

Public Consultation on the EU environment policy priorities for 2020:

Towards a 7th EU Environment Action Programme

Identification	
Are you answering as an individual or on behalf of an organisation or institution? -single choice reply-(optional)	I am answering on behalf of an organisation or institution (business, NGO, public authority,...)
Please select the option which best describes your organisation. -single choice reply-(optional)	non-governmental organisation/association of NGOs
Please enter the name of your organisation. -open reply-(optional)	Women in Europe for a Common Future
Please enter your e-mail address. -open reply-(optional)	elisabeth.ruffinengo@wecf.eu
Are you answering on behalf of an EU-wide organisation? -single choice reply-(optional)	Yes
Unless you specify otherwise, your contribution will be published on the Commission's website together with your identity. Please indicate here if you wish your contribution to be anonymous. -single choice reply-(optional)	You can publish this contribution under the name given.
Added value of a new EAP and major challenges	
By developing a strategic agenda for the environment, with clear priorities and objectives. -single choice reply-(optional)	6
By ensuring full implementation of agreed policies and legislation -single choice reply-(optional)	6
By providing a coherent framework and furthering the integration of environmental considerations into other policies -single choice reply-(optional)	6
By ensuring a joint commitment from EU institutions and Member States to a common agenda -single choice reply-(optional)	5
By stimulating public debate on environmental priorities and active participation of citizens, local authorities and businesses -single choice reply-(optional)	6

By providing the long term certainty and a conducive framework for the private sector to invest in resource efficiency, low-carbon technology and eco-innovation -single choice reply-(optional)	6
By defining a detailed list of actions to be implemented by 2020 -single choice reply-(optional)	6
By establishing environmental priority objectives for inclusion in the monitoring process of the EU semester -single choice reply-(optional)	5
A new EAP has no added value -single choice reply-(optional)	1

The final assessment of the 6th EAP has shown that a long term vision for Europe's environment would help in guiding the definition of priority objectives to be achieved by 2020. Bearing in mind the long term visions already set out in the Resource Efficiency Roadmap[1], the 2050 Low-Carbon Roadmap[2] and the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020[3], are there any elements you feel are missing?

[1] By 2050 the EU's economy has grown in a way that respects resource constraints and planetary boundaries, thus contributing to global economic transformation. Our economy is competitive, inclusive and provides a high standard of living with much lower environmental impacts. All resources are sustainably managed, from raw materials to energy, water, air, land and soil. Climate change milestones have been reached, while biodiversity and the ecosystem services it underpins have been protected, valued and substantially restored.

[2] By 2050, the EU should cut its domestic greenhouse gas emissions by 80% compared to 1990 and all the sectors of the economy – power sector, industry, transport, agriculture, residential and tertiary should contribute to a varying degree and pace.

[3] By 2050, European Union biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides — its natural capital — are protected, valued and appropriately restored for biodiversity's intrinsic value and for their essential contribution to human wellbeing and economic prosperity, and so that catastrophic changes caused by the loss of biodiversity are avoided.

-open reply-(optional)

Environment should be integrated in all existing EU policies, especially health policy, with the ultimate aim of significantly reducing the environmental burden of disease. Health policy should be part of the 7th EAP, as previously assessed by the European Commission, all the more because environmental health is not part of the EU Health program 2013-2020. Prevention of environmental damages at the source as well as corrective measures to restore polluted areas should be priorities as well.

Unsustainable consumption patterns -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Unsustainable production patterns -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Resource over-consumption, potential scarcity and price volatility -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Pollution from hazardous chemicals -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Insufficient water quantity -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Water pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Outdoor air pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Important

Indoor air pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystem services -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Deforestation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Climate change mitigation/greenhouse gas reductions -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Adaptation to the impacts of climate change -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Marine pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Marine resource exploitation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Competing uses of land leading to environmental degradation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Soil degradation and pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Generation and proliferation of waste -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Environmental challenges linked to food -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Environmental challenges linked to housing -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Environmental challenges linked to mobility -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Environmental challenges linked to the urban environment -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Environmental challenges linked to energy production and use -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Noise -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Major industrial accidents -single choice reply-(optional)	Very Important
Unsustainable consumption patterns -single choice reply-(optional)	More use of Market-based Instruments (cap and trade, taxation, subsidies, incentives)
Unsustainable production patterns -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Resource overconsumption, potential scarcity and price volatility -single choice reply-(optional)	More use of Market-based Instruments (cap and trade, taxation, subsidies, incentives)

Pollution from hazardous chemicals -single choice reply-(optional)	Fill policy gaps (e.g. through new policy/legislation)
Insufficient water quantity -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Water pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Improve implementation of existing policy and legislation
Outdoor air pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	More use of Market-based Instruments (cap and trade, taxation, subsidies, incentives)
Indoor air pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Fill policy gaps (e.g. through new policy/legislation)
Biodiversity loss and degradation of ecosystem services -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Deforestation -single choice reply-(optional)	More use of Market-based Instruments (cap and trade, taxation, subsidies, incentives)
Climate change mitigation/greenhouse gas reductions -single choice reply-(optional)	More use of Market-based Instruments (cap and trade, taxation, subsidies, incentives)
Adaptation to the impacts of climate change -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Marine pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Improve implementation of existing policy and legislation
Marine resource exploitation -single choice reply-(optional)	Improve implementation of existing policy and legislation
Competing uses of land leading to environmental degradation -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Soil degradation and pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Generation of proliferation of waste -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Environmental challenges linked to food -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Environmental challenges linked to housing -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies

Environmental challenges linked to mobility -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Environmental challenges linked to the urban environment -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Environmental challenges linked to energy production and use -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Noise -single choice reply-(optional)	Fill policy gaps (e.g. through new policy/legislation)
Major industrial accidents -single choice reply-(optional)	Strengthen mainstreaming of environmental considerations in other policies
Agriculture and rural development policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Climate change policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Competition policy (state aid) -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Consumers and health policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Development cooperation policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Economic and financial policy (including taxation) -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Education and culture policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Employment policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Energy policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Enterprise and SMEs policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
External relations policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Maritime and fisheries policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Products/services standards -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Public procurement policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Regional policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5

Research and innovation policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Trade policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Transport policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Other -single choice reply-(optional)	
If other, please specify (max 100 characters) -open reply-(optional)	
Agriculture and rural development policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Competition policy (state aid) -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Consumers and health policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Development cooperation policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Economic and financial policy (including taxation) -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Education and culture policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Employment policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Energy policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Enterprise and SMEs policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Environmental policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
External relations policy -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Maritime and fisheries policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Products/services standards -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Public procurement policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Regional policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Research and innovation policy -single choice reply-(optional)	3
Trade policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5

Transport policy -single choice reply-(optional)	5
Other -single choice reply-(optional)	
If other, please specify (maximum 100 characters) -open reply-(optional)	
<p>New integrated approaches to improve competitiveness and enhance ecological and societal resilience</p> <p>In your view, what are the 3 most important initiatives that should be taken at EU level to reduce the environmental impact of food production and consumption? (maximum 800 characters): -open reply-(optional)</p> <p>- Enhance local high quality food production everywhere in the EU by supporting biological and sustainable agriculture practices through schemes designed to help settlement of young farmers to generate employment in the farming sector. - Restore fair sale prices for farmers producing high quality food and fair prices for the consumers reflecting the environmental impact of a product for example. - Ensure Food production and consumption move both towards a substantial reduction of pesticides use (prevention of contamination of consumers and the environment) and of antibiotics use in animal production (ensure the antimicrobial resistance challenge is addressed).</p>	
<p>In your view, what are the 3 most important initiatives that should be taken at EU level to reduce the environmental impact of housing? (maximum 800 characters) -open reply-(optional)</p> <p>not our field of expertise.</p>	
<p>In your view, what are the 3 most important initiatives that should be taken at EU level to reduce the environmental impact of mobility? (maximum 800 characters) -open reply-(optional)</p> <p>noo our field of expertise.</p>	
Desertification -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Deforestation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Conversion of agricultural land to urban land -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Conversion of grassland to cropland -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Conversion of land for energy crop cultivation -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Other land use changes -single choice reply-(optional)	No opinion
Land fragmentation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Reinforce existing legislation to improve the application of the 'polluter pays' principle to address soil degradation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Establish a soil monitoring scheme to measure and/or evaluate progress towards less soil degradation -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat important
Set binding targets to reduce soil degradation	Very important

-single choice reply-(optional)	
Provide platforms for exchanging best practice -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Promote greater public awareness of the role played by soil as a resource in the environment and the economy -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat important
Endocrine disruptors -single choice reply-(optional)	Not well at all
Nanomaterials -single choice reply-(optional)	Not well at all
Combined effects of chemicals -single choice reply-(optional)	Not well at all
Harmful chemicals in products -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat well
Outdoor air pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat well
Indoor air pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat well
Water pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat well
Noise -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat well
Climate change -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat well
Nuclear radiation -single choice reply-(optional)	Not well at all
Other -single choice reply-(optional)	
If other, please specify (maximum 100 characters) -open reply-(optional)	
Local contribution to global climate change -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat important
Local transport -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Green urban areas incorporating sustainable land use -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Nature and biodiversity -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Quality of local ambient air -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Noise pollution -single choice reply-(optional)	Important
Waste production and management -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important

Water consumption -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Waste water treatment -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Eco innovation and sustainable employment -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Environmental management of the local authority -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important
Energy performance -single choice reply-(optional)	Very important

Making Change Happen

In your view, does the type of EU climate and environment legislation (Regulations, which have direct effect, vs. Directives, which need to be transposed into national law) make a difference in terms of delivering environmental benefits, and if so, why? (max 800 characters) -open reply-(optional)

Whatever the type of legislation, means dedicated to: define the relevance of measures to be taken as well as financial, practical means to implement the policies and finally means dedicated to the control of implementation and rapid execution of corrective measures needed to address properly the identified challenge are keys for the success of any climate change mitigation and environment legislations. Both EU and national levels of action are necessary to ensure a proper implementation of legislations. The subsidiarity principle, i.e. choosing the level which is the most capable of delivering efficient measures, as EU law principle should guide the EU in its choice between pieces of legislation which are either directly or indirectly applicable.

On a scale of 1-5 (1=least, 5=most), how would you rate the usefulness of increasing the information being actively disseminated on-line by Member States and the Commission and how EU environment legislation is being implemented? -single choice reply-(optional)	4
More extensive criteria on how Member States should undertake inspections and surveillance -single choice reply-(optional)	Significant
Complementing national inspections and surveillance with enhanced capacity at EU level to ensure consistency and effectiveness of implementation -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Criteria on complaint-handling systems in each Member State or similar alternative dispute resolution mechanisms -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Legislation to ensure better access to national courts -single choice reply-(optional)	Somewhat significant
Support for experts' networks, e.g. inspectors, prosecutors and judges to share best practice and develop projects of common interest -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Implementation plans that target resources at solving environmental problems -single choice reply-	Very significant

(optional)	
Science provides the evidence-base underpinning the development and implementation of climate and environment policy. On a scale of 1-5 (1=insufficient, 5=excellent), how would you rate the environmental data currently available to you? -single choice reply-(optional)	4
Give to citizens a greater role in monitoring environmental data (e.g. through new media tools such as 'eye on earth') -single choice reply-(optional)	Very high potential
Improve data collection on and analysis of compliance and enforcement within each Member State -single choice reply-(optional)	High potential
Improve the science-policy interface and ensure that scientific environmental data are accessible and user-friendly -single choice reply-(optional)	Very high potential
Fill existing research gaps (e.g. ecological thresholds, environmental tipping points, impacts of new technologies, etc.) -single choice reply-(optional)	High potential
Improve knowledge on consumers' perceptions, values and their actual behaviour -single choice reply-(optional)	High potential
Improve EUs international research cooperation on global environmental issues (i.e. biodiversity, climate change) -single choice reply-(optional)	High potential
Other -single choice reply-(optional)	
If other, please specify (max 100 characters) -open reply-(optional)	
Ensure science use by policy makers to avoid postponing preventive and precautionary actions.	
Provide more detailed information to consumers through more detailed labels -single choice reply-(optional)	Effective
Increase consumers' education and awareness through general awareness-raising campaigns -single choice reply-(optional)	Effective
Increase consumers' education and awareness through targeted actions and on-the-spot information -single choice reply-(optional)	Very effective
Provide examples of positive/successful behaviours to consumers -single choice reply-(optional)	Very effective
Reward environmentally-friendly behaviours	Very effective

-single choice reply-(optional)	
Discourage environmentally-damaging behaviours -single choice reply-(optional)	Very effective
Apply different approaches for each specific context via "behavioural experiments" -single choice reply-(optional)	Very effective
Strengthening International Environmental Governance -single choice reply-(optional)	Significant
Strengthening the EU leadership in Multilateral Environmental Agreements -single choice reply-(optional)	Significant
Leading by example - EU leadership through setting unilateral targets and commitments -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Ensuring that the EU consistently speaks with one voice in international fora -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Enhancing the integration of environment in the EU's external policies -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Promoting EU environmental standards abroad -single choice reply-(optional)	Significant
Engaging bilaterally with key partners to address global environmental challenges -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Building alliances with other countries in line with our environmental objectives -single choice reply-(optional)	Very significant
Enhancing the effectiveness of environment and climate-related EU development cooperation assistance -single choice reply-(optional)	Significant
Other -single choice reply-(optional)	
If other, please specify (maximum 100 characters) -open reply-(optional)	
Ensure coherence between the practices of EU companies abroad and the objectives set at EU level.	
If you have further comments on this consultation or suggestions please write them in the box below (optional) (max 1000 characters) -open reply-(optional)	
The 7th EAP should ensure to address health and environment issues, to fill a gap in EU legislation in the absence of a second Environment and Health Action Plan. Environment should be recognized as a key risk factor for non communicable diseases and preventive and precautionary actions should be generated accordingly, especially on the following aspects: - Ensure a significant public funding research in the EU on endocrine disrupters and assessment of mixture toxicity, - Ensure a significant budget is dedicated to the training of health professionals on environmental health, - Address adequately emerging risks such as nanotechnologies and electromagnetic fields, - Make the exchange of best and good environmental practices at EU level a rule, - Better regulation of chemicals and pollutants linked to chronic diseases, - Acceleration of substitution of identified harmful chemicals in everyday consumer products.	