions due to the epidemiological situation.

The year 2023 saw a clear increase in Parliament's CO₂e emissions across almost all emission categories compared to the years affected by COVID-19. One main exception from the general increase in emissions constitute the emissions from **heating and electricity consumption**, which, for 2023, showed an even better performance than in 2021 and 2022. This was a consequence of the energy savings and efficiency measures taken by Parliament's Bureau on 2 May and 3 October 2022 regarding temperature and lighting control. It was also due to the ending of the ventilation policy that had been in place for COVID-19, continued partial teleworking, a warm winter and upgrades to buildings.

It must be noted that the number of Parliament's FTEs increased by 6% in 2023 compared to 2022.

The European Parliament monitors its carbon emissions per Full Time Equivalent (FTE) as a key performance indicator. It also tracks total carbon emissions, even though it is not a key performance indicator. In 2023, the European Parliament's total carbon emissions were **101.947 tCO₂e**. There has been a 23% decrease in total emissions since 2006. However, compared to 2019 and 2022, in 2023, a rise of 5% and of 12% respectively could be noted.

FIGURE 6: EVOLUTION OF THE ABSOLUTE TOTAL EMISSIONS FROM 2006 TO 2023

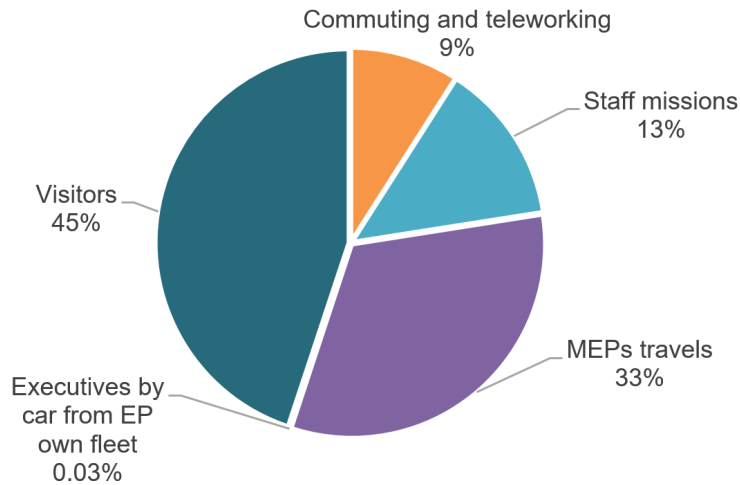


3.2. CO₂e Emissions from Transport of Persons per FTE

In order to reduce the global carbon footprint of the European Parliament, tackling emissions resulting from the transport of persons is a priority. This includes promoting travel by more environmentally friendly means of transport for business travel as well as for commuting. The European Parliament’s target is to reduce the key performance indicator of CO₂e emissions from transport of persons per FTE by 30% between 2006 and 2024. Parliament’s transport of persons emissions per FTE stood at 4.0 tCO₂e in 2023 compared to 5.5 tCO₂e in 2006. Compared to 2006, this indicator decreased by -27.1% in 2023, not fully achieving the 30% reduction target (6.2 percentage points gap).

The scope for this key performance indicator includes the CO₂e emissions caused by the travel of Members, staff and Members’ subsidised visitors groups and the emissions caused by staff commuting to work. It also includes the emissions from cars in the European Parliament’s own fleet. The following figure gives an overview of the emissions shares in the categories that are included in the scope:

FIGURE 7: TRANSPORT OF PERSONS EMISSIONS SHARES IN 2023

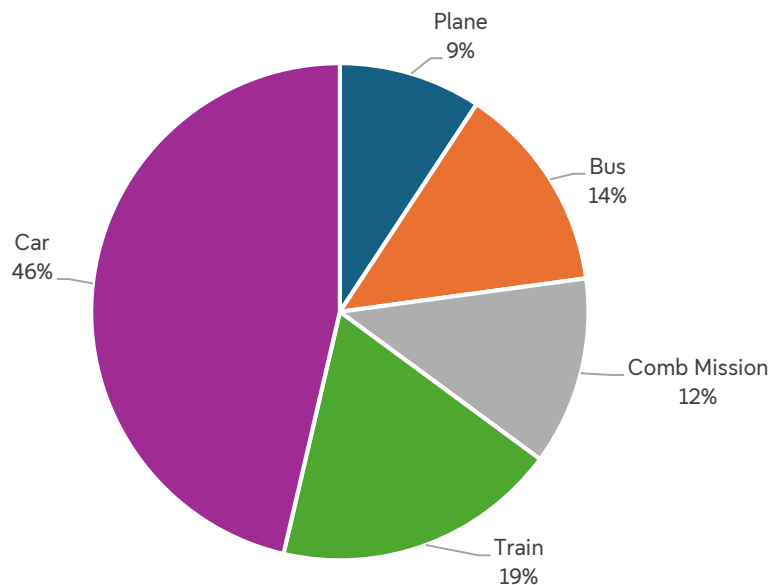


3.2.1. CO₂e emissions from travel

Transport of persons in the European Parliament for travel purposes rebounded significantly after the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2023, Members had more meetings that took place outside the three places of work. The emissions linked to the Members' travel outside the places of work more than doubled compared to 2019, i.e. from 3 202 tCO₂e in 2019 to 6 431 tonnes. The increased number of meetings of Members had an impact on staff travel. In 2023, the total number of journeys of staff to destinations outside the places of work increased by 9% compared to 2022. Long-haul flights of staff led to 3 427 tCO₂e emissions, compared to 1 750 tonnes of CO₂ emissions in 2019. Meetings outside the places of work often required transport by plane. Transport by plane alone (not considering other modes of transport) led to the biggest share of Parliament's total CO₂ emissions. It constituted 48 670 tCO₂e, equal to 48% of the total carbon footprint in 2023.

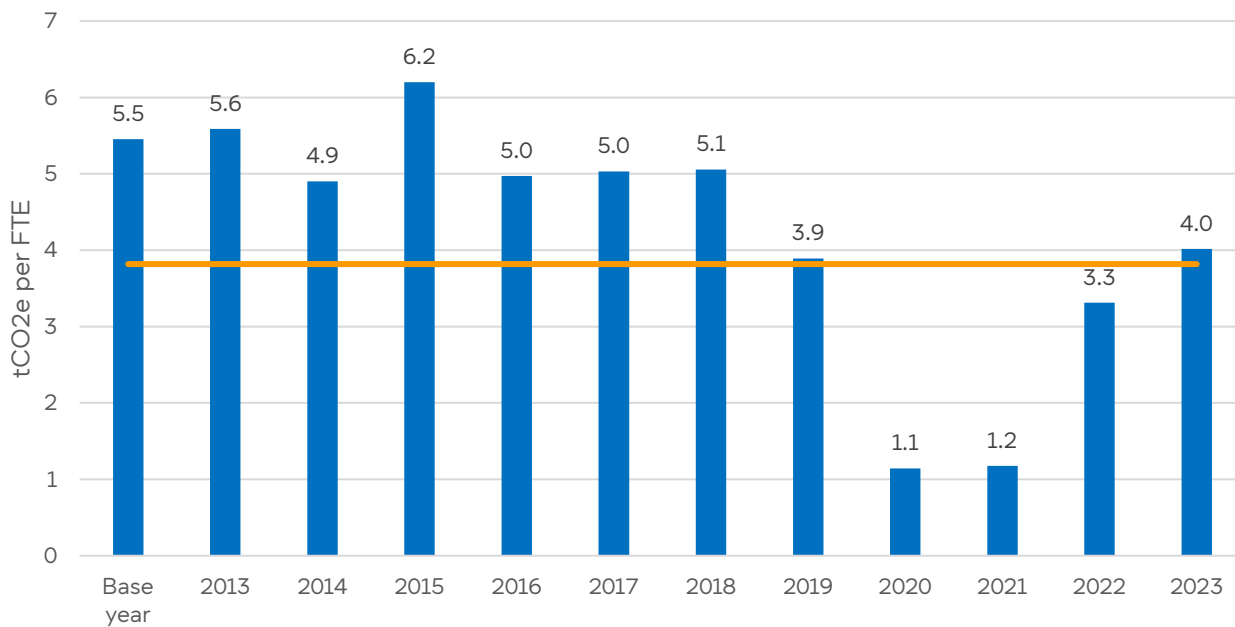
Transport of staff between the three places of work emitted 2 460 tCO₂e in 2023, representing 2.4% of the total carbon footprint. Most of the travellers (51%) chose the car (own car, European Parliament's fleet car or as car sharing) to travel while 38% chose the train. The most used route was the Brussels–Strasbourg itinerary. For this latest, in 2023, 46% of the travellers used the car. The train represents 19% of the total travellers, as below figure shows.

FIGURE 8: EXAMPLE SHARES OF STAFF TRAVELLERS FROM BRUSSELS TO STRASBOURG PER MODE IN 2023



In the evolution of the CO₂e emissions from the transport of persons per FTE, the impact of the COVID- 19 pandemic years and the rebound effect in 2023 can be seen in the Figure below.

FIGURE 9: EVOLUTION OF THE TRANSPORT OF PERSONS EMISSIONS PER FTE FROM 2006 TO 2023



The extraordinary health and security measures linked to the COVID-19 pandemic reduced travel and led to a very low CO₂e emissions from transport of persons of the European Parliament in 2020 and 2021. With the ease of restrictions, travel activities increased. This led to a steady increase in CO₂e emissions from transport of persons. In 2023, in order to respond to the development of rebounding CO₂e emissions impacting Parliament's environmental performance and the progress towards reaching this environmental KPI target, the Parliament's Bureau assessed the possibilities for improvements. On 16 October 2023, it adopted a number of measures to reverse the trends in emissions from travel. These measures included the request to green the staff mission rules and to explore the possibilities of developing and implementing a calculation tool for CO₂e emissions from transport to raise awareness among travellers on the carbon footprint of travel and to allow them to compare the emissions of their journeys with different types of transport modes. Furthermore, services were tasked to improve the possibilities for Members, Political Group and staff to travel to Strasbourg by train. These measures were integrated in the European Parliament's EMAS Action Plan for 2024 and are being implemented.

3.2.2. CO₂e emissions from commuting

The scope of the Parliament's CO₂e emissions from 'transport of persons' includes the CO₂e emissions resulting from staff commuting to work. In 2023, CO₂e emissions resulting from staff commuting to work (including teleworking emissions) constituted 5 794tCO₂e. This is 9% of the share of emissions from transport of persons and 5.7% of the Parliament's total carbon footprint in 2023. The European Parliament promotes the sustainable commuting of staff in order to lower these CO₂e emissions. Measures that foster active modes of transport and the use of public transport have been integrated in Parliament's EMAS Action Plan 2024.

In October 2023, the European Parliament conducted a detailed survey asking staff about their commuting and teleworking habits and setup, with the aim to better understand staff commuting patterns and the reasons for commuting habits. 22% of European Parliament's employees took the survey, which comprised questions on teleworking (the number of commuting days, the spaces in which colleagues telework, the technology and resources used for heating, the electricity consumption and share of renewable electricity, etc.).

Teleworking has become an integral part of Parliament's organisation of work after the COVID-19 pandemic, reducing Parliament's CO₂e emissions generated by commuting. Emissions from staff produced in the teleworking places are included in the global carbon footprint of the institution.

The data collected in Parliament's commuting and teleworking survey of October 2023 showed that 29% of respondents commuted by car to work, 39% by public transport and 31% use active means like walking or cycling. Overall, Parliament's staff show a sustainable commuting culture,

with 70% of staff, opting for public transport or active modes to get to work. In 2023, commuting emissions per FTE were reduced by 9% compared to 2006 and by 8% compared to 2019.

Compared to pre-pandemic levels in 2019, commuting trends have remained stable, as illustrated below:

FIGURE 10: PRIMARY MEANS OF TRANSPORT IN PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES PER SITE, 2019-2023

Primary means of transport	Brussels				Luxembourg				Strasbourg			
	2019	2020-2021	2022	2023	2019	2020-2021	2022	2023	2019	2020-2021	2022	2023
Car	20%	27%	19%	20%	45%	51%	44%	47%	47%	54%	49%	59%
Walking	21%	24%	20%	18%	8%	8%	7%	5%	6%	15%	5%	3%
Train	18%	14%	15%	17%	13%	10%	13%	14%	6%	2%	5%	2%
Bicycle	12%	15%	16%	14%	5%	7%	6%	6%	29%	20%	33%	23%
Electric bicycle	2%	2%	5%	6%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	5%	8%
Bus	9%	5%	8%	10%	19%	13%	18%	15%	6%	7%	5%	0%
Metro	13%	8%	12%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Tram	2%	1%	2%	2%	6%	7%	10%	10%	3%	2%	0%	3%
Motorcycle /moped	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%

The following trends in Parliament’s staff commuting behaviour could be observed, when comparing the main modes of transport used for commuting in 2023 with the situation before the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2019:

- bicycle use increased;
- car use remained stable, except for Strasbourg;
- Metro and train use remained stable compared to pre-pandemic levels in 2019.

Communication activities on sustainable commuting

The European Parliament took part in the inter-institutional competitions on cycling and walking (taking place in the month of May and October 2023, respectively). The aim was to encourage staff to walk or cycle to work and in their free time for environmental and health reasons.

In the framework of the 2023 Cycling Challenge, 15 events were organised by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit and colleagues from other services. 350 participants registered in the dedicated App (130 more than in 2022). The opening and closing events received positive feedback, as did all repair workshops, which were in high demand. There was also an MS Teams channel where colleagues could ask questions and share resources related to cycling.



Parliament's internal Walking Challenge also saw an increase in participation, from 909 in 2022 to 1 317 participants. This included colleagues from across Parliament's administration and the three places of work where promotional events were organised in collaboration with the Directorate-General for Personnel. Each Directorate-General and Political Group promoted the challenge, the European Parliament Secretary General participated in the poster campaign and the EMAS and Sustainability Unit promoted the European Mobility Week with an article on EMASnet.

Related intranet Newshound articles:

- [Walking Challenge: and the winners are...](#) 09/11/2023
- [The winners of the Velomai Cycling Challenge are...](#) 07/06/2023
- [Time to bike together](#) 18/04/2023
- [Why is walking \(so\) good for you?](#) 24/10/2023
- [Join the 2023 Walking Challenge!](#) 26/09/2023
- [It's never too late to get started](#) 19/04/2023
- [Annual Mobility Survey 2022 - the results](#) 15/03/2023
- [Help calculate Parliament's carbon footprint](#) 10/10/2023

3.2.3. Impact of teleworking on CO₂e emissions from commuting

The data collected from the commuting and teleworking survey facilitated the calculation of several key metrics, such as:

- the estimated amounts of the CO₂e emissions generated by commuting,
- the CO₂e emissions avoided as a result of not commuting when teleworking and
- the CO₂e emissions externally generated at home when teleworking (heating and electricity use).

Figures 11A and 11B below illustrate the outcomes of these calculations.

FIGURE 11: AVOIDED COMMUTING EMISSIONS FROM 2023 DUE TO TELEWORKING PATTERNS

Mobility Survey 2023 commuting emissions	BRU	LUX	STR	TOTAL for 2023
Average teleworking days per week	1.3	2	0.3	1.5
Total staff commuting emissions (tCO₂e)	3 076	2 468	149	5 693
Total staff commuting emissions avoided (tCO₂e)	1 063	1 891	5	2 959
Share of avoided commuting emissions	26%	43%	3%	34%

The total emissions from commuting in 2023 amounted to 5 693 tCO₂e based on the survey's results extrapolation. This impact has remained relatively stable compared to 2022, when it amounted to 4 894 tCO₂e.

It is estimated that staff teleworking in 2023 saved 2 959 tCO₂e in travel emissions. This represents 34% of the commuting emissions that would have been generated if staff were commuting daily.

FIGURE 12: NET AVOIDED EMISSIONS FROM TELEWORKING PATTERNS IN 2023

Net avoided emissions from teleworking (tCO ₂ e)	BRU	LUX	STR	TOTAL for 2023
Staff commuting emissions avoided from teleworking	1 063	1 891	5	2 959
Staff emissions from heating and electricity from teleworking	- 189	-56	-4	-249
Net avoided emissions of teleworking (tCO₂e)	874	1 835	1	2 710

When teleworking, CO₂e emissions (associated with heating and electricity) are shifting from the workplace to employee's location. This amounted to 249 tCO₂e in 2023, i.e. 0.2% of the Parliament's absolute emissions for 2023.

Accounting for those emissions for teleworking, it can be concluded that teleworking has resulted in net avoided emissions of **2 710 tCO₂e in 2023**, i.e. about 2.7% of the total carbon emissions of the Parliament (10 1947t CO₂e in 2023).

3.2.4. Fostering sustainable commuting

In 2022, the European Parliament set new incentives to encourage the use of public transport and discourage the use of private car to come to work with the aim to promote sustainable commuting patterns among staff, in line with the EMAS Action Plans. As part of these efforts, the Parliament introduced a new parking policy coupled with increased public transport subsidies and enhanced parking management measures.

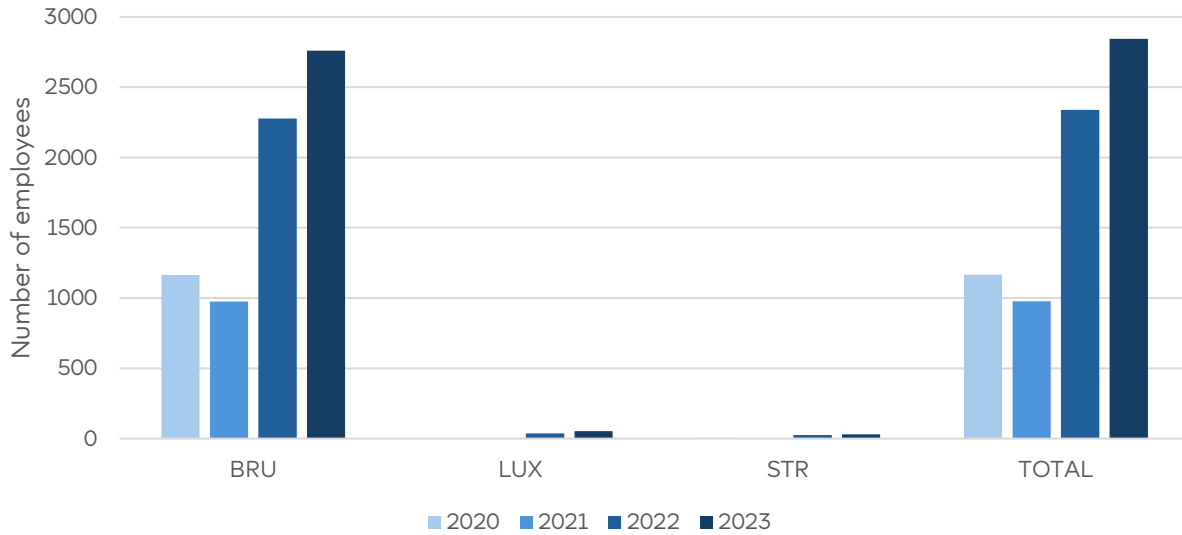
Since 30 May 2022, staff who waive the right to permanent access to the institution's car parks and limit their access to up to 30 entries per year, can benefit from a public transport subsidy. In Brussels and Strasbourg staff can obtain a 90 % public transport subsidy. In Luxembourg, where the public transport is free of charge, eligible staff can benefit from a 50% subsidy on cross-border train journeys to and from Luxembourg.

The Parliament communicated this option to staff through tailored campaigns and provided detailed information on the Parliament's intranet. By the end of 2023, 2 845 of Parliament's staff across all the three places of work benefited from the subsidy.

As we can see on the graph below, staff across all three workplaces have increasingly opted to take advantage of the opportunities provided to benefit from a public transport subsidy. In 2023,

there was a 22% increase in the number of subscriptions across the three places of work compared to 2022. In Brussels alone, subscriptions increased by 21% compared with 2022 and by 137% compared with 2019 (pre-pandemic).

FIGURE 13: EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES BENEFITING FROM THE SUBSIDY



3.3. Energy Consumption – Gas and fuel oil

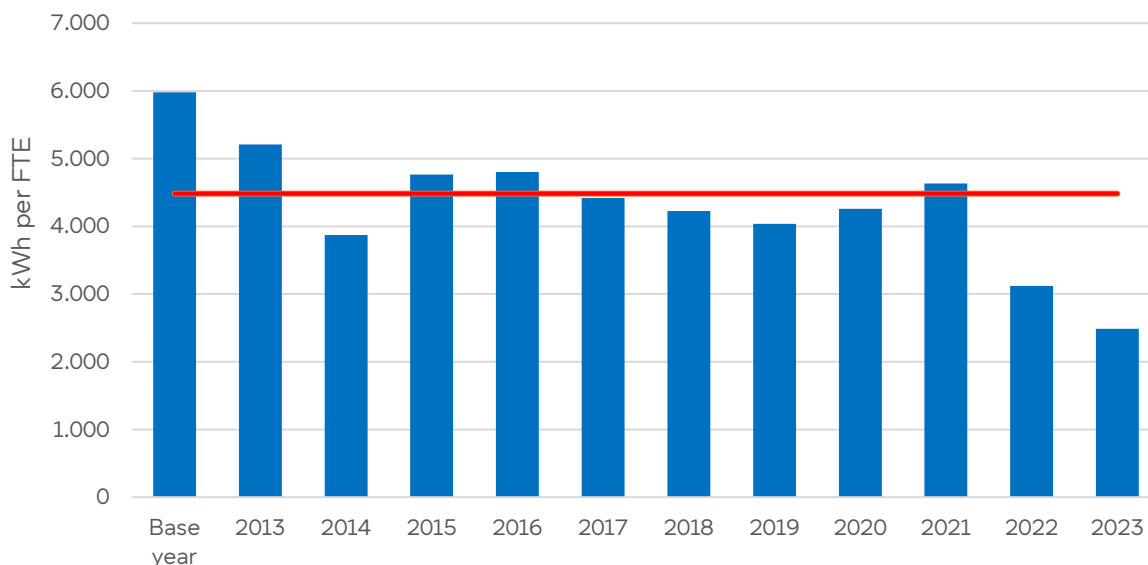
This indicator monitors the reduction of energy purchased for heating the European Parliament’s buildings with gas, oil and district heating. It is calculated as a three-year running average to accommodate variations in annual temperatures.

The Parliament significantly exceeded its target of reducing gas, oil, and district heating consumption by 25% per Full Time Equivalent (FTE). In 2023, the Parliament achieved a reduction of 42.9%,

Heating with natural gas accounted for 8% of the Parliament's total carbon footprint in 2023, whereas heating with oil contributes only 0.2%.



FIGURE 14: EVOLUTION OF THE GAS AND FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION PER FTE FROM 2006 TO 2023



In 2023, the consumption of gas, oil and district heating decreased by 18% compared to the previous year, declining from 46 539 978 kWh in 2022 to 39 372 141 kWh in 2023. This improvement can be attributed to a general reduction in heating demands across all buildings resulting from a combination of new technologies and better optimisation of existing heating systems. Several buildings, in particular, made noteworthy contributions to this reduction, which are worth highlighting:

- the Schuman building , which previously consumed 2 854 090 kWh in 2022, was vacated
- the House of European History building decreased its gas consumption by 69%, resulting in a saving of 349 479 kWh
- the Montoyer Science building reduced its gas consumption by 60%, saving 128 447 kWh.

These improvements further build upon the measures accomplished in 2022. Comfort settings for office heating and cooling remained tightened in 2023, with heating restricted to 19°C and cooling set no lower than 25°C. This adjustment from previous settings of 20°C and 24°C potentially contributed to a reduction in energy consumption per degree by as much as 7%. Additional efforts included optimising energy use within buildings, ongoing of special energy saving measures by the Parliament's Bureau, adjusting thermostats to meet the minimum legal requirements in each location, returning ventilation systems to normal operation levels, harnessing the efficiency of high-performing heat pumps in Strasbourg, and benefiting from a milder winter that reduced overall heating needs.

In 2021, heating energy usage experienced a rise compared to 2020, primarily due to two main factors. Firstly, the necessity of maintaining comfortable temperatures during the COVID-19 pandemic led to increased ventilation, consequently resulting in higher heating needs. Secondly,

the inclusion of the Adenauer building in Luxembourg significantly increased gas consumption at that location compared to the preceding year.

In the years leading up to 2018, Parliament made significant progress in reducing heating energy consumption. This success was achieved through proactive measures aimed at enhancing the efficiency of heating systems, from new large construction projects (MARTENS building in 2016), to deep renovation projects (HAVEL in 2016 and House of European History in 2017) to small projects focused on improving thermal insulation of buildings, including the installation of thicker walls and windows with enhanced insulation properties.

Communication on energy efficiency

In the first months of 2023, from 26 January to 30 March 2023, a campaign to raise awareness about energy efficiency, comparing the energy consumption of different choices, took place. It consisted of posters for the screens across Parliament and visual expos (one at each of the three sites – Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg) showing what can be powered by 1 kWh of energy (e.g. go up 60 floors by escalator, 160 floors by elevator; 5-7 kilometres by electric car, 90-100 kilometres by e-bike).

Related intranet articles by Newshound

- [Decarbonising' Parliament](#) 12/07/2023
- [Parliament's energy moves have paid off](#) 24/05/2023

Renewable Energy Generated on Site

Since 2008, all electricity purchased by the European Parliament for its operations originates from 100% renewable sources, backed by verifiable certificates of origin, known as Guarantees of Origin (GO). This commitment extends to the Parliaments data centres, which also use 100% green electricity.

The renewable energy share is determined by calculating the proportion of total renewable energy generated on site relative to the total energy used. The total energy used is calculated as the sum of purchased energy and renewable energy produced on site, minus the energy required to operate the heat pump – to avoid double counting as the thermal output of heat pumps is already counted as part of the target

During the parliamentary term 2019 to 2024, Parliament increased the **share of renewable energy produced on-site** to 20.6%. Even after the significant efforts – with a six-fold increase in on-site solar PV production – the share of on-site renewable energy remained below the target of 25%. During 2023 and in light of new environmental guidelines for the renewable energy criteria, the

energy produced by cogeneration with gas was removed from the calculations, thus leading to a decrease of the overall figure (from 23.4% to 20.6%). Nonetheless, in order to achieve the target, and to continue reducing its global energy consumption, the Parliament is considering to implement various short-term and mid-term solutions, including heat pumps and further optimisation of the technologies, as well as to evaluate, and to adjust, the energy related performance of all its activities and functions.

The legislative term witnessed a major increase in Parliament’s on-site production of electricity from solar panels. The number of panels has steadily risen and currently the number of panels is 2 146m2 in Brussels and 2 300m2 in Luxembourg. Ongoing installations works are taking place in Strasbourg, and the works are to be completed in 2024. In 2023, Parliament’s solar photovoltaic (PV) systems generated significantly more energy in 2023 compared to 2019 (an increase of 668% in absolute output), with 473 284 kWh in 2023 compared to 61 631kWh in 2019. Despite this nearly sevenfold increase in solar PV generation compared to 2019, there remains a 4 percentage point gap to achieve the target of a 25% share. In the forthcoming years, the newly installed geothermal heat pump system in Luxembourg and potential future addition of other heat pump systems are expected to significantly boost the renewable energy target by up to 5% as these systems attain optimal efficiency.

The 2023 renewable energy generation on-site was as follows:

FIGURE 15: ON-SITE ENERGY GENERATION IN 2023

Renewable energy production	Brussels	Luxembourg	Strasbourg	Total
Total energy purchased (kWh)	84 780 216	22 226 854	25 749 338	132 756 408
Energy used for running heat pumps (kWh)	368 809	88 280	4 366 700	4 823 789
Renewable energy produced on-site (kWh)	1 631 906	1 197 020	30 306 000	33 134 926
Share of renewable energy produced on site	1.9%	5.1%	58.6%	20.6%

FIGURE 16: EVOLUTION OF THE SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATED ON SITE

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Renewable energy generation from PV panels on site (kWh)	56 018	61 631	48 865	88 428	389 819	473 284
Renewable energy generation on site (kWh)	43 307 378	31 491 959	32 440 258	17 271 088	34 615 528	33 134 926

(including heat pumps)						
Total final energy purchased (kWh)	186 901 497	174 370 496	159 294 916	161 462 428	153 755 035	132 756 408
Share of renewable energy generated on site (%)	19.6%	15.7%	17.3%	9.9%	19%	20.6%

On 16 October 2023, the Bureau adopted a series of energy related measures to be implemented before the end of the current legislative term in 2024, aimed at further improving the European Parliament's environmental performance, which included:

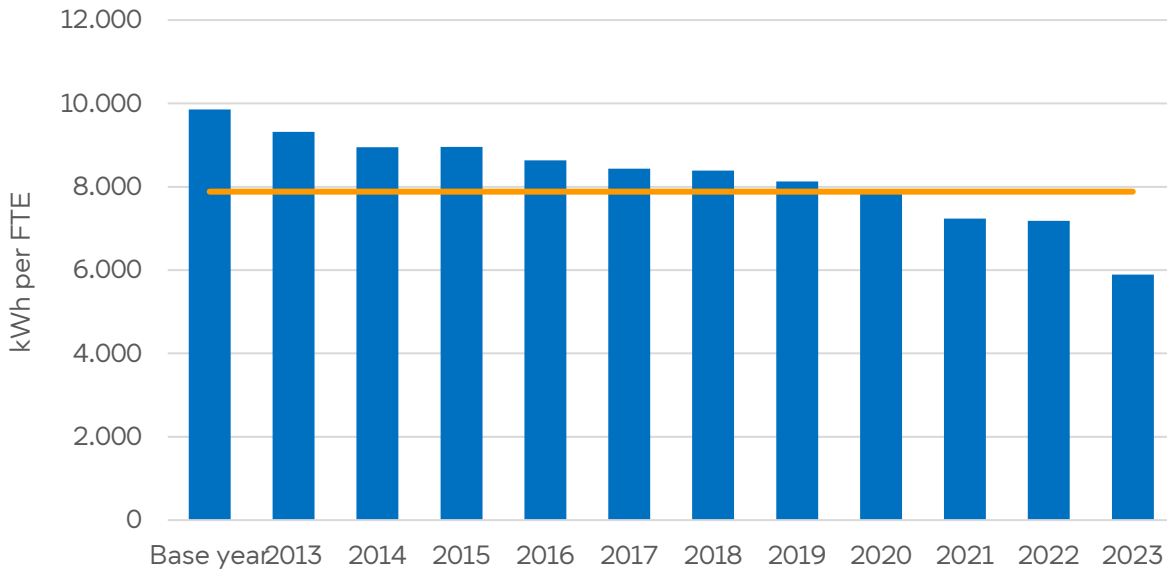
- more solar panel installations are scheduled for the Antall, Zweig, Wayenberg, Martens and Spaak buildings in Brussels and the Churchill, Pfimlin and De Madriaga buildings in Strasbourg;
- Increasing the use of heat pumps in Brussels, with the installation of two new heat pumps in the Zweig building in Brussels by September 2024;
- developing a renovation masterplan for buildings per site, prioritising Brussels, driven by the objective of meeting energy efficiency obligations and targets, based on legal requirements , and, ultimately, transitioning away from the use of fossil fuels to sustainable state-of-the-art technologies. Electricity Consumption

The electricity consumption indicator aims for a 20% reduction between 2012 and 2024, measured in kWh per FTE. Developments regarding electricity consumption have been very positive, with a decrease in electricity consumption of -38.1% between 2012 and 2023.

In terms of absolute electricity consumption, the total amount of annual electricity consumed by the European Parliament was reduced by 29%, from 131 393 481 kWh in 2012 to 93 384 267 kWh in 2023.



FIGURE 17: EVOLUTION OF ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION PER FTE BETWEEN 2012 AND 2023



The progress achieved in 2023 is remarkable considering the extra electricity demands of heating, when switching from gas boilers to heat pumps, more online meetings and additional charging of electric vehicles on site.

The energy related measures adopted by the Bureau also included several notable initiatives aimed at reducing electricity consumption by 2023:

- continuing the replacement of all remaining non-LED lighting in Parliament's buildings by low consumption LED lights and the introduction of sensor-operated lighting wherever feasible, including in offices, restrooms, and common areas of Parliament's buildings;
- putting innovative and energy efficient air filtration technologies in place in the buildings at all three sites of work;
- further optimising elevator systems to ensure additional energy savings;
- monitoring data usage and storage by the administration (i.e. the total size of storage linked to email accounts and shared drives) and reducing energy consumption from the continuous digitalisation of Parliament's legislative and administrative processes.

Regarding the use of the electric vehicles (EV), as of 1 December 2023, charging points in the European Parliament's car parks became payable for privately owned cars in line with the Bureau decision of 17 October 2022 and in consideration of the energy saving measures adopted by the Bureau on 2 May and 3 October 2022. Under this system, the European Parliament advances the payment for the electricity consumed by the individual users of these charging stations and receives at a later stage the amounts due, collected by an external operator.

In general, numerous energy saving projects have had a favourable impact on the development of this indicator since 2012:

- the installation of more energy efficient cooling units in buildings,
- relighting projects replacing the bulbs in communal areas with low-energy bulbs,
- better management of the lighting in meeting rooms,
- installation of more energy efficient heat pumps in Strasbourg,
- energy management in times of reduced building use,
- automatic adaptation of light intensity based on sensing daylight intensity,
- heating of buildings by cogeneration (or tri-generation), which produces electricity from excess heat.

The positive impacts of the energy management projects mentioned above were partially offset negatively by other users, particularly the rise in demand for IT power in recent years. This trend was particularly pronounced in 2020 and 2021, as increased IT availability and capacity were necessary to support remote work at home and in the political sphere, as well as within Parliament's administration. However, it's worth noting that IT equipment itself is becoming more energy efficient over time, resulting in a slower increase in energy demand compared to the growth in computing power or storage capacity.

3.4. Paper Consumption

The 'paper consumption per full time employee-equivalent' indicator considers the paper used at the three main places of work (A4 printing paper) and the (special) paper consumed by the printing unit. The KPI target on paper consumption compares average consumption in the 2019-2024 period to the reference period of 2010-2014.

The paper consumption evolution reached -61.4% in 2023, compared to the baseline period, exceeding the target of 50% by 2024. This significant decrease can be attributed to the pandemic and the unprecedented shift towards digitalisation of paper processes that facilitated obligatory teleworking.

The long-term trend toward reducing paper consumption is positive indicating that the efforts made by the various services (in particular the printing unit and distribution units) have been generally successful. In the medium term, addressing paper consumption can be best achieved by taking further steps towards creating a "paperless" Parliament, where a greater proportion of documents in the political, legislative and administrative processes can be handled exclusively in electronic form. This includes:

- full use of the eCommittee and eMeeting applications in the work of the parliamentary committees and bodies, following a good example of several committees which have already gone entirely paperless.

- communication activities are increasingly paperless with web communication, mass notices distributed by email and e-posters instead of physical stands.
- the use of digital signatures under the digital by default Strategic Execution Framework (SEF) project.

Additional efforts are being made to fully digitalise administrative processes, particularly those concerning staff, missions, finance and public procurement.

FIGURE 18: EVOLUTION OF PAPER CONSUMPTION PER FTE TARGET

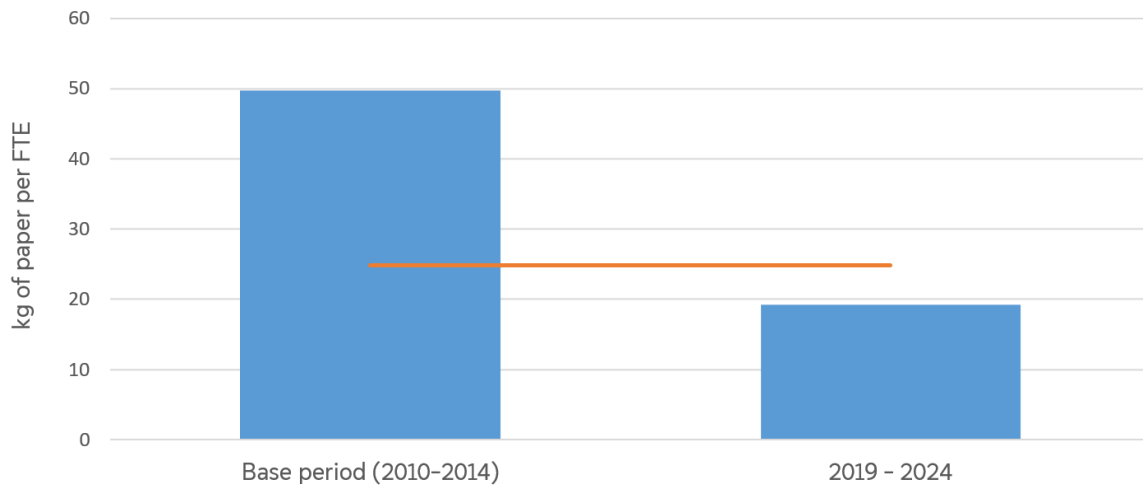
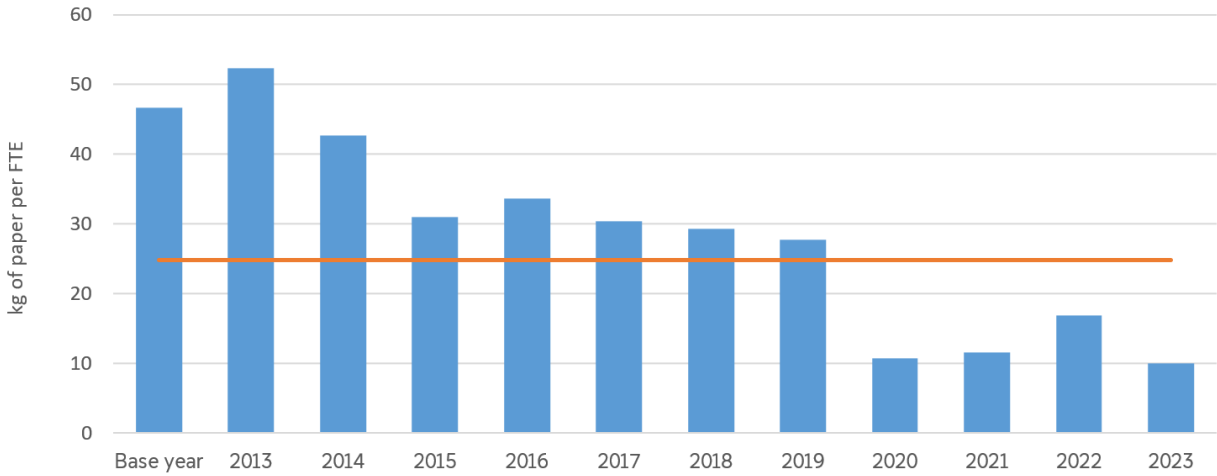


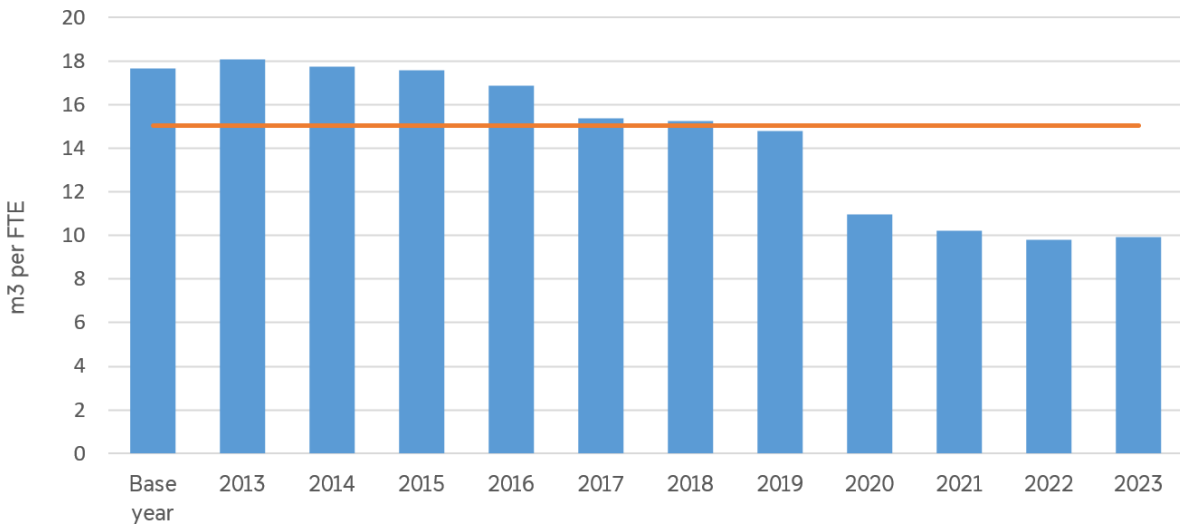
FIGURE 19: EVOLUTION OF PAPER CONSUMPTION PER FTE BETWEEN 2012 AND 2023



3.5. Water Consumption

When comparing water consumption per FTE in 2023 to 2012, a decrease of -43.7% has been observed, comfortably exceeding the target of a 15% reduction by 2024.

FIGURE 20: EVOLUTION OF WATER CONSUMPTION PER FTE BETWEEN 2012 AND 2023



In **absolute** terms, as illustrated in the figure below, a slight increase in water consumption of 8% occurred between 2022 and 2023. This increase could be attributed to two main factors: first, the rise in FTE (+6% between 2022 and 2023) and second, a greater office attendance compared to the years impacted by COVID-19.



In the past, the decrease observed in 2017 was primarily attributed to the elimination of hot water in several buildings, and the reduced need for anti-legionella flushing. The further improvement noted in 2019 can be mostly attributed to more efficient management of water use in restrooms, better measures for leak prevention and detection, and other general improvements in water management.

FIGURE 21: TOTAL WATER CONSUMPTION (M³)

Year	Base year 2012	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total water consumption	235 637	222 237	208 990	141 892	138 743	146 035	157 534

Water consumption by the Parliament is measured via the meters installed at the connecting points to the public water network for each building. Monthly figures are reported to the Parliament by the companies in charge of building management. Additionally, several sub-meters exist for various parts of the water network within the Parliament's buildings, but these do not currently cover the entire network. The sources of water usage can be broadly categorised into two groups: services for the building occupants (such as water for kitchenettes, common restrooms and private restrooms for Members) and other, mainly technical services (including air humidification, restaurants, cleaning, water softening, adiabatic cooling, watering of green areas, and flushing to mitigate the legionella risk).

As part of the Parliament's Strategic Execution Framework (SEF) several ongoing actions focus on technical improvements in new and renovated buildings. The European Parliament incorporates the collection of rainwater into its building projects. For example, the new Adenauer building in Luxembourg disposes of a large tank to store rainwater collected from the roof non-potable indoor use. Other measures include rainwater flushing for restrooms, and the installation of water saving Eco-labelled sanitary and water equipment. Additionally, further steps involve increased collection and use of rainwater in landscaping and maintaining green spaces, as well as additional improvements in prevention, detection and management of water leaks.

3.6. Recycled waste

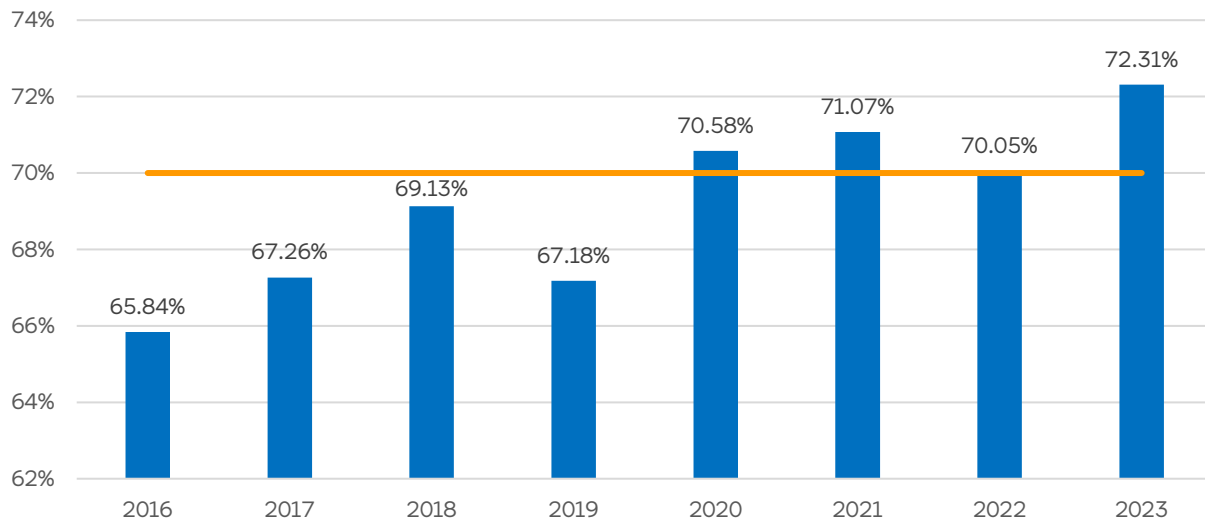
Demonstrating a strong commitment to improving waste management practices, the European Parliament has continuously worked to enhance its waste recycling efforts. The waste recycling target considers the cumulative average recycling rate over the 2016–2024 period. The average recycling rate (over the period 2016–2023) stood at 72.1%, ahead of the target for 2024 of 70%.

It should be noted that there are significant annual fluctuations in this indicator primarily because certain waste streams are fully recyclable while others are not, and the proportion of waste in

these respective streams affects the recycling percentage each year. Extraordinary events, such as major demolitions, construction projects, or staff moves to and from buildings, can also have a notable influence on the recycling rate.

The recycling rate for the year 2023 stood at 72.1%. Specifically, the recycling rates for each of the three sites in 2023 were as follows: 98% in Luxembourg, 76% in Brussels and 50.8% in Strasbourg.

FIGURE 22: EVOLUTION OF THE RECYCLING WASTE TARGET (CUMULATIVE AVERAGE OVER THE ENTIRE TARGET PERIOD)



There is a constant improvement in the recycling rate over the years, except for 2022, which can be explained by the exceptional circumstances in Strasbourg where over 1 000 tonnes of soil were removed due to pollution as part of a construction project in front of the WEISS building.

The Five Waste Compartment Bins

Both the setup of five-compartment waste recycling bins at the three sites and ongoing campaigns for the voluntary removal of general purpose waste bins from offices have been successful initiatives contributing to the increase in recycling performance.

Furthermore, additional five-compartment waste recycling bins have already been ordered for 2024 featuring a new organic waste bin compartment. In the Brussels-Capital Region, this expansion of food waste collection from the canteens to all office space follows the new legal obligation requiring the sorting of food waste, a regulation applicable to households, companies, and administrations alike.

The addition of the organic waste compartment in the new bins, placed conveniently close to all offices aims to make recycling more accessible. This initiative is expected to have a positive impact on improving the recycling rate from 2024 onwards.

Periodic analyses of waste streams found in the five-compartment bins revealed an average rate of correct sorting of 95% in 2023, which is a steady improvement compared to previous years (94% in 2022 and 93% in 2021).

By the end of 2023, there were 731 five-compartment waste bins, an increase from 727 in 2022. For 2023, the bins were distributed as follows per site:

- Brussels: 343 (two more compared to the previous year);
- Strasbourg: 200 (two more compared to the previous year) and;
- Luxembourg: 170 (same as in 2022).

3.7. Non-recycled Waste

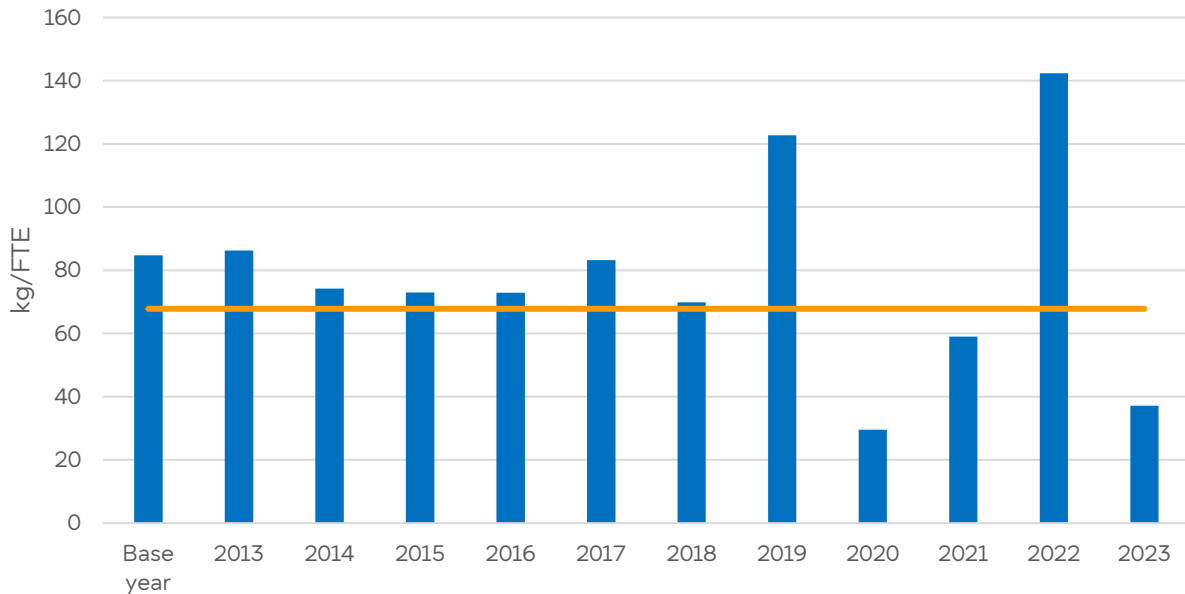
The non-recycled waste per FTE indicator stood at 37.2 kg/FTE reflecting a notable decrease of 56.2% compared to 2012. Thus, the Parliament reached its reduction target, which aimed for a 20% reduction compared to 2012.

Figure 22 illustrates the evolution of this indicator over time. The progression of this indicator presents considerable fluctuations. These variations can be primarily attributed to the inclusion of renovation and construction waste included in the KPI. For example, in 2022, the target was not attained due to 1 000 tonnes of unrecyclable soil removed due to pollution as part of a construction project associated with the WEISS building.

It is worth noting that a similar occurrence of this waste anomaly was observed in 2019 (125kg kg per FTE). The increased waste volumes can be attributed to various construction and renovation activities in Brussels (construction of the addition to the Wayenberg building, renovation of Members' offices in the SPINELLI, BRANDT, and ZWEIG buildings) and Strasbourg (construction in the WEISS building and renovation of Members' offices in other buildings).

More attention should be given to reducing non-recycled waste in general by enhancing circularity and recyclability of items and materials. This can be achieved through planning and eco-design in the purchase, construction, and installation phase. Such measures are particularly crucial when undertaking construction or renovation projects.

FIGURE 23: EVOLUTION OF KG OF NON-RECYCLED WASTE PER FTE BETWEEN 2012 AND 2023



Communication on waste recycling and non-recycled waste

In cooperation with the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics, the following communications were published:

In February 2023, there was an article on Parliament's internal newsletter Newshound titled "QR codes help you to sort waste correctly" raising awareness about the QR codes on the five-compartment waste bins across Parliament's buildings in all sites. The codes link to a file that explains what waste goes where, highlighting differences between the three places of work.

In June 2023, the Newshound article "Turning the bio-waste challenge into an opportunity" informed of the placement of bio-waste containers in the kitchenettes across Parliament's buildings in Brussels. It also included details on Parliament's environmental objectives and measures relevant to bio-waste, i.e. reduction in non-recycled waste and the production of biogas from food waste.

In the framework of the European Week for Waste Reduction from 18 to 26 November 2023, a poster campaign on how to sort different types of waste was run on the screens on Parliament's premises. The EMAS and Sustainability Unit set up a waste-sorting quiz, which was sent to the Heads of Units in all Directorate-Generals by the Environmental Management Officers.

3.8. Food Waste

The amount of food waste (leftover and unsold food) per meal sold experienced a significant reduction of -50.6% in 2023 when compared to 2016. Per meal, there is now only 43 grams of food waste. This achievement can be attributed in part to the elimination of self-service buffets, which effectively has reduced food waste in this category.

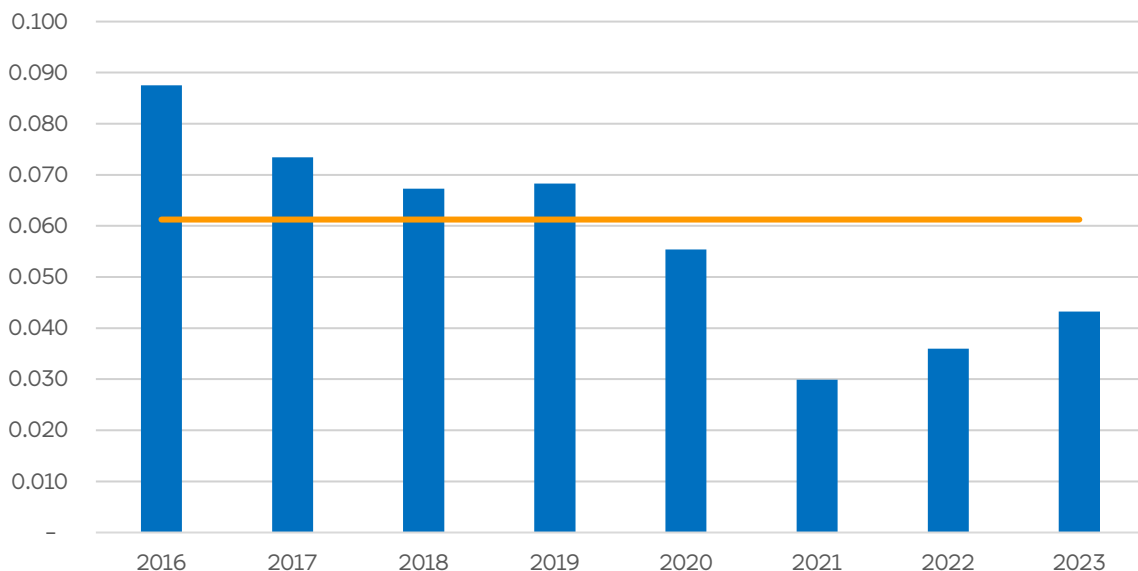
Likewise, there has been significant drop in the carbon footprint associated with the category 'purchase of food for restaurants', with emissions decreasing from 3 197 in 2006 to 2 387 tCO₂e in 2023.

These substantial efforts to mitigate food waste through better planning, reduced portion sizes on request, and food donations are shown to have resulted in reducing food waste per portion.

For instance, side dishes (starters and vegetables) are self-service, so that Members and staff can choose the side dishes they prefer and in the quantities they intend to eat. In the Martens building self-service restaurant in Brussels, the sustainable Friday initiative, in which unused food ingredients of the week are used for the preparation of the menu on that day, is very popular (with 70% supporting the initiative according to the latest survey on catering). This results in a remarkable 66% reduction in food waste, compared to business as usual.

In addition, the main catering partners are expanding the adoption of various food waste management systems such as smart scales, aiding kitchen teams in monitoring and minimising food waste.

FIGURE 24: EVOLUTION OF KG OF WASTE PER MEAL SERVED FROM 2016 TO 2023



Moreover, the quality of catering services at the European Parliament has been further enhanced:

- Smiley certification, awarded by AFSCA (Belgian Food Safety Agency) for an excellent management system of food safety, has already been obtained in the SPINELLI, ANTALL and SPAAK buildings in Brussels since 2017. The new catering providers have committed to continue to ensure such certification and pursuing other awards.
- Biogarantie, awarded by Certysis (inspection and certification body specialised in organic products) for food that's truly organic food and prepared using organic products. This has been rolled out to the Spinelli, Spaak and Kohl canteens since 2017, as well as to the 'Les Filles' premises.
- Good food label with two forks, awarded by "Brussels Environment" for high quality sustainable food, respectful of the environment and in line with fair trade practices has been awarded since 2018, to the canteens in the SPINELLI and SPAAK buildings, following a successful audit.

Communication on food waste

The Directorate-General for Translation organised an internal vegetarian food competition in Luxembourg in 2023 to raise awareness among its staff about the impact of food choices and food waste on the environment. The catering services of the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics offered the dishes based on the winning recipes in Parliament's canteens. The EMAS and Sustainability Unit supported the communication on the special offer, which led to a high consumption of these dishes and was well received by staff.

3.9. Other Waste Management Indicators and Trends (no target)

In addition to the waste targets mentioned earlier, other indicators, which are not tied to a KPI target, are also monitored to offer a comprehensive overview of waste management in the Parliament. These indicators are presented and explained below.

The total quantity of waste per FTE was 313 kg in 2023. The primary contributors to the total quantity of waste produced in the European Parliament were construction waste (66% of the total waste). The remaining 34% is attributed to integrated facility waste, catering waste and IT equipment waste. The figure below illustrates the proportion of each type of waste and treatment in the total waste generated.

FIGURE 25: SHARES OF WASTE QUANTITY PER TYPE AND TREATMENT IN 2023

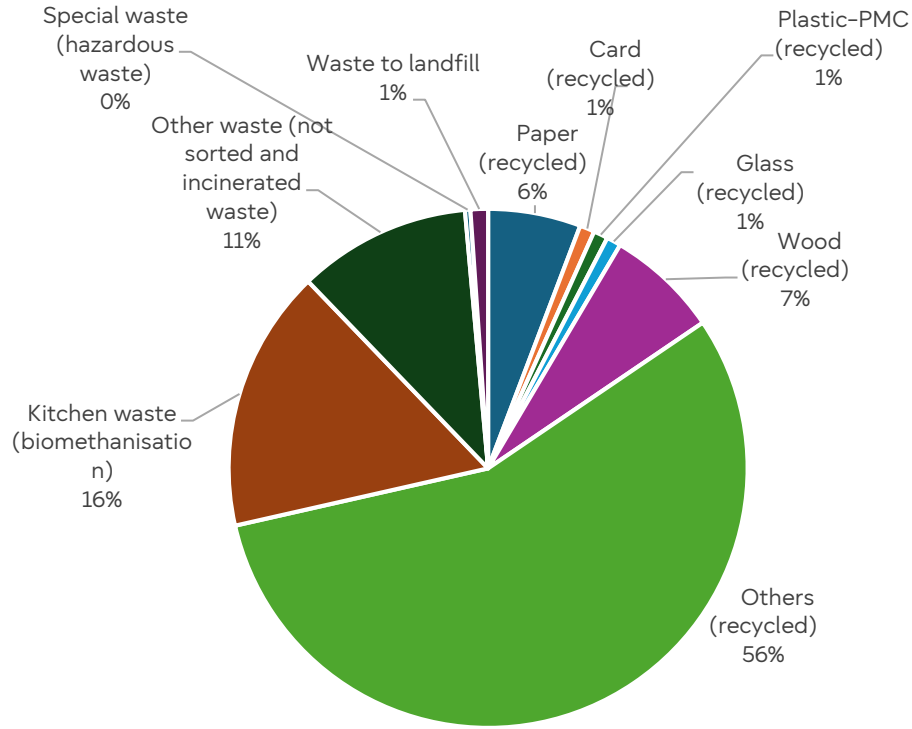


FIGURE 26: EVOLUTION OF TOTAL QUANTITY OF WASTE PER FTE BETWEEN 2012 AND 2023

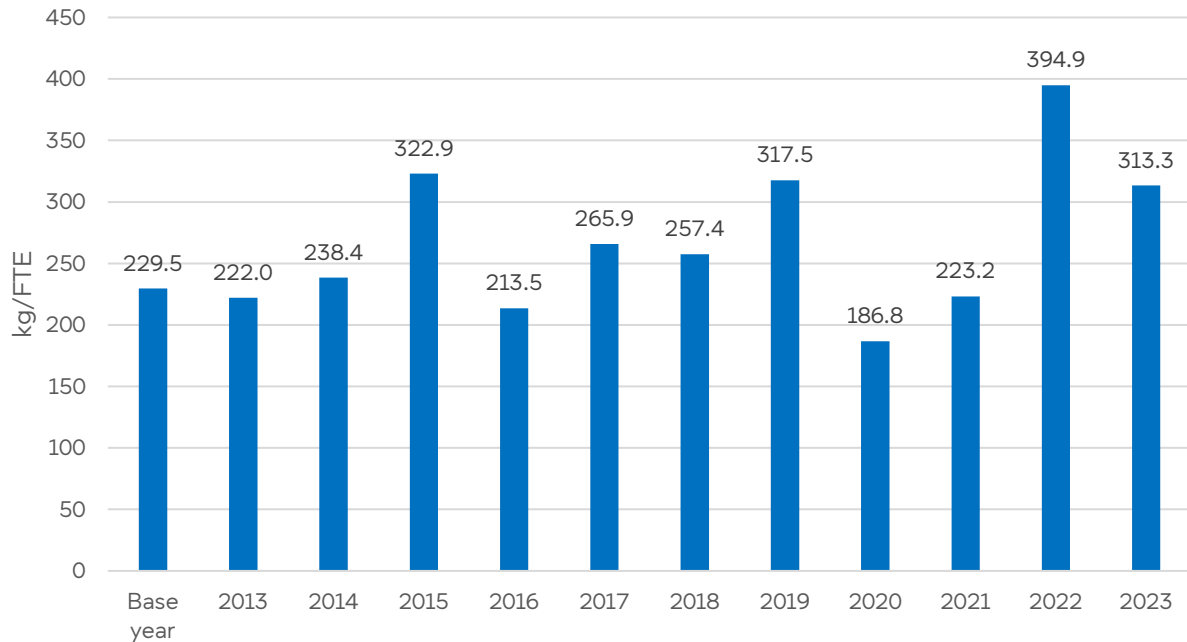
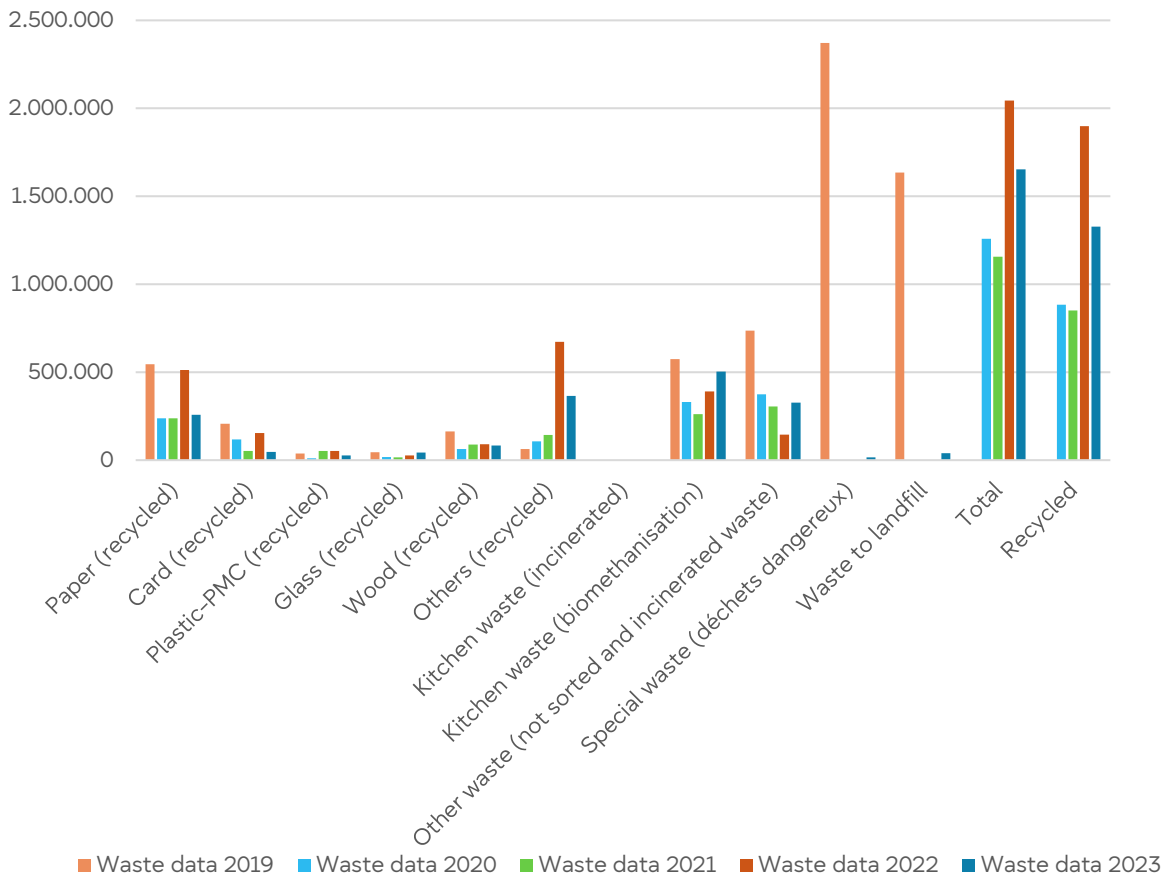


FIGURE 27: EVOLUTION OF TOTAL QUANTITY OF WASTE PER TYPE AND TREATMENT BETWEEN 2017 AND 2023



When evaluating factors influencing waste figures, it is crucial to consider the time lag between the activity generating (potential) waste and when the waste is actually disposed and recorded. This means that waste figures for a specific year may partly reflect activities that occurred years or even decades in the past. This is evident in the paper waste figures for 2019, where despite a decrease in paper purchases, there was a slight increase in paper waste compared to the previous year.

The European Parliament is undertaking significant efforts to internally reduce plastic waste, particularly focusing on single use plastics, aligning with the broader policy priorities at EU level. This commitment is particularly reflected in the Bureau decision of 11 June 2018 on the European Parliament Catering Policy beyond 2019, which stipulates, inter alia that all future catering concession and service contracts signed by the European Parliament shall incorporate the provisions of the Plastic Waste Strategy as presented by the European Commission in January 2018. Furthermore, the Quaestors, in their meeting of 17 April 2018 decided to implement measures aimed at reducing the provision of water in plastic bottles in Parliament’s official



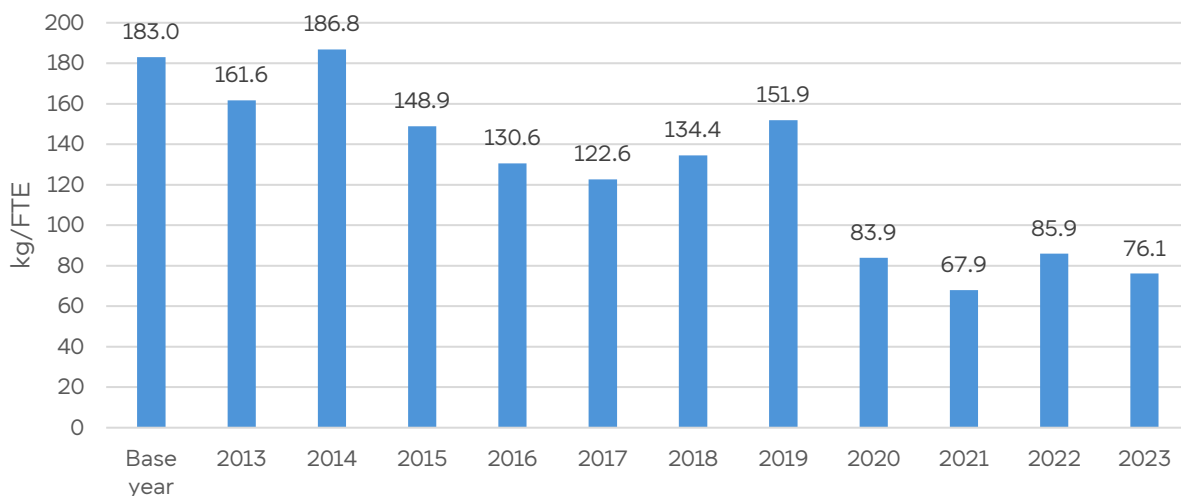
meeting, with the objective of gradually eliminating such practice in favour of using tap water fountains installed close to the meeting rooms.

Following the Quaestor and Bureau decisions from April and June 2018 respectively

- no bottled mineral water is provided at Parliament's official meetings since 2019;
- more central water fountains are equipped with recyclable or biodegradable cups;
- participants in parliamentary meetings are invited to use one of the 357 water fountains equipped with anti-bacteriological devices providing cooled flat and sparkling water.

Plastic bottles (incl. vending machines) were abolished in the three work places of Parliament in July 2019. They were removed from the vending machines in Luxembourg and Strasbourg in November 2019 and in Brussels in March 2020.

FIGURE 28: EVOLUTION OF OFFICE AND CATERING WASTE PER FTE FROM 2012 TO 2023

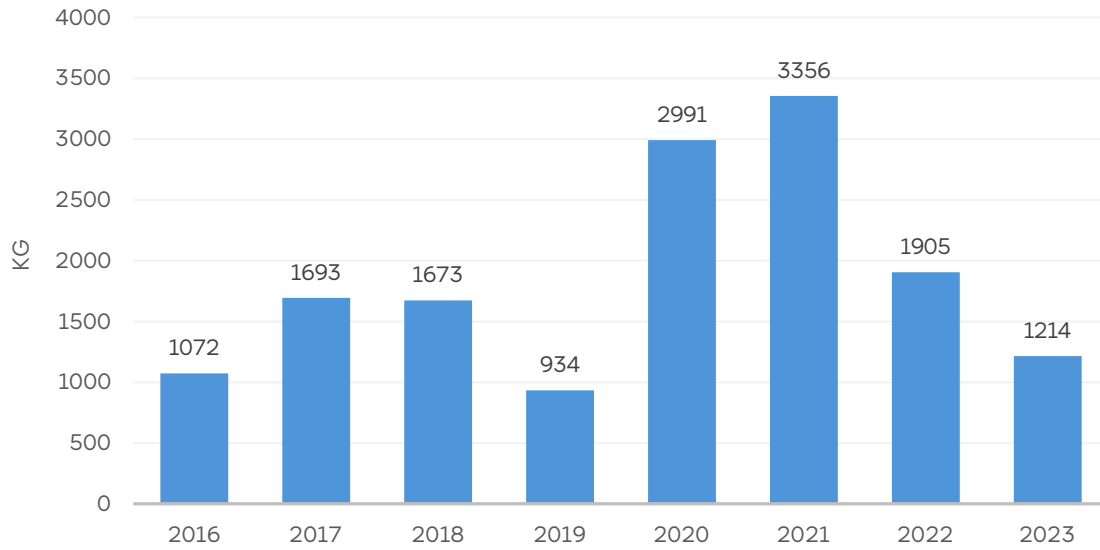


Office and kitchen waste showed a rebound trend post COVID-19, whereby the quantity (kg) of office and kitchen waste per FTE reaching 76.1 kg in 2023, a 58.4% reduction compared to the baseline year (2012).

It is important to note that efforts in waste reduction are closely linked to prevention and reuse strategies. Therefore, conducting effective needs assessments prior to purchase and use as well as redeploying existing resources are among the most effective approaches to waste reduction. Notably, these practices can lead to significant cost savings.

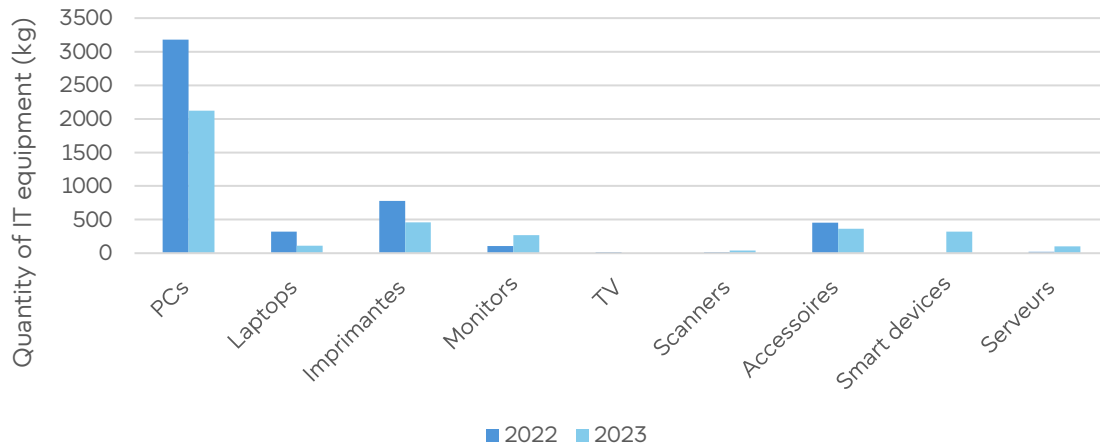
In addition to monitoring its waste generation, the European Parliament was the first EU institution to launch a comprehensive food donation programme in 2016. Our services collaborated with charity organisations to develop a food donation scheme, whereby high quality unused products and meals are donated at the end of each parliamentary activity week.

FIGURE 29: EVOLUTION OF FOOD DONATION QUANTITY FROM 2016 TO 2023



It is worth noting that in addition to the food donation programme, the Parliament maintained its established practice of **donating decommissioned IT equipment** and durable goods, such as office furniture, to charitable organisation for refurbishment and reuse. In 2023, Oxfam received 34 tonnes of electronic equipment donations. A breakdown of the items donated can be seen in the figure below.

FIGURE 30: EVOLUTION OF IT EQUIPMENT DONATION BETWEEN 2022 AND 2023



3.10. Sustainable Procurement

The European Parliament’s comprehensive approach to greening public procurement has been in effect since 2017. Parliament’s Green Public Procurement (GPP) approach is based on



classification of contracts with respect to their greenness and on monitoring performance at corporate level of the European Parliament, including greening targets for specific groups of products or services considered to have a high environmental impact and significant potential for greening.

In 2019, Parliament set as key performance indicator target by the end of the legislative term 2019 -2024, to achieve that 90 % of its contracts in 13 priority product or service groups should be classified as green. The 13priority product/service groups: Buildings, Cleaning, Food and Catering, Furniture, Gardening and Green Areas, IT and Imaging Equipment, Lighting, Office Supplies, Paper, Sanitary and Water Equipment, Textiles, Vehicles and Transport, and Waste management.

In 2023, 96.6% of contracts by value in priority categories were classified as "Green", exceeding the GPP target of 90%. The figure is significantly higher than in 2021 and 2022. Some examples of European Parliament contracts classified as "Green" in 2023 include contracts related to renovation projects and building materials, interior and exterior signage of the buildings of the EU institutions, the cleaning of service vehicles as well as pullovers and cardigans for security personal. Considering all contracts above 15 000 EUR in 2023, 48.5% by value were classified as "Green". This is significantly lower than in 2022 when 69.3% of all contracts were classified as green.

Overall, the application of the GPP approach is a success at this stage of implementation, with the majority of Directorates-General having made efforts to green their purchases. Complementary measures for greening Parliament's purchases include GPP training and presentations for staff involved in procurement procedures, maintaining an interinstitutional GPP Helpdesk to help with practical aspects of greening individual contracts, and building knowledge and capacity for green procurement in-house, both at the level of Directorates-General (DGs) and in the EMAS and Sustainability Unit.

However, there are still challenges and opportunities for improvement, mainly in the frequency of use of the GPP Helpdesk, general awareness of green criteria for particular product groups and how to apply them, as well as accuracy and consistency of contract classification. To close this gap, an online presentation for procurement officers about the environmental target indicator on Green Public Procurement as well as the classification of tender procedures was offered by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit in March 2023.

The interinstitutional GPP Helpdesk provides support to procurement staff, staff providing input in the development of tender specifications, authorising officers, and all other staff involved in procurement with introducing environmental and social considerations into their tenders. The help is provided in all stages of procurement procedures, from needs assessment and market research, to drafting technical specifications, deciding on appropriate award criteria, and help

with evaluating environmental aspects of offers received. In September 2023, the GPP Helpdesk also gave a presentation open to all participating institutions on the topic of sustainable gadgets.

From 2021 to 2023, the European Parliament's administrative Working Group on Socially Responsible Public Procurement had been working on the development of internal guidance for socially responsible public procurement. The guide providing information about the legal and practical possibilities for including social responsibility objectives, risks and opportunities as well as tools and best practice examples, was adopted by Parliament's Public Procurement Forum in March 2023 and was made available to all staff on the European Parliament's intranet.

In October 2023, the Working Group on Socially Responsible Public Procurement merged with the Green Public Procurement Working Group to form the administrative 'Working Group on Sustainable Public Procurement'. All Directorate-Generals are represented in the Working Group that meets two to four times annually and fosters the exchange of best practices on incorporating both environmental and social criteria into tender processes. Regular meetings feature presentations of relevant studies and data on the Parliament's sustainable procurement efforts. To promote sustainable public procurement, a training course was also offered to European Parliament staff.

Communication on Green Public Procurement

In 2023, there were three webinars promoting Green Public Procurement. The first webinar on 28 March informed about Parliament's objective, the second on 19 September focused on the procurement of promotional material, and the third, organised on 30 November 2023, informed about how to use the Green Public Procurement Helpdesk. The target audience were staff working with procurement procedures.

Related intranet Newshound articles:

- [A helpful tool to make your EP event greener](#) 18/04/2023
- [Parliament's green procurement indicator](#) 28/03/2023

3.11. Biodiversity

The European Parliament aims at enhancing biodiversity of its green spaces. The project 'Roadmap for Biodiversity Spaces' started in November 2021, as part of Parliament's Strategic Execution Framework (SEF) 2022-2024. In 2023, after two years of preparatory work, the first measures to improve biodiversity on-site were successfully implemented.

Preparatory work

In 2022, a biodiversity project team assessed all green spaces at Parliament’s three places of work with regard to potential for actions to improve the biodiversity. The project team considered possibilities to improve both Parliament’s quantitative and qualitative biodiversity indicator.

Quantitative biodiversity indicator

Parliament’s quantitative biodiversity indicator tracks the share in percentage of green areas in the covered areas. Green areas include outdoor ground floor green spaces, green terraces, green roofs, green walls, public gardens etc., while the covered areas include parts of the plot covered by buildings.

In 2023, the values of the biodiversity indicator at each of the three places of work and for the European Parliament changed slightly since the previous year. They are listed in the following figure:

FIGURE 31: QUANTITATIVE BIODIVERSITY INDICATOR – 46% GREEN AREAS TO COVERED AREAS

Site	Percentage of green areas to total floor surface (office space)	Biodiversity indicator (Percentage of green to covered areas)
Brussels	2%	34%
Luxembourg	7%	57%
Strasbourg	5%	48%
Average three sites	5%	46%

The latest changes in the occupancy of the buildings in Luxembourg, the move of staff to the ADENAUER II building and out of the SCHUMAN building, have resulted in a quantitative indicator of 57% of green to covered areas. There was an overall increase of over 6 000 m² of green space in Luxembourg. After an updated inventory of the green spaces by the project team in Brussels the total surface resulted to be slightly smaller than the one considered during the last exercise (minus three percentage points).

Qualitative biodiversity indicator

The biodiversity project team has worked on developing a qualitative biodiversity indicator to reflect measures implemented to favour biodiversity. For that, project team had to reach out to different local organisations in Strasbourg, Brussels and Luxembourg that support public authorities and companies to promote biodiversity in the specific local and regional context. The qualitative indicator should complement the quantitative biodiversity indicator and should show the progress Parliament makes on biodiversity promotion. From the work with the three different local organisations, ten biodiversity aspects have been chosen to be featured in the indicator:



1. Allow green spaces to grow naturally
2. Provide habitats for local wildlife
3. Recycle green waste
4. Limit lighting in hours of darkness (black corridors)
5. Promote local plants
6. Improve soil naturally
7. Protect plants naturally
8. Promote actions and raise public awareness
9. Have a certificate or an official label
10. Water management in maintaining biodiversity

Each of the ten biodiversity aspects has three levels to attain, and points are awarded depending on the level that is reached. The points are presented as a percentage of the maximum possible for each criterion and recalculated taking into consideration the weight of each green area in terms of surface. All the points are therefore added up to obtain the biodiversity indicator for each site, as follows:

FIGURE 32: QUALITATIVE BIODIVERSITY INDICATOR – 50% GREEN AREAS TO COVERED AREAS

Site	Biodiversity indicator
Brussels	32%
Luxembourg	71%
Strasbourg	48%
Total (three sites)	50%

Some of Parliament's outside green areas, like the Citizens Garden in Brussels, form part of cultural heritage of Belgium. Therefore, the possibilities to change these areas are limited. However, it should be noted that, at the three work places, Parliament's green maintenance contractors do not use pesticides and, if they need to plant new plants, preference is given to indigenous plants.

In order to explain to Members, staff and citizens, the measures and underline the importance of biodiversity, panels with explanations about the measures have been set up in 2023 on all three sites. Furthermore, several awareness raising measures included biodiversity tours at the three places of work and articles on the intranet and in the newsletter Newshound of the European Parliament.

Biodiversity labels in 2023

In **Luxembourg**, the European Parliament has cooperated with the local organisation 'Jardins de Noé' within its biodiversity actions. The newly built ADENAUER II building in Luxembourg fulfils many qualitative biodiversity aspects such as the recycling and reuse of different types of green

waste (e.g. grass clippings, dead leaves, pruning and felling waste) and the storing rainwater and grey water for maintenance of green areas. At the "Place du Parlement", indigenous plants have been chosen over non-native species, insect hotels have been installed as well as birdhouses. In addition, other biodiversity actions have been included during the planning and construction of the ADENAUER West Wing. On the patio of the second extension, rainwater will be reused and the level of artificial lighting has been adapted. Furthermore, the Parliament is the first EU institution in Luxembourg to receive a label for its green outside areas and therefore attained level three for the ninth aspect of the qualitative indicator, a certificate or an official label. During an award ceremony in October 2023, the Parliament received the biodiversity label from Jardins de Noé.

In **Strasbourg**, the European Parliament opted to become part of the charter "Tous unis pour plus de biodiversité". Parliament's neighbour in Strasbourg, the Council of Europe, is also part of the charter. A biodiversity expert accompanied the Parliament on its journey to explore more biodiverse outdoor green spaces. Many biodiversity measures have already been implemented, such as a big wild flower meadow with specific flowers for wild bees as well as the installation of birdhouses and insect hotels. It is more challenging to limit lighting in hours of darkness and improve the soil naturally. During an award ceremony in October 2023, the Parliament received the biodiversity label of the highest level from Eurométropole.

In **Brussels**, the situation is more difficult, because there are 15 different green spaces with different rules - some form part of the national cultural heritage. The garden of the ARENDT building was selected in 2022 as a pilot project. The European Parliament signed a convention to formalise cooperation with a non-profit organisation called Natagora. Based on a biodiversity inventory drawn up for the garden, carried out by a biodiversity expert, a management plan for the garden is being implemented by Parliament's contractor for the maintenance of green spaces. For example, Natagora advised to reuse green waste on-site and allow the ivy to grow up on a wall of stone in the garden. To favour biodiversity on selected areas, green spaces are only mown once a year, some branches are left on the spot to serve as natural insect hotels and improve the soil quality etc. During an award ceremony in September 2023, the European Parliament received the biodiversity label from Natagora for the actions implemented in the ARENDT garden. The European Parliament is the first EU institution in Brussels to receive a label for its green outside areas.

For the upcoming years, it is planned to apply more biodiversity measures to the other 14 green areas of the European Parliament in Brussels.

Promoting biodiversity on Parliament's premises

An increasing number of measures to preserve and promote biodiversity are undertaken at the European Parliament's three work places. Tours to showcase some of these measures took place in Brussels on 22 May 2023, in Strasbourg on 13 June 2023, and in Luxembourg on 20 June 2023. The first biodiversity tour took place on the International Day of Biodiversity at the Citizens' Garden in

Brussels. It was led by Peter Corens, Ecologist and the expert who conducted the biodiversity inventory of the Citizens' Garden in September 2019 for the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics.

Parliament's successful work fostering biodiversity in the institution's green spaces was recognised with three biodiversity labels presented to Parliament by local organisations during small ceremonies organised in Brussels on 28 September 2023, in Luxembourg on 10 October 2023, and in Strasbourg on 17 October 2023.

Related intranet Newshound articles:

- [How Parliament is \(visibly\) improving biodiversity](#) 24/10/2023
- [Join the very first biodiversity tour in the Citizens' Garden](#) 12/05/2023

4. EMAS AUDITS AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

The objective of EMAS audits is to assess the functioning of the environmental management system in place, determining conformity with all environmental legal requirements, with the European Parliament's EMAS Action Plan and Environmental Policy, identifying and exchanging best environmental practices and raising awareness. With the EMAS the European Parliament gains a maximum certainty of its legal compliance.

4.1. Internal EMAS Audits

All in-house entities managing significant environmental impacts should be audited (internally) at least once during the three years cycle. Audit teams are usually composed of a combination a representative from the EMAS and Sustainability team and Parliament's staff well-experienced and trained with EMAS audits. Internal EMAS audit training has been added to the list of available courses to Parliament staff.

On 27 January 2022, the EMAS 2022-2024 Internal Audit Plan and annual Audit Plan were adopted. Internal audits are aiming at identifying any new significant environmental impact, at following-up on previous audit report recommendations, as well as covering and exchanging best practice issues.

The 2023 internal EMAS audit cycle consisted of four of the thirteen Directorates-General (Directorate-General for Communication, Legal Service, Parliamentary Democracy Partnerships, Translation) that were carried out by internal auditors (members of the EMAS and Sustainability Unit and volunteers from various Directorates-General).

The general internal audits have identified several positive points, which show that audited services are aware of the main environmental impacts and carbon footprint of their activities and are actively involved in improving their environmental performance. This includes for example the further inclusion of social and environmental criteria in tender procedures and increased use of GPP Helpdesk; sustainability certification of large events; development of sustainable move check-lists; development of more sustainable eco-friendly websites the advancement in several services of e-procurement and e-tendering practices; the continued removal of individual printers and their replacement with multifunctional devices.

The internal audits followed-up on the points of attention and the minor non-conformities identified during the external verification audit of 2023, such as the availability of bicycles parking places, the management of chemicals on site with a view to assess the actions undertaken since and the remaining necessary next step for resolving the matters. Points of

attention were raised in particular concerning emissions from transport of persons. They have also identified areas for possible improvement such as looking into improving the way in which the Parliament keeps up to date with legal requirements and the opportunities for the various services to make better use of the Environmental management system tools such as the EMAS Action Plan when undertaking environmental projects.

4.2. EMAS Legal Audits

Legal audits are performed together with an external service provider that helps identify the various environmental legal requirements the European Parliament must comply to.

In 2023 the following legal audits were conducted:

- four legal audits (Catering Service, Printing and IT Equipment Services, Medical Service and Prevention and Protection at Work Service)
- full legal audit of the ADENAUER II building) performed by an external consultants.

In their reports, the legal auditors did not identify any major non-conformities but identified a certain number of measures that needed to be undertaken. These included provision of information related to certain waste stream and the update of the waste procedure to better reflect the management system in place, the timely measurement of combustion emissions for an installed heating cogeneration equipment, the measurement of noise level with regard to some technical equipment, and the availability and proper signalling of safety equipment.

The final legal audit reports were sent to the audited units who were requested to address the recommendations of the report in view of the upcoming external verification audit in May 2024.

4.3. EMAS External Verification Audit

The external verification of Parliament's environmental management system was carried out by Vinçotte SA, an accredited EMAS verifier, from June to September 2023.

Following the main recertification audit of 2022, Parliament's EMAS registration has been extended until 2025. Overall, the external EMAS auditors had found that Parliament's environmental management system was working well and emphasised that all Directorates-General had been working in a very dedicated manner with the EMAS and Sustainability Unit to ensure full compliance with environmental laws in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg.

Based on the results of this audit, the environmental verifier confirmed that Parliament's environmental management system complied with the requirements of the EMAS Regulation,

and validated Parliament's 2023 Environmental Statement for 2022, which was subsequently sent to the Competent Authorities at the three places of work.

The concrete results regarding the state of the Environmental management system and compliance with requirements of the EMAS regulation and applicable legislation were as follows: 7 Positive Points, 39 Points for Attention, 10 Improvement Opportunities and 4 instances of minor non-compliance⁸. Non-compliance include the need for additional outdoor parking spaces for the Martens building, the proper implementation of the chemicals management procedure, the improvement of the legal watch to encompass local level in Strasbourg, and a better follow-up of external complaints with regard to environmental matters.

4.4. Legal Registry for Regulatory Compliance

The EMAS environmental management system requires regulatory compliance with environmental legislation. The European Parliament must identify all legal requirements relating to the environment that are applicable to its activities and premises at each of its three main places of work, take timely action and ensure compliance with the applicable legislation. To this end, the following system has been put in place:

- a legal watch service for updating services across the Parliament with relevant new legal requirements;
- procedures to ensure the follow-up and the implementation of the necessary measures by the relevant services;
- regular internal EMAS audits including legal audits checking regulatory compliance and covering all legal requirements in the EMAS scope over a 3 year cycle;
- the annual external EMAS verification in line with the requirements of the EMAS Regulation.

The legal watch service is carried out via an inter-institutional framework contract, covering several EU institutions and bodies. It is managed in the European Parliament by the Directorate-General for Infrastructure and Logistics (DG INLO). Under this legal watch service, the contract provides all relevant identified Parliament's services with legislative updates in three different domains: environment, buildings and technical installations, and accessibility of the buildings.

⁸ Positive point (P+): practices that improve the effectiveness or efficiency of the Environmental management system.

Non-compliance (NC): a negative finding, a failure to comply with the requirements of the Environmental management system or environmental legislation that requires corrective action by the auditee. Non-compliances can be divided into minor and major according to their severity. Major non-conformities are serious issues, which can put the registration/certification of the Environmental management system at risk.

Point for attention (PA): a negative finding which could become non-conformity in the future if no action is taken. For this reason, a point for attention requires action by the auditee and follow-up by the auditor.

Improvement Opportunity (ODA): a finding that is communicated to the auditee for information, their implementation is voluntary and their role is to demonstrate ways of improving the Environmental management system beyond mere compliance.

For the environmental domain at the European Parliament, it is the responsibility of the relevant services to assure, and to be able to demonstrate, compliance with environmental legislation applicable to their activities. The verification of conformity with legal requirements is then carried out by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit, via yearly legal audits as well as in the context of the external verification audits.

As of 2024 a new site-specific legal watch service will be implemented at each of the three main sites, in Brussels, Strasbourg and Luxembourg.

4.5. Environmental Permits

The situation regarding environmental permits⁹ for the buildings that are in the scope of the Parliament's EMAS registration is as follows:

Brussels: All EMAS registered buildings have a valid environmental permit.

Strasbourg: Equipment installed in European Parliament premises, that is to say gas-fired boilers and devices containing refrigerating fluids, including heat pumps, is subject to declaration as facilities classified for environmental protection purposes (ICPE). The prefectural decision awarding a thermal drilling operating licence under the Water Act was published in November 2012.

Luxembourg: The Adenauer Building I and II have a valid environmental permit for a classified building (a building whose environmental impact is potentially significant according to regulation in force in Luxembourg and for which a valid environmental permit is therefore required). The Senningerberg building in Luxembourg, is not a classified building and therefore does not require an environmental permit.

All EMAS registered buildings are in compliance with their environmental permit requirements and environmental authorisations; for the Martens building in Brussels, one non-conformity is due to be resolved in agreement with the local authorities.

⁹ The full list of environmental permits for the buildings included in Parliament's EMAS scope is included in Annex III.

5. EMAS ACTION PLANS

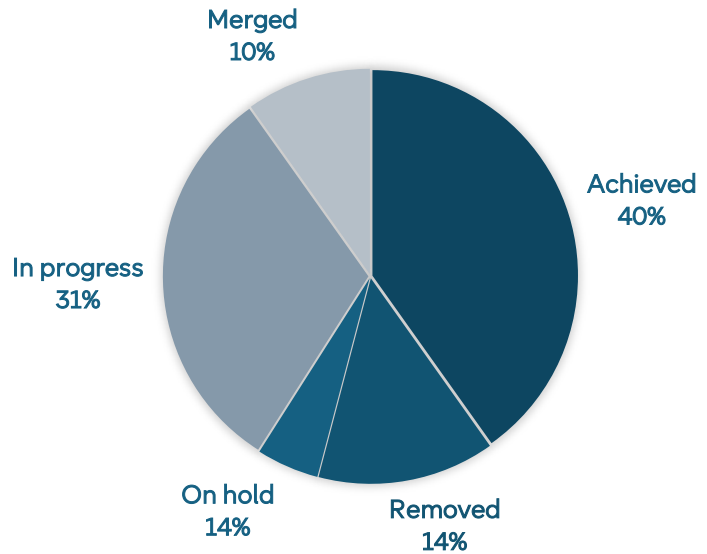
5.1. EMAS Action Plan 2023

The EMAS Action Plan includes actions, responsible services and deadlines for the implementation of the different activities, notably in the area of climate change, transport, waste, water, paper, green procurement, good administration, biodiversity, and communication, training and awareness. Actions with a deadline in 2023 have either been completed or carried forward with a new deadline. Some actions have been converted into continuous actions at the request of the responsible departments, demonstrating their commitment to continuous improvement.





In total, out of the 122 actions in 2023:

- 49 were achieved;
- 38 were in progress;
- 12 were merged with other actions;
- 6 were put on hold and 17 were removed.

FIGURE 33: STATUS OF THE ACTION PLAN IN 2023



EMAS Action Plan 2023 highlights

			
<p style="text-align: center;">Digitalisation improvements</p> <p>Significant digital transformation processes, increasing efficiency and reducing paper.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sustainable travel</p> <p>Improvements between the three sites for Belgium, Strasbourg and Luxembourg.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sustainable events</p> <p>Sustainable events checklist and ISO 20121 certification of the European Youth Event.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Green Public Procurement</p> <p>All DGs are promoting mandatory Green Public Procurement criteria in their tenders specifications.</p>

In addition to activities included in the annual EMAS Action Plan and those initiated by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit in order to meet the requirements stipulated in the EMAS Regulation, one notable goal of Parliament’s environmental management system is to incorporate environmental considerations into all its administrative activities. This is a desirable characteristic of a mature environmental management system and is also an explicitly stated aim in Parliament’s Environmental Policy.

In 2023, there was significant progress on the successful incorporation of environmental considerations into everyday activities of Parliament’s administration. Different Directorates-General independently played a role as part of the environmental management system governance structure. In particular, there were 17 projects in the European Parliament’s “Strategic Execution Framework 2022 - 2024 as part of the category ‘[Ecological Transformation](#)’. For detailed information on these projects, please refer to ANNEX IV.

5.2. EMAS Communication and Awareness Raising

Communication and awareness raising are key to implement an excellent environmental management in the European Parliament. To this end in February 2023, the Inter DG Steering Group on Environmental Management adopted the EMAS Communication Plan for 2023. In line with the EMAS Mid-Term Strategy 2024 and Action Plan 2023, communication and awareness raising activities referred to tackling climate change, sustainable mobility, waste management and greening public procurement.

The EMAS and Sustainability Unit, in cooperation with the responsible services in the European Parliament, carried out 168 communication activities. The Unit used various communication

formats that resonate with different internal audiences in the three places of work.. These included, for example, email announcements via the EMAS service mailbox to Members and Parliamentary Assistants, Political Group and to all staff of the European Parliament, articles on the intranet, EMAS intranet, workshops, expert talks and discussions, as well as in-house competitions and quizzes. Details about the specific awareness raising campaigns can be found in the section about Parliament's environmental key performance indicators.

5.2.1. Reaching out to Parliament staff and youth

In March 2023, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit organised, together with the respective Environmental Management Officers from the Directorates-General for Translation, Finance, and Personnel, as well as the Legal Service, the so-called "EMAS Pop-up Stand" in the cafeteria of the Konrad Adenauer Building in Luxembourg. The EMAS Pop-up Stand is an opportunity to engage with colleagues about the Parliament's environmental management system and their questions related to it.

The Directorate-General for Communication with the support of colleagues from the EMAS and Sustainability Unit successfully certified the European Youth Event (EYE) for the second time in 2023 under the ISO 20121 Event Sustainability Management System. This meant that sustainability played a major role in the design, planning and implementation of the event. The European Parliament improved the data collection to calculate the overall footprint of the event, notably by better involving partners, contractors and grant beneficiaries. The waste impact of the event was significantly decreased, notably by installing water fountains connected to the municipal systems and dry toilets but also by including waste management in the tasks of all volunteers.

An important focus was also put on the communication to the around 9 000 participants of the European Youth Event, raising their awareness about the EYE sustainability policy and the impact of their choices on the overall impact of the event. Colleagues of the EMAS and Sustainability Unit informed participants at a stand about the European Parliament's environmental policy and the EYE's ISO 20121 certification as a sustainable event. At the stand, there were three online quizzes with questions related to environmental management at the European Parliament. It was an effective way to engage with the participants and raise awareness.

5.2.2. EMAS Sustainability Talk on World Meteorological Day

Through the EMAS Sustainability Talk, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit regularly sheds light on selected aspects of sustainability, bringing Members and staff in touch with interesting interlocutors from different disciplines. On 23 March 2023, World Meteorological Day, the motto of which was "The future of weather, climate, and water across generations", Vice-President

Heidi Hautala discussed these questions with two young representatives from the only indigenous peoples in Europe – the Sámi. 34 colleagues joined the talk and had the chance to engage in the discussion and ask questions from the invited speakers.

5.2.3. Sharing good practices

The inter-institutional EMAS Days are a forum to exchange best practices among Environmental Management Officers of all the EU institutions and bodies. In 2023, together with the European Court of Auditors, the European Parliament organised a session on Sustainability Reports and presented its first Sustainability Report.

5.3. Training

In accordance with the EMAS Regulation 1221/2009 and European Parliament's Environmental Manual, appropriate training courses should be provided to staff and external contractors performing tasks at the European Parliament which have the potential to cause significant environmental impacts.

The EMAS and Sustainability Unit develops training plans, adopted by the members of the Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management. A revised EMAS concept on training courses and development, consisting of an inclusive training scheme, was adopted by the Inter-DG Steering Group in March 2021. It offers three categories of training, optional training, on-demand training and mandatory training.

5.3.1. Mandatory training courses

Except for the European Parliament Induction Course (EPIC) training, mandatory training courses are designed for specific target groups with EMAS-relevant tasks and responsibilities in the Parliament including internal auditors and Environmental Management Officers.

- **Internal Auditors Training:** The training course provides basic information, best practice and working methods in relation to environmental audits to be carried out at the European Parliament. In 2023, the training was organised online with 20 participants and took place from 29 to 30 November 2023.
- **The European Parliament Induction Course (EPIC)** is a mandatory training for all new colleagues starting at the Parliament. It is fully managed by the Learning & Development Unit (L&D Unit), Directorate-General for Personnel, and colleagues register via the [EU.Learn catalogue](#).

On a regular basis, staff of the EMAS and Sustainability Unit deliver an interactive presentation to Parliament's newcomers. In 2023, the EMAS team presented key aspects of the EMAS environmental management system in six in-presence training sessions held in the DG EPRS's library in Brussels, which were attended by 174 colleagues. The last session took place on 05/12/2023.

5.3.2. Optional training

Optional training courses are recommended for all staff of the European Parliament, Political Group and, if deemed appropriate, Members and their Parliamentary Assistants. They primarily aim at enhancing general environmental awareness and knowledge on Parliament's environmental management system. Based on the EMAS Training Plan 2020-2024, the following training courses and presentations were recommended:

- **Environmental Law and the Green Deal.** This two half-day training course provides an in-depth look into the contents of the European Green Deal concerning environmental preservation and efforts against climate change. It delves into the key components of the Green Deal, emphasising environmental facets such as circular economy within waste legislation, clean air, water, soil, and biodiversity. Additionally, it scrutinises climate and energy elements, including the new European Climate Law, updated emission targets, energy efficiency, and renewable energy sources. In 2023, 6 sessions have been organised with 64 participants.
- **Green Public Procurement Helpdesk:** In 2023, two GPP Helpdesk presentations were organised in cooperation with Rob Renaerts, Director of CODUCO:
23 March 2023: Green Public Procurement, close the gap;
19 September 2023: Procurement of sustainable goodies.

5.3.3. On-demand training

Needs-based and on-demand training should take into consideration the training requirements of the EMAS Regulation. In April 2023, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit participated in a team-building course, organised by the Learning and Development Unit in the Jean Monnet house in Bazoches (France).

- **Knowledge Chamber.**
- In the framework of the EMAS Action Plan, DG INLO organised the 3rd open session of the Knowledge Chamber on 21 and 22 March 2023, as a catalyser for buildings in the framework of the New European Bauhaus, concerning the following subjects: (1) Stakeholder participation, from Theory to Practise: Governmental Ambitions for the

Masterplan for the European Quarter; (2) Urbanism and Health & Catalytic Buildings: How to design healthy cities, Microbiological influence on Nature and People, Neuroscience Applied to Architectural Design; (3) CO₂: Carbon Reduction via Geothermal Boreholes, Embodied Carbon, the Potential and Added Value of Remanufacturing Technical Installations, the Role of Circular Economy and (4) Reflection on Sustainability Ambitions for the Buildings.

- In the second half of the year, DG INLO organised the open session of the Knowledge Chamber on 27 and 28 September 2023, concerning the following subjects : (1) Territory: water, biodiversity and energy; (2) Resource scarcity, slow heat, new construction concepts and (3) Inventories, preservation and remanufacturing. The Charter for exemplary environmental friendly buildings was finalised.

5.4. Staff Suggestions on the Environmental Management System

In 2023, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit received in the EMAS mailbox and dealt with 437 inquiries, feedback and suggestions related to the Parliament's environmental management system, marking an increase of 204 inquiries compared to the previous year.

A significant change in mailbox management, compared to 2022, was the integration of technical questions concerning the European Parliament's Cycling and Walking Challenge into the EMAS mailbox. Previously, a separate mailbox was designated for these occasions. However, recognising these awareness initiatives as an integral aspect of the Unit's responsibilities, all requests pertaining to these challenges were consolidated within the EMAS mailbox.

The majority of inquiries received in 2023 were related to waste management and sustainable transport, particularly in response to the Mobility Survey conducted in October 2023.

Additionally, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit was consulted for requests related to the approval of cleaning and chemicals products.

In 2023, the customer satisfaction rating for answers from the EMAS mailbox achieved an outstanding score of 4.55 out of 5.

5.5. Environmental Activities of Parliament's Political Groups

Since pledging a self-commitment in 2020, all Political Group of the European Parliament have stepped up environmental efforts and have taken an active part in EMAS meetings, training courses and activities. Political groups integrated their own EMAS actions in the annual EMAS

Action Plans with a positive impact for the whole institution. In 2023, they reported on progress, inter alia, as regards:

- reducing individual printers;
- reducing the number of trunks sent to Strasbourg;
- removal of general purpose waste bins;
- promoting hybrid meeting;
- phasing out paper cups;
- more sustainable promotional material, e.g. by setting up a database for providers of sustainable promotional material;
- reduction of political group staff missions to Strasbourg;
- better tendering procedures with references to the European Parliament environmental management system;
- changes to staff mission rules that allow for more sustainable travel;
- awareness raising on the importance of circularity, e.g. by organising donations and an internal 'donnerie'.

Some Political Group have, on a voluntary basis, started to participate in the internal EMAS audit process. In 2023, staff from all Political Group participated in the European Parliament's two major internal awareness raising campaigns on sustainable commuting, the cycling and the Walking Challenge. The EMAS actions undertaken by the Political Group are an important driver for the European Parliament's overall environmental management system. They can be seen to instigate change by kick-starting more ambitious environmental habits, which would otherwise be difficult to introduce to the Parliaments as a whole.

5.6. Inter-institutional EMAS Activities

5.6.1. GIME

In 2005, the European Parliament and several EU Institutions and Bodies created the Inter-institutional Environmental Management Group (GIME) to encourage and facilitate information exchange and good practice on environmental issues. The EMAS and Sustainability Unit participates in the meetings of the GIME, which are organised by the EMAS team of the European Commission and which take place three to four times a year.

5.6.2. Eco-Net

The EMAS and Sustainability Unit is involved in the work of the 'Eco-Net' group, which is based in Luxembourg. It comprises the following institutions: European Parliament, European Commission, Court of Justice of the European Union, European Court of Auditors, European Investment Bank, Eurocontrol, the Publications Office of the European Union and the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union.

This group serves as a forum for exchanges of ideas and good practices within these institutions, based on local knowledge. Furthermore, an exchange of ideas and best practices was undertaken on a bilateral basis (EUIPO, ECA and EC) on the topics of carbon offsetting, carbon emission from missions or emissions from ICT.

5.7. Cooperation with other Parliaments and Organisations

At the initiative of the European Parliament's EMAS and Sustainability Unit, an Environmental Exchange Network (EEN) was established with the competent administrative authorities in national Parliaments of the EU Member States, with the aim of enhancing cooperation and exchanging information/best practice in environmental matters.

Five meetings of the EEN have taken place in Brussels, Strasbourg, Seville and Athens since 2015 to discuss various environmental issues, such as waste management and Green Public Procurement. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the EEN meeting was held digitally in since 2020.

In 2023, the European Parliament, an associate member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), contributed to the campaign "Parliaments for the Planet" by sharing information on its environmental management. In the IPU article "[Greening Europe's heart: The European Parliament's climate action journey](#)", the European Parliament was recognised for setting clear and ambitious goals for a sustainable future.

To exchange best practices of environmental management at public organisations the EMAS and Sustainability Unit established contacts with different international organisations. Several bilateral exchanges on environmental management, Green Public Procurement and carbon footprint calculation took place with the Sustainable United Nations (SUN) facility. The SUN team provide advisory services and support on different aspects of sustainability to 54 UN agencies. The European Parliament holds the observer status in their quarterly meetings where recent topics such as biodiversity promotion or carbon pricing are discussed.

5.8. Carbon Emission Offsetting

The European Parliament's environmental policy is based on the principle of preventing emissions and, where emissions are unavoidable, of limiting them in the first place. However, where emissions cannot be reduced to zero or cannot be limited any further, other options have to be explored. In this context, CO₂ offsetting, i.e. the purchase of carbon offsets to compensate for the purchaser's own emissions, can be a valuable part of the European Parliament's strategy to tackle climate change, as a final step in a complete carbon management plan. Offsets are

typically achieved through financial support for projects such as renewable energy, energy efficiency, etc., which reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Since 2016, Parliament offsets its irreducible carbon emissions as a last step in a comprehensive emission tracking, reduction, and reporting approach. It was the first EU institution to offset all its unavoidable emissions and offsets, based on the decision of the Parliament's Bureau of October 2015, as follows:

- aim at offsetting the total amount of Parliament's carbon emissions, including emissions from flights by Members of the European Parliament between their country of origin and Brussels and Strasbourg, on an annual basis but limit it to financial means available.
- allow for projects in the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP-countries), or, if such projects are not available, either in countries encompassed by the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) with established National Action Plan Projects or in countries encompassed by the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EuroMed)/Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), in candidate countries or in EU Member States
- specify the widely recognised Gold Standard as a quality standard for offsetting projects in developing countries.

A procurement procedure corresponding to the above listed parameters was launched in 2023 to offset the total carbon footprint of the European Parliament in 2022, amounting to 85,645 t CO₂e, including emissions from Members' of the European Parliament flights between their home countries and Brussels and Strasbourg, as well as the remaining 56,016 t CO₂e that could not be offset in the previous years, due to extraordinary market conditions concerning availability and price of credits.

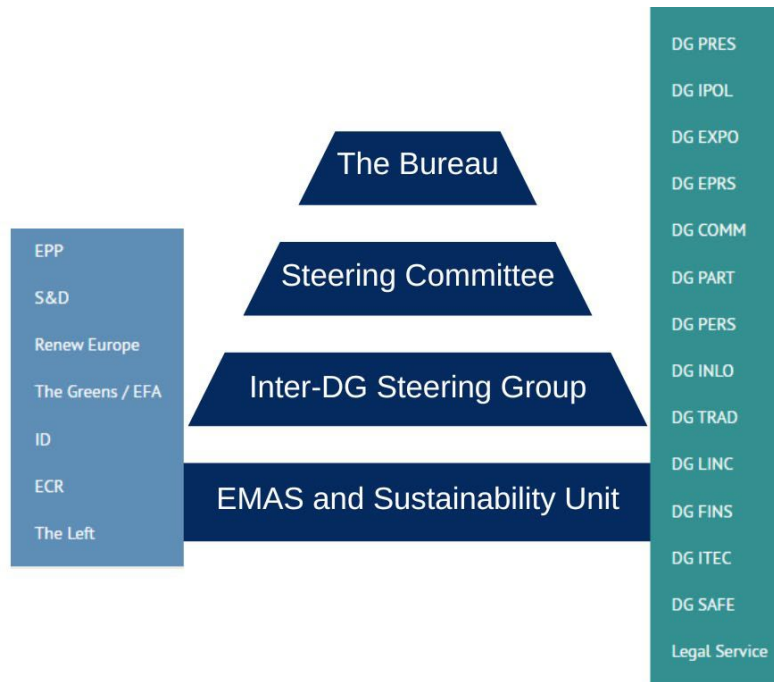
The offsetting procurement procedure was successful, and the contract for offsetting emissions through purchase and retirement of 401,675 Gold Standard certified carbon credits was awarded on 14 December 2023 to an external service provider, which had proposed a combination of three projects: clean cookstove projects in Uganda and Kenya, where most of the credits purchased under this contract originate, and a composting project in Vietnam. As the number of credits purchased and retired on behalf of the European Parliament in this procedure significantly exceeds Parliament's previous non-offset emissions, the remainder of the credits will be used to offset Parliament's emissions in the future, e.g. in 2024.

6. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

At the meeting of the Steering Committee for Environmental Management on 1 December 2014, the Secretary General asked the EMAS and Sustainability Unit to develop new proposals for the improvement of Parliament's environmental management system including a strengthening of the EMAS governance structure and measures to better monitor implementation of the actions decided upon in the current year. The requested proposals were immediately developed and put into practice in 2015 and a technical revision was adopted by the Secretary General on 3 June 2016. The EMAS and Sustainability Unit revised the Environmental Manual again in 2021. The Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management endorsed the revision in December 2021. The revised version was adopted by the Secretary General on 28 March 2022. The revision of the Environmental Manual includes technical updates, for example on buildings in the scope of the environmental management system, as well as content-related changes.

The governance structure of the environmental management system is outlined as follows:

FIGURE 34: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



6.1. The Bureau

The Parliament's Bureau is the decision-making authority of the environmental management system. It is the political body responsible for dealing with administrative and financial matters, composed of the President and 14 Vice-Presidents of the European Parliament, and the 5 Quaestors in an advisory capacity. The Bureau adopts and revises the broad outlines of Parliament's approach and commitment to environmental matters, including in particular the Environmental Policy, and allocates the budgetary resources necessary for its implementation.

Since 2017, Members of the European Parliament Heidi Hautala (Greens/EFA) has been the Vice President of the European Parliament responsible for EMAS.

6.2. The Steering Committee for Environmental Management

The Steering Committee for Environmental Management is the highest administrative authority of the environmental management system. Chaired by the Secretary General, it brings together the Deputies Secretary General, the Directors-General and the Jurisconsult.

The Steering Committee is charged with implementation of the Bureau's decisions in the environmental field and with ensuring convergence of the Environmental Policy with its practical implementation through the environmental management system and the annual EMAS Action Plan, verifying that the Action Plan remains in line with Parliament's priorities. In particular, the Steering Committee takes all measures necessary to ensure that the environmental management system runs smoothly and consistently in all parliamentary services, that the environmental objectives are achieved and that the overall environmental performance of Parliament improves.

Since 2015, the Steering Committee for Environmental Management has been meeting at least once per year in order to endorse Parliament's Environmental Management Review and Environmental Statement and adopt the Action Plan for the following year. The Steering Committee also monitors the implementation of the Action Plan for the current year.

More specifically, the Steering Committee for Environmental Management meets twice per year in order to:

- Perform an ongoing monitoring of the execution of the current Action Plan
- Adopt the Action Plan for the following year
- Endorse the results achieved in the previous year by adopting both the annual "Environmental Management Review" and "Environmental Statement".

In addition, the Steering Committee is responsible for reporting to the Bureau on the state of implementation of the Environmental Policy as well as on developments concerning the key environmental performance indicators.

6.3. Environmental Management Officers and the Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management

Each Directorate-General designates one central Environmental Management Officer responsible for the implementation of the environmental management system. The Environmental Management Officer should be attached to the Director-General or assigned to a central unit directly attached to the Director-General, thus facilitating access to both senior management of the DG and operational services. Each DG can appoint substitutes or other Environmental Management Officers (EMOs) to support the central EMO, if deemed appropriate.

The Environmental Management Officers shall, in particular,

- act as a connecting link between their Directorate-General and the EMAS and Sustainability Unit
- attend the monthly meetings of and provide coordinated input on behalf of their DG to the Inter DG Steering Group on Environmental Management
- report to their Director-General, Resource Director, EMAS Network and relevant operational services on new developments in Parliament's environmental management system and issues discussed in the Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management.
- prepare their Director-General for meetings of the Steering Committee for Environmental Management. The relevant EMAS responsibilities shall be included in the staff report of each Environmental Management Officer.

The Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management meets on a monthly basis. It is assisted by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit and comprises representatives of the Cabinet of the Secretary General, the EMOs and the Directorate for Relations with Political Groups. Representatives of Political Group secretariats also take part as observers in these meetings on a voluntary basis.

The Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management, together with the EMAS and Sustainability Unit, prepares the Steering Committee's work, proposes actions to be included in the annual Action Plan and ensures the follow-up to those actions, helps prepare the draft Environmental Management Review/Environmental Statement and ensures closer horizontal cooperation and coordination at operational level between and within Directorates-General.

The Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management works together with the EMAS and Sustainability Unit in the operational execution of Parliament's environmental objectives set out in the Action Plan.

6.4. The EMAS and Sustainability Unit

The EMAS and Sustainability Unit, is part of the Directorate for Innovation and Central Services which is attached to the Secretary General. The unit is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the environmental management system. More specifically, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit:

- makes proposals for improving Parliament's environmental performance within the framework of the Management Review
- is informed about and involved in all administrative activities at the Parliament with potential environmental impacts, including participation in relevant meetings and forums, in order to increase efficiency of the environmental management system through streamlining the integration of environmental considerations into such activities
- coordinates the drafting and updating of the main environmental management system documents, including the Action Plan, based on input from the Directorates-General
- monitors implementation of the Action Plan and proposes corrective actions where needed
- provides advice to Directorates-General in planning and implementing internal activities with potential environmental impacts
- monitors and updates a register with applicable legal requirements
- liaises with the national competent authorities and perform requisite technical work ensuring the EMAS registration of European Parliament's environmental management system
- coordinates carbon emission management, including carbon offsetting, carbon pricing, and external certification and validation of the carbon footprint calculation
- drafts the Environmental Management Review and Environmental Statement
- drafts the internal audit plans and organises the internal and external environmental audits
- reviews and monitors corrective measures arising from internal and external audits
- provides the secretariat of the Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management
- prepares the meetings of the Steering Committee for Environmental Management, under the guidance of the Secretary General
- organises communication and awareness raising activities and keeps the EMAS Intranet website updated
- coordinates and provides environmental trainings
- Sets up and coordinates ad hoc or regular technical working groups to propose improvements in specific environmental domains
- coordinates activities to contribute to the relevant objectives outlined in the Annual Work Programme and the Strategic Execution Framework
- identifies best environmental practice

- cooperates with national, European and international institutions as well as with national Parliaments
- develops and maintains a sustainability reporting system to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

6.5. Political Groups

Political Groups are involved in the overall Environmental Management System on a voluntary basis. They take part in the monthly meetings of the Inter DG Steering Group as observers and are also invited to submit to actions to the Action Plan. Observers on behalf of the Political Groups in the Inter DG Steering Group also play the role of EMAS coordinators for their respective political group. They meet periodically under the coordination from the Directorate for Relations with the Political Groups and the EMAS and Sustainability Unit to plan activities and exchange best practice. The Political Groups are also invited to provide data to the EMAS and Sustainability Unit for the annual environmental performance calculation exercise.

6.6. Environmental Management Networks

Based on individual needs and resources, each Directorate-General creates an internal environmental management network (EMAS Network) comprising representatives from all Directorates of the respective DG and the Environmental Management Officers who are coordinating the Network. It seeks to increase efficient implementation of environmental projects, proactive participation in the environmental management system, awareness about the environmental management system and efficient cooperation among services.

Guidance on setting up EMAS Networks is established by the Inter-DG Steering Group on Environmental Management, based on a proposal by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit.

7. DOCUMENTATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The European Parliament's environmental management system is based on the main documents described in the following section, which are available on the Parliament's EMAS website, which can be found externally [here](#) and internally [here](#).

7.1. Environmental Analysis

The environmental analysis is a comprehensive initial environmental review identifying and evaluating the environmental aspects, impacts and performance related to Parliament's activities. The document contains:

- the list of environmental aspects of the Parliament at each site (classified as direct or indirect),
- the impact on the environment for each aspect,
- the legislation applicable to the aspect and
- the values assigned to the aspect based on the evaluation of significance.

Each new building to be included in the scope of the environmental management system must be the subject of an initial environmental analysis, as must all significant changes to the existing infrastructure or activities. Therefore, the environmental analysis must be periodically updated.

During the latest update of Parliament's environmental analysis, performed in 2023, the EMAS and Sustainability Unit has revised the list of impacts that arise from Parliament's activities. The purpose of this exercise has been to evaluate the aspects in detail and to assess the situation concerning the collection of data/information from the relevant services on the evolution of the aspects, in order to enable the improvement of Parliament's environmental performance in these critical areas.

The following eleven main environmental aspects have been identified for the European Parliament, those marked with * in the list have resulted to be significant:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Paper consumption* | 7. Land use |
| 2. Water consumption* | 8. Generation of greenhouse and other gas emissions to the atmosphere* |
| 3. Electricity consumption* | 9. Waste production* |
| 4. Procurement* | 10. Wastewater generation |
| 5. Consumption of gas, oil and urban heating* | 11. Accidents |
| 6. Noise generation | |

The following five criteria have been used to assess the significance of the identified aspects, i.e. how much damage they can do to the environment:

1. Quantitative changes (Flow)
2. Scale of the impact (Seriousness)
3. Probability of occurrence (Frequency)
4. Preventive and management practices (Practices)
5. Regulatory and legal requirements (Legislation)

Taking into account available data, further breakdowns (per site and building) have been prepared for each significant aspect.

The results of the environmental analysis are considered when formulating the future EMAS Action Plans, environmental objectives, etc., with a view to further improving Parliament's environmental performance.

7.2. Environmental Policy

The Environmental Policy, defined and approved by the Bureau, provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives for the legislative term. It is one of the main documents supporting the environmental management system as it reflects the overarching vision of the environmental management system and the main environmental problems and objectives. The Policy includes a commitment to continuously improve the environmental management system, to prevent pollution and to comply with all relevant legal requirements. It is communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of the Parliament through trainings for newcomers as well as being on the intranet.

The Environmental Policy for 2019 to 2024 has been approved by Parliament's Bureau on 16 September 2019 and signed electronically by former President David Maria Sassoli and by former Secretary General Klaus Welle on 6 November 2019.

The Environmental Policy can be downloaded from the Parliament's website, which can be found [here](#).

7.3. Environmental Manual

The Environmental Manual is the description of Parliament's environmental management system and the manner in which Parliament applies the EMAS Regulation. It gives an overview on the governance structure, documentation and the EMAS cycle of the European Parliament's environmental management system.

The Annex to the Environmental Manual contains an analysis of the interested parties with respect to the Parliament's environmental management system and their relevant needs and expectations. The following 13 categories of interested parties are identified: staff of the Parliament; Members of the Parliament; management of the Parliament; Accredited Parliamentary Assistants; Political Group; contractors in technical matters; other contractors; local, regional and national authorities; local residents; visitors; media; EU citizens; and other EU institutions.

7.4. Analysis of Environmental Risks and Opportunities

The 'Environmental Risk and Opportunity Analysis' identifies and analyses risks and opportunities associated with the Parliament's environmental management system. It is created and maintained by the EMAS and Sustainability Unit. The analysis contains two sections:

- The risk section entailing:
 - a description of the risks
 - the assessment of their likelihood
 - an overview of the preventive and mitigating actions
 - deadlines and responsibilities
- The opportunity section outlining potential ways to improve environmental performance in general terms and actions needed to take advantage of these opportunities.

Along with the environmental analysis and observed environmental performance/indicators from previous years, this document forms the basis for elaborating Parliament's annual EMAS Action Plan, aimed at assuring that the Parliament's environmental management system can achieve its intended outcome, preventing undesired effects or accidents and achieving continual improvement of Parliament's environmental performance.

In 2023, the Environmental Risk and Opportunity Analysis identified five potential risks, two of which can be deemed potentially significant (risk of non-renewal of Parliament's EMAS registration, and risk of not achieving environmental KPI targets in time) and for which preventive actions have been put in place. Two opportunities are also identified, relating to applying examples of best practice in environmental management from other organisations, both public and private, and relating to identifying and implementing new technical and technological developments to improve environmental performance.

7.5. EMAS Action Plan

The EMAS Action Plan is the European Parliament's annual environmental programme, containing a description of measures, responsibilities and means taken or envisaged to achieve environmental objectives and targets within fixed deadlines. The EMAS Action Plan is adopted by the Steering Committee on an annual basis. The EMAS Action Plan 2023 and the implementation regarding the Action Plan 2022, was endorsed by the Inter DG Steering Group on Environmental Management on 8 December 2022 and adopted by the Steering Committee for Environmental Management on 21 December 2022.

7.6. Environmental Management Review

The Environmental Management Review is the annual activity report addressed to the Bureau, reviewing the appropriateness and effectiveness of the Environmental management system, including the implementation of the Action Plan, with a view to proposing environmental improvements. The Environmental Management Review 2023 covering 2022 was adopted by the Steering Committee on Environmental Management on 9 October 2023.

7.7. Environmental Statement

The Environmental Statement provides comprehensive information to the public regarding Parliament's structure and activities, the Environmental Policy, the environmental management system and the EMAS Action Plan, including its environmental aspects and performance and compliance with applicable legal obligations relating to the environment. The Environmental Statement 2023 for 2022 was adopted by the Steering Committee on 9 October 2023. The Parliament's Bureau considered the item at its meeting on 20 November 2023. Subsequent to the completion of the external verification process, it was published on the Parliament's EMAS website, which can be found externally [here](#).

7.8. Compendium of Procedures

The Compendium of procedures are step-by-step instructions for the implementation of the environmental management system. They cover topics such as chemical procedures and waste and how to measure recycled waste. They are published and available on Parliament's internal EMAS website [EMASnet](#).

In line with the remarks of the external EMAS verifier, further adjustments to the internal EMAS audit procedure were made in 2023 to align with the EMAS Regulation, and the waste management procedure in Luxembourg was updated during the same year.

7.9. Contacts

Specific information or questions on EMAS can be sent to the EMAS and Sustainability Unit of the European Parliament at the following address:

EMAS and Sustainability Unit

Directorate for Innovation and Central Services, attached to the Secretary General
European Parliament
Paul-Henri Spaak Building
Rue Wiertz 60, B-1047 Brussels, Belgium

Tel.: +32 2 28 41053

Email: emas@europarl.europa.eu

The updated Environmental Statement will be published on the European Parliament's [website](#).

Information requirements for registration under ANNEX IV of the EMAS Regulation:

- Date of the next environmental statement: May 2025, covering the year 2024

7.10. References and Legal Requirements

Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community 'Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), as amended by the Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 of 28 August 2017 and the Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 of 19 December 2018.

Commission Decision (EU) 2019/61 of 19 December 2018 on the sectoral reference document on best environmental management practices, sector environmental performance indicators and benchmarks of excellence for the public administration sector under Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community 'Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

7.11. Environmental Verifier's Declaration on Verification and Validation Activities

Vinçotte S.A., with EMAS environmental verifier registration number BE-V-0016 accredited for the scope 1, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20 (excl. 20.51), 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.2, 30.9, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 93, 94, 95, 96, 99 (NACE-code) declares to have verified whether the site(s) as indicated in the Environmental Statement 2024 (Update) of the organisation European Parliament with registration number BE-BXL-0013 - LU-000002 - FR000051 meet all requirements of Regulation (EC) 1221/2009 modified by Regulation EU 2017/1505 and 2018/2026 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community 'Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

Sites concerned:

- **Brussels** (Belgique): buildings Paul Henri Spaak, Altiero Spinelli, Stefan Zweig, Willy Brandt, József Antall, Montoyer 70, Hannah Arendt, Wayenberg, House of European History, Wilfried Martens, and Sophie Scholl.
- **Luxembourg** (Grand-Duché du Luxembourg): buildings Konrad Adenauer I and II & Senningerberg
- **Strasbourg** (France): buildings Louise Weiss, Winston Churchill, Salvador de Madariaga, Pierre Pflimlin and Václav Havel.

By signing this declaration, I declare that:

- the verification and validation has been carried out in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) 1221/2009 modified by Regulation EU 2017/1505 and 2018/2026,
- the outcome of the verification and validation confirms that there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable legal requirements relating to the environment,
- the data and information of the environmental statement 2024 (update) of the site reflect a reliable, credible and correct image of all the sites activities, within the scope mentioned in the environmental statement.

This document is not equivalent to EMAS registration. EMAS registration can only be granted by a Competent Body under Regulation (EC) 1221/2009 modified by Regulation EU 2017/1505 and 2018/2026. This document shall not be used as a stand-alone piece of public communication.

Done in Brussels, 27/05/2024

Signature 

Eric Louys - Chair of the Certification Committee

8. ANNEXES

ANNEX I: Scope of the 2023 Carbon Footprint

The aim of this analysis is to present in detail the European Parliament's carbon footprint and to provide an overview of the changes between the base year for the reduction target and the current year.

Carbon footprint methodology

The European Parliament's carbon footprint is calculated by applying the Bilan Carbone™ method (developed by ADEME - the French Environment and Energy Management Agency)¹⁰. The Bilan Carbone™ is compatible with the ISO 14064 standard, the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol Initiative and the provisions of 'permits' Directive 2003/87/EC on the EU's ETS (CO₂ allowance trading system). The European Parliament's carbon footprint and this report have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of ISO 14064:2018. Management of the carbon footprint calculation is integrated in the current functioning of Parliament's environmental management system¹¹. The Parliament's carbon footprint has been validated by an external expert and declared to be in accordance with the standard ISO 14064:2018.

In the Bilan Carbone™ tool, the margin of error is estimated using a formula that calculates, for each area, the degree of uncertainty associated with it¹². In 2023 the total uncertainty for Parliament's carbon footprint was 4%, compared to 5% in 2022 and 6% in 2021.

¹⁰ The Bilan Carbone™ methodology assesses all of the physical processes connected to the organisation (energy, persons, objects, raw materials, etc.) and works out the GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions generated by each process in CO₂ equivalents. These emissions are consolidated point by point (e.g. for road freight, internal fuel use, etc.). In most cases it is not possible to measure the GHG emissions derived from a specific action. Even if the concentration of GHGs in the air is measured generally, it is rarely possible to directly measure the emissions themselves. The only way to estimate these emissions is to derive them from activity data. The figures used to convert the activity data observed within an organisation into GHG emissions, expressed in terms of CO₂ equivalent, are called emission factors. As the *Bilan carbone*® method is primarily based on average emission factors, this tool aims above all to provide orders of magnitude, the aim being to enable concrete decisions to be taken to put in place the measures needed to reduce these emissions. The most recent version of the method is Version 8. It is important to note that this new Version 8 of the *Bilan carbone*® method, including improved calculation procedures, was published on 19 January 2018. The carbon footprint inventory for the reference year (2006) has been recalculated using these procedures to permit valid comparisons between the first and last years. From the 2017 calculation onwards, due to a major correction in one of the emission factors, the reference year also had to be recalculated taking into account the corrected EF. As the revision of the emission factor in question was towards an increase, by approximately an order of magnitude, the (re)calculated emissions for the base year increased substantially. The same occurrence was repeated in 2020, with a major revision of emission factors for building and some external services also necessitating the recalculation of the base year. The figures for the intermediate years have not been recalculated, and are shown only for indicative purposes. It will be necessary to perform recalculations each time that fresh improvements are made or following changes of perimeter. The main changes made in 2020 were new emission factors and improvements to the overall calculation procedure. For an exhaustive list of all the changes, please see Annex III (Record of changes) in the Carbon Footprint Manual.

¹¹ The collection of data for calculating the carbon footprint is part of the annual collection of data for calculating the EMAS indicators. Moreover, the carbon footprint is audited internally as well as externally in the context of the European Parliament's environmental audits. More specific audits and external validation of the carbon footprint are also planned.

¹² Calculating the degree of uncertainty involves estimating the margin of error for the emission factor and for the data collected.

One of the characteristic of the Bilan Carbone™ method is the fact that it also takes account of an organisation's indirect carbon footprint. This method enables companies or institutions that wish to take measures to combat climate change to understand their real impact on a global level and identify possible ways of reducing GHG emissions.

Emissions categories included in the carbon footprint

The perimeter of the European Parliament's carbon footprint covers Scope 1 to 3 (called "Scope 3") of the International Organisation for Standardisation. This is the most ambitious perimeter and encompasses direct, semi-direct and indirect emissions. On the basis of this definition, the perimeter of the European Parliament's carbon footprint includes the following seven emission categories:

I. Internal energy

This category comprises:

- Combustion (direct use of fossil or organic fuels for heating);
- Electricity (electricity purchased, including for heating);
- Technical losses (energy losses during transport to the consumer).

With regard to its electricity consumption, the European Parliament buys green electricity and calculates the emissions using the emission factors of the Bilan Carbone database which correspond best to the generation sources used. This means that emissions caused by the electricity which the European Parliament buys are fairly close to zero.

What is green electricity?

When the Parliament purchases green electricity, the suppliers guarantee that an equivalent amount of renewable energy is fed into the European electricity grid. This approach, known as the guarantee-of-origin system, ensures that the Parliaments' electricity consumption directly supports increased generation from clean and sustainable sources.

The guarantee-of-origin system functions through a system of traceable certificates. Each certificate is issued to the electricity producer and then transferred to the supplier upon purchase. To prevent double-counting, these certificates are cancelled once used by the supplier, ensuring transparency and environmental integrity in the green electricity market.

II. Leakage of refrigerant gases

This category comprises greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions generated by leakage of refrigerant gases in installations, whereby the reinjection amount is considered as the leak amount. It is worth noting, that under the fixed assets category, specifically for fridges and vending machines, it is based on an estimation according to the Bilan Carbone guidance on the percentage of the

charge leaked per year - over the full life time of the produce - as well as the leakage at its end of life.

III. Freight

This category covers the transport of goods between the various buildings at the three sites and between the three sites and external locations, using European Parliament vehicles or contractors. It encompasses road, air, rail and maritime transport.

IV. Transport of persons

This category includes:

- travel between home and work by European Parliament staff and Parliamentary Assistants;
- travel by European Parliament staff between the three places of work;
- travel by Members¹³ of the European Parliament between their country of origin and Brussels/Strasbourg and inside their country of origin
- official travel by Members of the European Parliament and by staff outside Parliament's three main places of work (for meetings of Political Group, committees and delegations), including local transport to the destination (for political group meetings);
- transport of Members of the European Parliament in official vehicles or rented vehicles;
- transport of subsidised visitors between their country of origin and the European Parliament.

With the adoption of the carbon footprint reduction target in 2017, the perimeter for the target was expanded to also include Members' flights from their country of origin to Brussels and Strasbourg. The target scope now reflects more fully the environmental impacts resulting from the European Parliament's activities. In 2023, the travels by other means of transport were also added alongside Members travels within their home-country and any "additional travels". In order to maintain a meaningful comparison of performance with respect to the base year (2006), the base year emissions were also recalculated to include those travels, as well as 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 emissions.

V. Supply of equipment and services by external providers

This category encompasses all of the incoming flows of materials and services used by the organisation, which for the European Parliament means¹⁴:

- purchase of supplies, notably paper and office furniture, ink toner and cartridges, food for the restaurants, catering supplies, etc.;

¹³ Flights by Members of the European Parliament between their country of origin and Brussels/Strasbourg were previously not included in the perimeter. However, they have been calculated and offset since 2016 (FY2015) in accordance with the October 2015 Bureau decision on carbon offsetting.

¹⁴ Transport of supplies to the European Parliament is not included in the perimeter, as not enough information is available. However, an examination of the carbon footprint of other organisations suggests that this source accounts for only a very small proportion of the total footprint. Depending on the category, some emission factors for purchase of supplies might include (generalised) transport emissions.

- services provided by external providers (catering, security, cleaning, consultancy, external translation and interpreting, etc.).

VI. Direct waste

This category comprises greenhouse gas emissions linked to end-of-life waste processing. Emissions of methane from waste water are not taken into account in the footprint.

VII. Fixed assets

This category covers GHG emissions generated during the manufacture or construction of durable goods. In the Bilan Carbone™ method, GHG emissions are usually divided up over a certain period, using a system comparable to the concept of financial amortisation, so that the various annual carbon footprint results can be compared. This category comprises:

- buildings and car parks used by the European Parliament;
- industrial and other equipment (e.g. fridges in restaurants and other equipment);
- vehicles belonging to Parliament;
- computer equipment (computers, printers and other equipment);
- office furniture.

To calculate the European Parliament's carbon footprint, all of the buildings at the three places of work are taken into account¹⁵. The European Parliament Liaison Offices are not included in the perimeter of this carbon calculations, however, the carbon footprint of the buildings of the Liaison Offices that are EMAS registered or in the process of being registered is set out in the specific Environmental Statement for these Offices.

ANNEX II: Detailed evolution of the carbon footprint

The figure below shows emissions in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per flow, with emissions per FTE (Full Time Equivalent) in brackets. The second-last column indicates each flow's percentage of the total carbon footprint of 2023. The last column shows the evolution of emissions per FTE between the 2006 and the latest reporting year.

¹⁵ The greenhouse gases included in the carbon footprint calculation are those designated in the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (C_nH_mF_p), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and perfluoralkanes (C_nF_{2n+2}). There are other known GHGs that have significant effects (such as ozone or CFCs), but they are not covered by the Kyoto Protocol, the main international initiative to reduce GHGs. These gases are not included in the ISO perimeters. However, one exception has been made. Non-Kyoto GHGs have been taken into account for flights, as the Bilan Carbone™ method makes provision for this. This decision is justified because almost half of the greenhouses gases produced by flights are non-Kyoto gases. As flights account for a very high percentage of the European Parliament's emissions, excluding non-Kyoto GHGs in this case would mean disregarding a very significant proportion of the emissions and result in inconsistencies.

FIGURE 35: EMISSION FLOWS COMPARISON BETWEEN 2006 AND 2023

Emission flows	2006	2023	% of the total carbon footprint	Change 2006-2023 per FTE
1. ENERGY CONSUMPTION	36044 (3,3)	9628 (0,61)	9.5%	-82%
1.1. Natural gas for heating	11894 (1,09)	8289 (0,52)	8.2%	-52%
1.1.1. Brussels	7636 (0,7)	6224 (0,39)	6.1%	-44%
1.1.2. Luxembourg	2237 (0,2)	2028 (0,13)	2.0%	-37%
1.1.3. Strasbourg	2020 (0,18)	37 (0)	0.0%	-99%
1.2. Oil for heating	471 (0,04)	197 (0,01)	0.2%	-71%
1.2.1. Brussels	210 (0,02)	0 (0)	0.0%	-100%
1.2.2. Luxembourg	204 (0,02)	174 (0,01)	0.2%	-41%
1.2.3. Strasbourg	57 (0,01)	23 (0)	0.0%	-72%
1.3. Urban network heating/cooling	472 (0,04)	0 (0)	0.0%	-100%
1.3.1. Brussels	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
1.3.2. Luxembourg	472 (0,04)	0 (0)	0.0%	-100%
1.3.3. Strasbourg	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
1.4. Electricity (100% from renewable sources in the three places from 2008 on)	23208 (2,12)	1122 (0,07)	1.1%	-97%
1.5. Electricity production	0 (0)	21 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
2. LEAK OF REFRIGERANT GASES FROM AIRCO INSTALLATIONS OR FRIDGES	736 (0,07)	884 (0,06)	0.9%	-17%
3. FREIGHT	781 (0,07)	298 (0,02)	0.3%	-74%
3.1. Internal freight (between the three places)	335 (0,03)	228 (0,01)	0.2%	-53%
3.1.1. Freight between three places: Parliamentary Sessions	160 (0,01)	70 (0)	0.1%	-70%
3.1.2. Freight between three places: Mail and Other	176 (0,02)	159 (0,01)	0.2%	-38%
3.2. External freight (outside of the 3 places) - Road / Sea	117 (0,01)	70 (0)	0.1%	-59%
3.3. External freight (outside of the 3 places) - Air	329 (0,03)	0 (0)	0.0%	-100%
4. TRANSPORT OF PERSONS	60510 (5,45)	63988 (4,04)	62.9%	-27%
4.1. Staff	12206 (1,12)	14414 (0,91)	14.2%	-19%
4.1.1. Commuting work - home	4544 (0,42)	5794 (0,37)	5.7%	-12%
Brussels (including MEP assistants)	2286 (0,21)	3129 (0,2)	3.1%	-6%
Luxembourg	2220 (0,2)	2513 (0,16)	2.5%	-22%
Strasbourg	38 (0)	152 (0,01)	0.1%	175%
4.1.2. Missions between the three places	3754 (0,34)	2460 (0,16)	2.4%	-55%
To and from Strasbourg: With own car	1731 (0,16)	1690 (0,11)	1.7%	-33%
To and from Strasbourg: By train	17 (0)	415 (0,03)	0.4%	1624%
To and from Strasbourg: By plane (Short range Eco)	1491 (0,14)	51 (0)	0.1%	-98%
To and from Strasbourg: By EP bus from Luxembourg	0 (0)	159 (0,01)	0.2%	N.A.

Luxembourg-Brussels: With own car	480 (0,04)	136 (0,01)	0.1%	-81%
Luxembourg-Brussels: By train	35 (0)	10 (0)	0.0%	-80%
Luxembourg-Brussels: By plane (Short range Eco)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
4.1.3. Missions outside the three places	3891 (0,36)	6159 (0,39)	6.1%	9%
By plane - Short range (Economy)	74 (0,01)	40 (0)	0.0%	-62%
By plane - Short range (Business)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
By plane - Medium range (ecoo)	1393 (0,13)	2321 (0,15)	2.3%	15%
By plane - Medium range (Business)	0 (0)	69 (0)	0.1%	N.A.
By plane - Long range (ecoo)	0 (0)	222 (0,01)	0.2%	N.A.
By plane - Long range (Business)	2358 (0,22)	3206 (0,2)	3.2%	-6%
By train	7 (0)	81 (0,01)	0.1%	712%
By car	60 (0,01)	196 (0,01)	0.2%	127%
By bus	0 (0)	14 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
By boat	0 (0)	9 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
4.1.4. Transport between buildings in Luxembourg (KAD-GOL, KAD-PRE)	16 (0)	0 (0)	0.0%	-100%
4.2. Members of the European Parliament	23619 (2,08)	20824 (1,31)	20.5%	-39%
4.2.1. Transportation using official cars and buses	576 (0,05)	65 (0)	0.1%	-92%
4.2.2. Meetings outside of the three places	7168 (0,57)	6431 (0,41)	6.3%	-38%
Political Group	771 (0,07)	584 (0,04)	0.6%	-48%
EP Commission	620 (0,06)	2226 (0,14)	2.2%	148%
Interparliamentary Delegations	2000 (0,18)	1204 (0,08)	1.2%	-58%
Transport in the place of the meeting for Political Group meetings (buses, taxis, limousines, etc).	29 (0)	81 (0,01)	0.1%	94%
Travel in Member State	2461 (0,23)	1427 (0,09)	1.4%	-60%
Additional travel	967 (0,09)	695 (0,04)	0.7%	-50%
Other	320 (0)	214 (0,01)	0.2%	-54%
4.2.3. Meetings in Brussels or Strasbourg	15875 (1,45)	14328 (0,9)	14.1%	-38%
4.3. Executives by car from EP own fleet (SG, SG of Political Groups, Deputy SG, etc)	47 (0)	17 (0)	0.0%	-75%
4.4. Visitors	24638 (2,26)	28733 (1,81)	28.3%	-20%
Brussels	17771 (1,63)	23152 (1,46)	22.8%	-10%
Luxembourg	0 (0)	0 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
Strasbourg	6867 (0,63)	5533 (0,35)	5.4%	-44%
Others	0 (0)	48 (0)	0.0%	N.A.
5. SUPPLIES OF EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES	13732 (1,26)	10613 (0,67)	10.4%	-47%
5.1. External Services	8342 (0,76)	7970 (0,5)	7.8%	-34%
Restaurants	236 (0,02)	104 (0,01)	0.1%	-70%
Consulting	597 (0,05)	518 (0,03)	0.5%	-40%
External interpreters	4602 (0,42)	4622 (0,29)	4.5%	-31%
External translators	1487 (0,14)	1425 (0,09)	1.4%	-34%
External IT staff	329 (0,03)	399 (0,03)	0.4%	-16%
Maintenance	116 (0,01)	228 (0,01)	0.2%	35%

External staff building projects	0 (0)	101 (0,01)	0.1%	N.A.
Cleaning	506 (0,05)	414 (0,03)	0.4%	-44%
External temporary workers	22 (0)	16 (0)	0.0%	-50%
Security	449 (0,04)	144 (0,01)	0.1%	-78%
5.2. Office supplies (paper, envelopes, toners and other offices supplies)	1880 (0,17)	251 (0,02)	0.2%	-91%
5.3. Catering supplies (plastic cups, cans, plastic bottles, etc)	313 (0,03)	34 (0)	0.0%	-92%
5.4. Food supplies (food purchased by Restaurants)	3197 (0,29)	2357 (0,15)	2.3%	-49%
6. DIRECT WASTE	311 (0,03)	310 (0,02)	0.3%	-31%
7. FIXED ASSETS (emissions produced during the construction/manufacturing of durable goods)	20465 (1,87)	16225 (1,02)	16.0%	-45%
7.1. Building construction	12228 (1,12)	14329 (0,9)	14.1%	-19%
7.2. Office equipment (tables, chairs, cupboards...).	369 (0,03)	900 (0,06)	0.9%	68%
7.3. IT hardware (desktops, laptops, printers, telephones, servers, televisions, etc.).	7851 (0,72)	944 (0,06)	0.9%	-92%
Desktops	1777 (0,16)	15 (0)	0.0%	-99%
Flat screens	2634 (0,24)	299 (0,02)	0.3%	-92%
Laptops	0 (0)	83 (0,01)	0.1%	#DIV/0!
Individual printers	136 (0,01)	2 (0)	0.0%	-99%
Network printers	567 (0,05)	2 (0)	0.0%	-100%
Telephones (fixed and mobile)	87 (0,01)	17 (0)	0.0%	-87%
Servers, switches, routers	646 (0,06)	200 (0,01)	0.2%	-79%
Televisions	265 (0,02)	8 (0)	0.0%	-98%
Tablet PC	0 (0)	269 (0,02)	0.3%	N.A.f
Other IT equipment	1740 (0,16)	48 (0)	0.0%	-98%
7.4. Other equipment (washing machines, coffee machines, fridges)	17 (0)	53 (0)	0.1%	118%

ANNEX III: List of Environmental Permits

Buildings included in the scope of EMAS

The following is a list of environmental permits for the buildings included in the European Parliament's EMAS scope. Parliament's buildings in Strasbourg and the Depot Senningerberg building in Luxembourg are not subject to environmental permits. The responsibility for monitoring the implementation of requirements set out in the environmental permits is described in EP EMAS procedure P-CHECK-ALL-12: Procédure de respect de la législation environnementale.

FIGURE 36: ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE PERMITS LIST

Site	Building	Name	Permit reference	Expiration
Luxembourg	ADENAUER I	Konrad Adenauer I	1/2008/0320/135 1/08/0320 1/08/0320A 1/16/0597	Original env. permit from 2009 Env. permit validity extension until 2017 Env. permit validity extension until 31/12/2025
	ADENAUER II	Konrad Adenauer II	1014/5549 - 1014/55560	N/A (no expiration date linked to the permit)
	Senningerberg	N/A	N/A	Building is not subject to env. permit
Brussels	SPAAK	Paul Henri Spaak	12/90.678/50.704	05/02/2038
	SPINELLI	Altiero Spinelli	285928	05/02/2038
	ZWEIG	Stefan Zweig	239448 00/0247	04/05/2036, 02/01/2031
	BRANDT	Willy Brandt	215200	22/07/2033
	ANTALL	József Antall	238783	22/07/2033
	Wayenberg	N/A	214468	14/07/2033
	Montoyer 70	N/A	45475	09/10/2037
	ARENDDT	N/A	238783	21/12/2034
	House of European History	House of European History	390831	15/05/2027
	MARTENS	Wilfried Martens	387379	10/06/2028
	SCHOLL	Sophie Scholl	1.745.933	23/12/2036
Strasbourg	WEISS	Louise Weiss	N/A	N/A
	CHURCHILL	Winston Churchill	N/A	N/A
	DE MADARIAGA	Salvador de Madariaga	N/A	N/A
	PFLIMLIN	Pierre Pflimlin	N/A	N/A
	HAVEL	Václav Havel	N/A	N/A

ANNEX IV: EMAS Action Plan and SEF projects

Status on 15 December 2023

A. Overview of EMAS actions planned in 2024

1. CO₂ emissions and energy

Action	Status
Define milestones and set aside budget for CO ₂ emission reduction and new targets	New
Install new solar panels on Antall, Zweig, Wayenberg, Martens, Spaak, Churchill, De Madariaga and Pflimlin buildings	New
Install two new heat pumps in the Zweig building	New
Use innovative and energy efficient air filtration technologies	New
Develop a renovation masterplan for buildings	New
Further optimise building management	New
Report on the installation of LEDs and motions sensors	New
Monitor data usage and storage improving data storage	New
Reduce energy consumption caused by digitalisation	New
Promote best practices on sustainable data storage	New
Provide statistics on data storage by Parliament	New
Modify the gas boiler of the WIM building in Brussels to increase energy efficiency	New
Develop a long-term building policy	New
Review best environmental practices of national Parliaments	New
Implement a digital sustainability overhaul of Parliament's website	New
Share best practice for sustainable events	New
Organise EMAS trainings for the staff of Parliament's Liaison Office	New
Evaluate online testing of interpreters	New
Promote and report on the use of the multilingual remote platform for external speakers for meetings	New
Promote sustainable conference and event management	New
Measure energy use in the CAMPOAMOR building	New
Realise a study on installing ventilation valves in empty offices	New
Establish energy-efficient security control operations	New
Reduce the use of emails within the Directorate	New
Prepare data collection for calculating the Group's carbon footprint	New
Dedicated internal activities on GPP, sustainable events and mobility	New
Renovate ceilings (lighting) of CHURCHILL and DE MADRIAGA (STR)	In progress
Obtain BREEAM certification for ADENAUER II building extension (LUX)	In progress
Complete CHURCHILL restaurant and kitchen renovation (STR)	In progress
Propose follow-up emissions target for 2030	In progress
Evaluate near zero-energy buildings	In progress
Launch building smart grid study	In progress

Provide energy consumption of EP Windhof datacentre in (LUX)	In progress
Dedicated action on reducing trunks at Group level	In progress
Explore academic cooperation for zero energy buildings	In progress
Development of an in-house Sustainability Strategy	In progress
Dedicated action on reducing trunks at Group level	In progress
Evaluate impacts of the Parliamentarium / new Europa Experience	In progress

2. Sustainable Mobility

Action	Status
Green the mission rules for staff	New
Facilitate travel by train for missions to Strasbourg for part-sessions by improving the train offer	New
Explore the possibility of an increase in the proportion of visitor groups using environmentally friendly modes of transport	New
Encourage the use of lower-carbon transport modes by Members	New
Develop a CO2 calculation tool	New
Enhance cooperation with local authorities for sustainable transport	New
Step up the comprehensive bike strategy in Brussels, Luxembourg, Strasbourg	New
Increase information to Members on impact of travel on the institution's carbon footprint	New
Provide estimates on CO2 emissions for official delegation travel	New
Mainstream virtual visits with a new remote Virtual Role Play Game	New
Promote a shift to low-carbon alternatives for travelling in DG LINC	New
Promote public transport: introducing a flexible schedule for Security Guards	New
Transport car fleet entirely emission free	In progress
Assessment of emission free for vans and buses	In progress
Dedicated action on sustainable mobility at Group level	In progress
Coordinate input to the Mobility Plan 2020-2022	In progress

3. Managing Waste

Action	Status
Step up the work on internal procedures for sustainable management of construction waste and develop guidelines	New
Phase out single use earphones	New
Establish a new sustainable visitors accreditation system	New
Publish a new guide for the five waste compartment bins	New
Coordinate a "Donnerie" event of the political groups	New
Replace single-use bowls with reusable bowls/cups ("bocaux de David")	In progress
Report remaining individual bins for DGs and Groups	In progress
Report total number of re-use stations	In progress

4. Reducing Paper Consumption

Action	Status
Reduce newspaper and magazine waste	New
Reduce the volume of printed publications	New
Reduce paper for activities linked to the change of term	New

Support the digital transformation: digitally-native publications	New
Implement and promote the new eco font Europea	New
Digitalize forms and security instructions	New
Abolish the printing of voting lists	New
Replace desktops with hybrids	In progress
Replace individual printers with limited amount of network printers	In progress
Report yearly paperless and digitalisation improvements	In progress
Report reduction of printed pages in publications	In progress

5. Water Consumption

Action	Status
Renovate multiple restrooms (STR)	In progress
Optimise water flushing for anti-legionella	In progress
Install EU Eco-labelled or equivalent toilets, taps and showers	In progress
Optimize re-use of rainwater	In progress

6. Greening Public Procurement (GPP)

Action	Status
EMAS dedicated page on the GREENS/EFA intranet	New
Promote mandatory GPP criteria in tenders specifications	In progress

B. Overview of the EMAS actions implemented in 2023

1. CO₂ emissions and energy

Action	Status
Better distinguish Members Business class flights	Achieved
Optimize the location of server rooms with an inventory	Achieved
Optimise the Building Management System of ADENAUER II (LUX)	Achieved
Provide tailor-made info to staff on how to use thermostats	Achieved
Install solar 100 m ² of PV on Montoyer 70 building (BRU)	Achieved
Install solar 200 m ² of PV on SPINELLI building (BRU)	Achieved
Install solar PV on BRANDT building (BRU)	Achieved
Study the possibility for carbon free electricity purchases	Achieved
Provide fully remote language-adding tests for interpreters	Achieved
Install domestic hot water heat pumps in WEISS building (LUX)	Achieved
Install energy meters in ADENAUER II building (LUX)	Achieved
Add solar to ANTALL building (BRU)	Achieved
Sign up to the European Code of Conduct for Energy Efficiency	Achieved
End the rental contract of the SCHUMAN building (LUX)	Achieved
Periodic review of energy saving activities	Achieved
Use innovative and energy efficient air filtration technologies	Achieved
Review energy saving possibilities in catering facilities	Achieved

Online testing of interpreters	Achieved
--------------------------------	----------

2. Sustainable Mobility

Action	Status
Mainstream virtual visits to the Parliament	Achieved
Revise mission rules to encourage sustainable transport	Achieved
Encourage Members to use sustainable transport possibilities (IMMS)	Achieved
Needs assessment requirement for staff missions	Achieved
Incentivising ecologically more sustainable travel alternatives	Achieved
Install 250 additional places for cyclists	Achieved

3. Managing Waste

Action	Status
Introduce new requirements to catering contracts	Achieved
Reduce the incineration of single use paper cups	Achieved
Replace single-serving packets (i.e. ketchup) with alternatives	Achieved
Pilot a bio-waste container in SPINELLI (BRU)	Achieved
Full phase-out of plastics and single use cups	Achieved
Extend the donation practice of unsold food and used furniture	Achieved
Extend the donation practice of IT equipment	Achieved

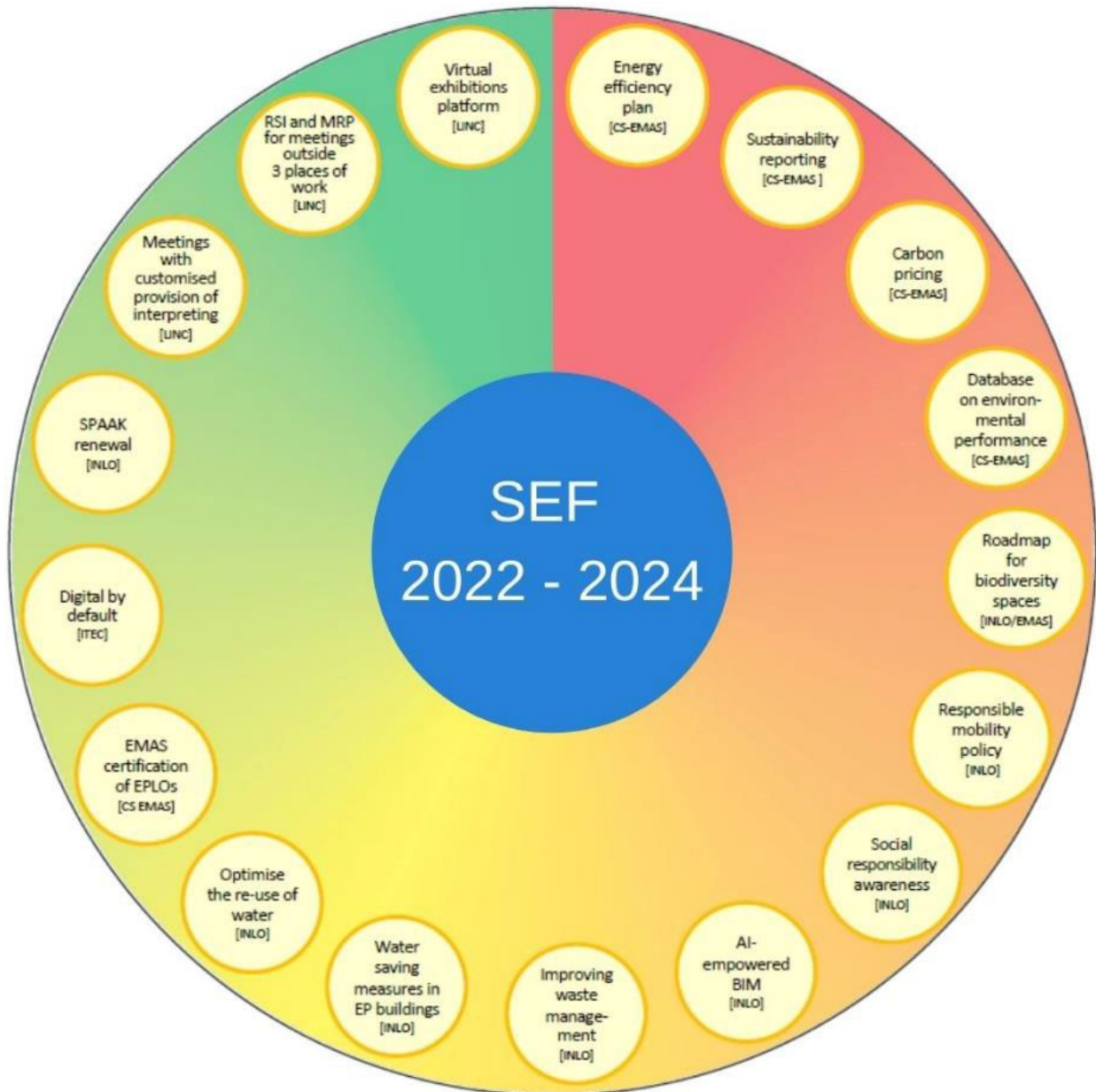
4. Reducing Paper Consumption

Action	Status
Revision of the Archiving Rules for the Legal Service	Achieved
Digitising procurement and invoices	Achieved
Ensure "follow me" remote printing with badge readers	Achieved
Implement a paperless approach for plenary business	Achieved
Digital provision of meeting documentation to interpreters	Achieved
eGrants (consolidating green procurement): submission and evaluation	Achieved

7. Administration

Action	Status
House of European History's participation in a Green Museum Network	Achieved
SPAAK renewal project as a catalyser for sustainable building	Achieved
Publish Sustainability reporting	Achieved
Implement local Action Plans for EP Liaison Offices (HoE) in Vienna and Valletta	Achieved
New reporting data for interpretation-related CO ₂ -emissions	Achieved
Communication campaigns for Parliament staff on CO ₂ emissions	Achieved
Establish guidelines for socially responsible public procurement	Achieved
Awareness raising campaign – sustainability in catering	Achieved
Promote voluntary checklist for sustainable events across Parliament	Achieved

C. Projects related to increasing the European Parliament's environmental performance under Parliament's Strategic Execution Framework (SEF) 2022 -2024



ANNEX V: Key Performance Indicators per site

FIGURE 37: KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR PER SITE

Environmental aspect	Indicator	2023 BRU	2023 LUX	2023 STR
Carbon footprint	Carbon footprint (tCO ₂ e)	70 066	15 886	15 995
	Number of full time equivalent (FTE)	11 474	3 030	1 340
	Indicator "Carbon footprint per FTE" (tCO ₂ e/ FTE)	6.1	5.2	11.9
Electricity purchased	Total electricity purchased (kWh)	55 671 979	12 205 854	25 506 434
	Indicator "Electricity consumption" (kWh/FTE)	4 852	4 028	19 035
Gas, oil and urban heating	"Gas, oil and urban heating" (kWh)	29 108 237	10 021 000	242 904
	Indicator "Gas, oil and urban heating" (kWh/FTE)	2 537	3.307	181
Global waste	Recycling percentage	73.7%	97.3%	50.8%
	Quantity of non-recycled waste (kg)	318 978	81 294	369 229
	Waste quantity (kg)	1 212 575	3 001 101	749 910
	Quantity of non-recycled waste per FTE (kg/FTE)	27.8	26.8	275.5
	Waste quantity per FTE (kg/FTE)	105.7	990.5	559.6
Water	Total water consumption (m ³)	104 940	13 641	38 953
	Indicator "Water consumption" (m ³ /FTE)	9.1	4.5	29.1
Paper	Total paper consumption (kg)	133 806	29 508	17 373
	Indicator "Paper consumption" (kg/FTE)	11.7	9.7	12.9
Renewable energy generated on site	Total energy purchased (kWh)	84 780 216	22 226 854	25 749 338
	Energy used for running heat pumps (kWh)	368 809	88 280	4 366 700
	Energy used for running cogeneration (kWh)	128 657	6 608 700	0
	Renewable energy produced on-site (kWh) - incl. Cogen	1 719 152	6 531 020	30 306 000
	Renewable energy produced on-site (kWh) - excl. Cogen	1 631 906	1 197 020	30 306 000
	Share of renewable energy produced on site (incl. cogen)	2.00%	29.60%	58.63%
	Share of renewable energy produced on site (excl. cogen)	1.9%	5.1%	58.6%