



Deliverable

D4.1 EU Policy Target Map of Forest and Forest-Related Policy

PathFinder Project

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I. DOCUMENT CONTROL

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DISSEMINATION LEVEL

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| PU | Public, fully open access |
| RE | Restricted to a group specified by the PathFinder Consortium (including the Commission Services) |
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III. Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|--|
| ALU-FR | Albert-Ludwigs University Freiburg |
| CFRI | Croatian Forest Research Institute |
| EU | European Union |
| LULUCF | Land use, land use change and forestry |
| LUKE | Natural Resources Institute Finland |
| BFW | Federal Research and Training Center for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape |
| TM | TreeMetrics |
| ELO | European Landowners Organisation |
| EEA | Environmental Agency |
| MRV | monitoring reporting and verification |
| NIBIO | Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research |
| SFM | sustainable forest management |
| FLEGT | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade |
| CAP | Common Agricultural Policy |
| RDI | research development and innovation |
| OGF | old-growth forests |
| RED | Renewable Energy Directive |
| ETS | emissions trading scheme |
| GHG | Green house Gas emissions |
| ILUC | Indirect Land Use Change |
| GAK | Joint Task Agricultural Structure & Coastal Protection (Gemeinschaftsaufgabe Agrarstruktur & Küstenschutz) |
| BMEL | Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft) |
| BMUV | The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear safety and Consumer Protection (Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, nukleare Sicherheit und Verbraucherschutz) |
| RES | renewable energy sources |
| EFE | Spanish Forestry Strategy |
| PFE | the Spanish Forestry Plan |
| UAA | utilised agricultural area |
| PNACC | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan |



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V. Executive summary

The European Union's ambitious transition towards a sustainable, low-emission, circular economy, as outlined in the European Green Deal, demands well-informed and comprehensive policy measures. European forests, pivotal in climate mitigation and biodiversity preservation, require precise management guided by effective policies. The PathFinder project is at the forefront of innovative forest monitoring and assessment in the EU, aiming to create a solid foundation for co-designed forest policies that align with the region's ambitious climate targets.

Task 4.1 within the PathFinder project serves as the cornerstone of the policy component, playing a pivotal role in modelling future forest scenarios, conducting trade-off analyses, and assessing potential pathways. Its overarching objective is to identify and map all pertinent policy targets influencing EU forests and forest management across various sectors and governance levels. This task goes beyond merely listing targets; it also delves into understanding the context by identifying key policy goals and objectives at both the EU and national levels. Furthermore, it strategically selects Member States from diverse regions of Europe to capture nuanced differences, similarities, and interrelationships concerning forest and forest-related policy targets. Additionally, Task 4.1 seeks to uncover trade-offs within and between policies and steps taken to resolve potential incoherencies, a crucial aspect for future scenario development.

The methodological approach in Task 4.1 is rigorous and thorough. It begins by identifying key policy sectors based on a literature review and insights from existing analyses of EU and national-level forest and forest-related policies. These key sectors encompass overarching/cross-cutting policies at the EU level, forestry, timber trade, agriculture and rural development, nature conservation, environmental policies, climate change, bio-energy, and water and soil management. Each sector plays a unique role in shaping forest-related policies. To build the policy target map, Task 4.1 examines a wide array of policy documents from the EU and Member States, encompassing legally-binding and non-binding instruments such as directives, regulations, acts, legislation, communications, strategies, guidelines, and plans. The selection criteria prioritise documents that most accurately represent current sectoral goals, objectives, and targets or serve as legally binding laws that affect forest and forest management.

The findings from the analysis can be briefly summarised. Across all policy sectors, there's a clear recognition of forests' multifunctional roles, including carbon sequestration, sustainable bio-based materials, and biodiversity conservation. Among EU-level policies, emphasis on sustainable forest management was essential when aligning with climate and biodiversity goals. Agriculture and rural development policies impact the forestry sector through initiatives like eco-schemes and incentives for carbon sequestration. Unsurprisingly, nature conservation and environment policies prioritise biodiversity conservation and sustainable practices that protect biodiversity, while climate policies position forests as providers of ecosystem services but face trade-offs with conservation goals. (Bio)energy policies aim to integrate renewable energy, especially forest biomass, into a sustainable framework but encounter trade-offs with emission reduction and conservation goals. Finally, water and soil policies, while thematically interconnected with forest management, lack explicit policy integration at both the EU and Member State levels with the exception of Ireland, highlighting the need for better alignment.

Viewed through the lens of the PathFinder project, this analysis brings to light the evolving policy landscape within the European Union and select Member States. It underscores the increasing recognition of the multifaceted role played by forests, extending beyond traditional perspectives to encompass contemporary challenges. The intricate interplay between these policies emphasises the



significance of adopting an integrated approach that fosters harmonious interactions and minimises the existence of trade-offs.

Nevertheless, unresolved trade-offs persist both at the EU and Member State levels, primarily revolving around the tensions between intensifying forest harvesting and conservation, as well as the delicate balance between carbon sequestration and nature preservation. These dilemmas are situated within the Framework of Nature's Future, particularly concerning the coexistence of 'Nature for Nature' and 'Nature for Society' objectives. Furthermore, EU-level and Member State bioeconomy policies grapple with the challenge of reconciling the increased utilisation of forest biomass with the imperative of biodiversity conservation and the expansion of protected areas. The presence of immeasurable targets exacerbates these complexities, underscoring the crucial need for clear and actionable policy objectives to effectively address potential trade-offs within and between different sectors. Nonetheless, policy documents providing guidance on sustainable forest management offer valuable initial guidance for policymakers seeking to establish concrete targets and navigate these intricate issues with greater precision.

The PathFinder project, through Task 4.1, lays the foundation for informed forest-related policy-making in the EU. European forests, at the crossroads of diverse sectors and governance levels, are critical in achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. Understanding the intricate web of policies and regulations governing these forests is essential for ensuring that Europe advances cohesively towards its ambitious climate goals while safeguarding the holistic well-being of its forests and associated sectors. Task 4.1 provides a comprehensive understanding of policy targets, paving the way for future forest scenario modelling and co-designed forest management pathways.



1. Introduction

The EU's transition towards a sustainable, low-emission, circular economy as articulated in the European Green Deal is a monumental endeavour requiring decisive policy measures. These measures, guided by the most recent scientific insights from reports such as IPCC's 6th assessment, must address the multiple roles that forests play in our ecosystems and economies (IPCC 2021). As pivotal elements in climate mitigation and biodiversity preservation, European forests necessitate well-planned management and effective and appropriate policy. Within this broader context, fostering synergies and avoiding trade-offs between the forest-based bioeconomy, climate mitigation, and biodiversity is essential for achieving the ambitious 2030 and 2050 policy targets of a 55% reduction and net-zero CO₂ emissions respectively (Grassi et al. 2021). Forests, as pivotal elements in climate mitigation and biodiversity protection, necessitate well-planned management backed by an overarching informed and effective policy framework.

The PathFinder project ambitiously aims at innovating the way we monitor and assess forests within the EU and by doing so integrating knowledge towards co-designed forest policies that lead to desired forest management pathways. Through a collaboration of the largest forest monitoring organisations in the EU, the project sets out to offer a rich, harmonised ground truth information database. This, in turn, facilitates the creation of future forest scenarios and aids in the decision-making process for policy implementation, ultimately steering the EU towards its emissions reporting and meeting the ambitious climate targets set under the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector. Pivotal in this process is the forecasting of current and new scenarios and outcomes of forest management across Europe. To do this, we must assess the current policy targets, examining forest management, land-use change, cross-sectoral demands and climate change adaptation to forecast future European forests' ability to mitigate climate change.

2. Objectives

Work package (WP) 4 encompasses the policy component of the PathFinder project. Task '4.1 The EU Policy Target Map of Forest and Forest-related Policy' serves as the cornerstone of the other WP4 tasks, as well as being essential for modelling future scenario forecasts, trade-off analysis and pathway assessment.

The objective of task 4.1 is to identify all relevant policy targets that impact EU forests and forest management across forest and forest-related sectors, including: overarching/cross-cutting policy (only EU level), forestry, timber trade (industry), agriculture & rural development, nature conservation / environment, climate change, (bio-) energy and water & soil. To achieve this objective, key policy goals and objectives are also identified to provide further context to the targets, at both the EU and national levels. At the national level, a further objective is to strategically select Member States from distinct regions of Europe to capture nuances, similarities, and interrelations relating to forest and forest-related policy targets. Finally, this analysis seeks to identify trade-offs within and between policies as well as steps taken towards resolving potential incoherencies. This component is crucial for future scenario building.

Broader Objectives of task 4.1:

- Foundational Blueprint: The policy target map establishes the underlying connections between different sectors at multiple governance levels, setting the stage for informed policy-making.



- Influence on Future Scenarios: The data and insights gathered feed into Task 3.1, providing the necessary input for the creation of future forest scenarios used in land system change modelling.
- Co-Design and Stakeholder Engagement: The outcomes of Task 4.1 are instrumental in Task 4.5, which focuses on the co-designing process of forest management pathways, enhancing stakeholder engagement and facilitating a more informed and inclusive discourse.

As an initial stepping stone, Task 4.1 prepares the groundwork for the broader objectives of the PathFinder project, providing stakeholders with a comprehensive understanding of existing policies and guiding future policy discussions and decisions. With this report, the aim is to arm policymakers, stakeholders, and researchers with the tools and insights needed to navigate through the complex policy landscape, aligning forestry practices and governance with the ambitious targets set by the EU.

3. Methodological approach

3.1 Identifying key policy sectors, policy documents and limitations

When developing the target map, several vital considerations must be accounted for. The foremost of these is the identification of pertinent policy sectors, informed by a literature review. Insights learned from existing analyses of EU and national-level forest and forest-related policies, assist in delineating key sectors (Rouillard et al. 2021 & Baycheva et al. 2016). These sectors encompass overarching/cross-cutting policies at the EU level, forestry, timber trade, agriculture and rural development, nature conservation, environmental policies, climate change, bio-energy, and water and soil. It is deemed that overarching / cross-cutting policies, such as the European Green Deal, are a unique component of EU-level governance.

The analysis incorporates a broad spectrum of policy documents from the EU and Member States (MS), including both legally-binding and non-binding instruments such as directives, regulations, acts, legislation, communications, strategies, guidelines, and plans. The selection criterion prioritises documents that most accurately represent the current sectoral goals, objectives, and targets or that serve as legally binding laws that affect forest and forest management. Due to time constraints, an exhaustive review of all policies affecting forests either directly or indirectly is deemed unfeasible. This limitation is particularly relevant when selecting national-level policy documents; therefore, it is decided to feature at least one key legally binding and one non-binding policy document to produce a snapshot of the forestry-impacting policy targets at the MS level.

3.2 Selection national level policy analysis:

A second important consideration for this target map is the inclusion of MS for the national-level policy analysis that provides a forestry target snapshot for the different regions of the EU. Six countries are selected representing distinct regions, as well as different forestry sector challenges within the EU. Germany is chosen due to its familiarity with the leading partner on task 4.1 (ALUFR) and represents Western Europe. Austria is selected as the Central European MS with a particular emphasis on mountain forest management, and also as a corroborating project partner (BFW) is supporting this task.

Finland, a representative MS of Northern Europe, is chosen due to forestry being the main component of Finland's land management, and a project partner (LUKE) supporting this task. Ireland is included, not only because the project is supported by a partner (TM), but also due to its burgeoning forestry



sector. Ireland is also an interesting case as the LULUCF targets for 2026-2030 (-310 Mt of CO₂ equivalent) uniquely permit the sector to remain as a source of emissions, akin to other small member states like the Netherlands and Denmark. Croatia, the EU's newest member state, is supported through a key project partner (CFRI) and is selected to represent Eastern Europe. Finally, Spain is chosen as it is represented by a key project partner (CSIC) and is committed to being the EU's second-largest sink of emissions (-43 Mt of CO₂ equivalent for 2026-2030), representing the Southern EU region.

3.3 Defining policy goals objectives and targets for analysis:

Definitions for policy analysis of goals, objectives, and targets are taken from policy integration literature and used to map out and determine coherences and changes in sectoral policy outputs. In this context, 'policy goals' refer to the broad and abstract aims or 'policy paradigms' that shape the overarching direction of a specific policy or set of policies (Hall 1993). 'Policy objectives' are the tangible and actionable aims that are more clearly defined and operationalised (Howlett et al. 2022). Policy goals refer to core beliefs/the overarching desired outcome that guide(s) policy and practice (e.g., primacy of timber production vs. nature conservation; the expansion of wind power etc.). They are commonly rather broadly formulated. Policy objectives are stated outcomes that structure the policy and the targets.

A policy target is a specific level or rate set for the chosen objective (Lester & Neuhoff, 2009). Targets are a clear expression of a policy priority, setting out exactly what for example a national government wants to have done and by when. Concrete and quantifiable targets enable a monitoring and thus a robust assessment of progress towards the specified policy objective. Targets are often expressed as numerical values or percentages, making them easily trackable and comparable over time (Bager et al. 2021). However, policy targets as a benchmark to achieve a target can be qualitative in nature, serving as actionable guidelines to help fulfil the overarching objectives of the policy (Lester & Neuhoff 2009). In this case, qualitative targets that lack quantifiable targets provide the "how" in achieving the "what" described by the objectives.

Using these definitions for goals, objectives and targets all identified policy documents are analysed. MaxQDA is used to code EU and MS policy documents. EU and MS summaries by sector and country are provided in the next section. Detailed lists of targets are provided in APPENDIX I to VII.



4. EU Level forest and forest-related targets by policy sector

4.1 Overarching / cross-cutting

This section reviews the integration of Forest Management in Cross-Cutting EU Policy Documents. The various European Union policy documents exhibit a progressive integration of forest management within the overarching goals of climate action, circular economy, sustainable investment, and innovation. Each document listed in Table 1. outlines (directly or indirectly) provided goals and targets that impact the way forests will be managed for both environmental, conservation and sustainable economic growth.

The Circular Economy Action Plan (COM/2020/98) outlines its goals as being primarily focused on sustainability, economic growth, and reduced environmental impacts. Forest management is not the primary focus but is acknowledged in its multi-functional role in broader sustainability goals. The plan specifically mentions carbon sequestration through afforestation and sustainable forest management. It also refers to the use of wood-based construction materials and bio-based materials like paper, which implicates a general steering towards higher harvests. A recurring trade-off is identified here between increased forestation and increased harvesting. As a response, policy makers apply terms like 'sustainable forest management' and 'sustainable practices' to resolve trade-off's without providing any clear detail or attention to this underlying incoherency. Furthermore, it is not clear to what extent these forest management elements are integrated into policy mechanisms or tracked for outcomes.

The European Green Deal (COM/2019/640) integrates forest management as a multifaceted component within its broader framework aimed at achieving sustainability, climate neutrality, and biodiversity preservation. Forests are recognised not only as crucial carbon sinks to help meet greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets but also as ecosystems requiring preservation and restoration. Specific objectives within the Green Deal, such as the Farm to Fork Strategy, include references to agro-forestry and sustainable land management practices that intersect with forestry. Furthermore, at least 40% of the Common Agricultural Policy's budget is designated for climate action, potentially encompassing sustainable forest management.

Biodiversity goals explicitly mention the preservation and restoration of forest ecosystems, with a focus on expanding protected areas and restoring ecological health. The policy also attends to the international dimensions of forestry, stipulating that imported products and value chains should not involve deforestation or forest degradation. Overall, forest management is embedded within the Deal's various sectors and strategies, aligning with its overarching goals of environmental protection, economic transformation, and climate neutrality. However, the complex interplay of The European Green Deal's objectives could create conflicts between environmental conservation and industrial growth. The broad goals may lack specific implementation guidelines, creating room for misinterpretation and potential gaps in enforcement. The allocation of budget to climate action is not clearly designated for forest management. Monitoring and enforcing international components, such as deforestation-free imports, could be challenging.

The Horizon Europe Strategic Plan for 2021-2024 aims to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and places emphasis on the sustainable management of natural resources, including forests. It integrates forest management into a broader research and innovation framework, focusing on enhancing ecosystems, biodiversity, and carbon sequestration in forests. The plan also addresses the need for technological advancements in forestry and the role of digital transformation in achieving climate goals. It ties forest management to civil security and societal resilience, specifically targeting natural and man-made disasters like forest fires and emphasising cross-border management of climate-related risks. The plan seeks to strengthen alliances and research cooperation in areas relevant to forest management. Its



overarching strategy is to develop a sustainable and circular bioeconomy, with a special focus on biodiversity restoration and the conservation of plant genetic resources within forest ecosystems.

The Regulation (EU) 2020/852, also known as the Taxonomy Regulation, sets out to establish a framework for sustainable investment within the European Union. It aims to guide capital towards genuinely sustainable investments by setting uniform criteria for what constitutes environmentally sustainable economic activities. One of the aspects addressed in this regulation is sustainable forest management, which falls under the broader objectives of achieving climate neutrality by 2050, protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems, and mitigating environmental threats like resource overconsumption and biodiversity loss. The regulation's targets are explicit when it comes to forest management. They include specific points such as avoiding deforestation and forest degradation, enhancing and maintaining carbon sinks, and the restoration of forests. Furthermore, there's an emphasis on sustainable and regenerative land-use practices, not only in forests but also in related landscapes like croplands and wetlands. Uniform criteria are to be established to assess the sustainability of economic activities, ensuring transparency and avoiding "greenwashing".

Across all policy documents, there's an evident recognition that forests play a multi-functional role, from being critical carbon sinks to serving as sources of sustainable bio-based materials. The policies also acknowledge that forest management is not an isolated sector but is inherently linked to broader issues like climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainable development: The Circular Economy Action Plan subtly acknowledges the trade-off between forests as providers of bio-based materials and carbon sinks. The European Green Deal and its associated Investment Plan allocate resources and frameworks that could potentially benefit forest management, emphasising its role in biodiversity and climate action. The Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021-2024 brings technological innovation into the realm of forest management, aligning it with broader climate objectives and civil security. Finally, Regulation (EU) 2020/852 explicitly includes criteria related to sustainable forest management, aiming to guide sustainable investments in a way that benefits both the economy and the environment.

Table 1. Overarching / cross-cutting policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021-2024 | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| A new Circular Economy Action Plan For a cleaner and more competitive Europe (COM/2020/98) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| EU taxonomy regulation (Regulation (EU) 2020/852) | Legally binding | 2020 |
| European Green Deal (COM/2019/640) | Non-legally binding | 2019 |
| Governance Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2018/1999) | Legally binding | 2018 |

4.2 Forest-focused

Key EU-level forest-focused policy documents are selected for this analysis (see Table 2). The analysis begins with a breakdown of the 'Forest Strategy to 2030' and then briefly identifies key goals, objectives and targets relating to several later published guideline documents that are a component of the strategy. An analysis of the New EU framework for forest monitoring and strategic plans is conducted. Finally, two legally binding regulations are reviewed on forest reproductive materials.

The New EU Forestry Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) marks a significant departure from its 2013 predecessor with a clear emphasis on nature conservation, biodiversity, and sustainable practices. The



policy shifts towards a nature for nature vision, however not completely forgoing forest's multifunctional role in society. The policy lays out five primary goals aimed at improving both the socio-economic and environmental aspects of forestry. These goals encompass enhancing the sustainable bioeconomy through the responsible use of wood, strict legal protection for primary and old-growth forests, and robust measures for climate adaptation and resilience. To operationalise these goals, the strategy provides comprehensive objectives and detailed targets, which cover areas like carbon emissions, renewable energy, and sustainable forest management, thus offering a balanced framework for economic benefits and environmental sustainability. Some specific targets include: mapping and monitoring primary and old-growth forests; Ensuring 30% of EU land area is strictly protected and 10% under strict legal protection; and, the planting of 3 billion trees in the EU.

The strategy's objectives are accompanied by specific, though mostly qualitative, targets designed to provide guidance to member states and various stakeholders. For example, it proposes a roadmap to reduce carbon emissions in the building sector by 2050, promote long-lived wood products, and include renewable energy in the energy mix of member states by 2030. Financial incentives, legal frameworks, and initiatives for better monitoring and data collection are also part of the strategy, aiming to holistically connect forest management with wider climate, biodiversity, and economic goals. It is important to note that the strategy is not legally binding, depending on voluntary mechanisms and the willingness of member states to implement its guidelines. The focus is more on knowledge sharing and strengthening, aiming to shape future policies rather than enforce immediate changes. Despite this, the strategy serves as an important reference document that significantly influences the discourse and actions related to forest management in the EU, provided its guidelines and objectives are well-integrated into national and local policies.

In 2023 three separate guidelines were published by the EU as further components of the New EU Forest Strategy for 2030. These policies provide recommendations that directly implicate EU forest management and should be included in this analysis.

The Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) targets the enhancement of biodiversity, climate change mitigation, and improving the rate of reforestation both in urban and agricultural environments. In urban settings, they aim for a 10% tree canopy cover by 2050, enhanced biodiversity, and citizen involvement in green spaces. Agricultural targets advocate for landscape heterogeneity, buffer zones, biological corridors, transition to organic agriculture, and ecosystem service improvement. In forestry, the targets cover a wide range of sustainable practices like maintaining diverse and complex vegetation, protecting pioneering and understory species, avoiding whole-tree harvesting, and keeping dead wood to promote biodiversity. The listed items under the current EU Programme for the Environment and Climate Action for 2021-27, backed by a €5.43 billion budget, echo and extend these specific targets in the guidelines. The programme aims to restore natural or semi-natural forest habitats, bolster forest resilience to various threats including fires and climate change, and protect primary and old-growth forests. It also seeks to create ecological corridors and experiment with new management approaches that bring forestry practices closer to nature.

The Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) aim to provide a framework for the integration of closer-to-nature practices in forest management across Europe. The primary goals are threefold: 1) to promote forest management practices that balance both ecological and socio-economic benefits, 2) to guide various stakeholders like authorities, forest owners, and managers in adopting such sustainable practices, and 3) to utilise this management approach as an accelerator for enhancing biodiversity and resilience to climate change. The objectives focus on



increasing the structural complexity of forests and promoting natural forest dynamics, aiming to enrich species diversity and improve the overall ecological health of forests, while also making them more resilient to climate change impacts. The targets, presented as suggested practices, provide a granular roadmap to achieve these objectives. Practices range from close-to-nature silviculture, which focuses on single-tree selection, to more complex systems like triad management that diversify forest areas based on their ecological and production potential. The guideline also encourages the integration of agriculture and forestry through agroforestry systems and emphasises the retention of forestry to preserve biodiversity in even-aged forests.

Lastly, the most recently published Guidance on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) aims to broaden the focus of forest management beyond just timber production. It seeks to incentivise forest owners and managers to adopt ecologically friendly practices that support climate adaptation and biodiversity, such as diverse tree planting and uneven-aged silviculture. Two main goals are outlined: the promotion of a broader range of forest ecosystem services and the development of payment schemes to support these services. Objectives under these goals include establishing value metrics for ecosystem services, outlining funding mechanisms, encouraging private payment schemes, and developing robust monitoring and reporting procedures. Targets are comprehensive and include advocating for valuation methods that merge ecological and economic aspects, focusing on robust certification, and emphasising the need for monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) and prioritising sustainable forest management (SFM) criteria such as type and condition, and establishing baselines and targets for at-risk or improvable services. The guidance document recommends bundling multiple ecosystem services, managing trade-offs, setting both short and long-term timeframes for schemes, and involving stakeholders at all stages for transparency.

The two legally binding policies analysed for this forest sector are interrelated, shaping the production, marketing, and management of forest reproductive material in the EU. The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) sets the foundational rules for standardising the production and marketing of such material, focusing on labelling, identification, and sourcing from approved 'basic material'. It establishes an official control system for traceability and mandates that Member States share domestic laws relevant to the Directive. Forest reproductive material to the end-user (EC No 1602/2002) is an amendment to this Directive, providing specific rules that allow Member States to prohibit the marketing of certain forest reproductive materials to end-users. It details the conditions under which exceptions can be made, particularly when there are adverse effects on forestry, the environment, or biodiversity. Together, these policies aim to promote SFM while ensuring that only approved and standardised reproductive material is marketed within the EU. They underscore the need for a cooperative and transparent approach among Member States, mandating assessments for material that could be potentially damaging to forestry and biodiversity. Targets include traceability, labelling and implementation of environmental risk assessments, especially for genetically modified materials. These laws continue to have significant implications for EU forest management by standardising practices, and safeguarding genetic resources foundationally associated with principles of biodiversity and close-to-nature practices.

Across all EU-level forest policies, there is a recognition of the multifunctionality purposing of forests. Recent policies show a shift towards nature for nature, yet inherent trade-offs remain between a recognised need for higher harvesting, increased sequestration targets and conservation goals. The publishing of three non-legally binding forest-management guidelines highlight how policy makers hope to resolve incoherency, by ensuring sustainable practise are understood by Member States.



However, implementation of these practices can not be accurately determined at this level of governance.

The analysis of EU-level forest-focused policies reveals a multi-layered approach to forest management, with a core emphasis on socio-economic sustainability practice, biodiversity protection, and climate resilience. The New EU Forestry Strategy for 2030 serves as a keystone document, outlining ambitious but flexible guidelines for Member States. It is supplemented by subsequent guidelines and legally binding regulations that delve into specific aspects of forest management such as biodiversity-friendly practices, closer-to-nature management, payment schemes for ecosystem services, and standardisation of forest reproductive material. By stressing cooperative action, transparency, and shared responsibility among Member States, the EU aims to foster a holistic and adaptive approach to forest management that integrates the new transformative economic, ecological, and social considerations of the EU's Green Deal.

Table 2. Forest-focused policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| New EU Framework for Forest Monitoring and Strategic Plans (Ref. Ares/2022/2758583) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Forest reproductive material to the end-user (EC No 1602/2002) | Legally binding | 2002 |
| The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | 1999 |

4.3 Timber trade (industry)

Timber Trade (industry) policies in Table 3 are identified and analysed. The analysis centres on forest industry and timber trade policies that directly impact EU forests and Forest management. The analysis begins by examining the EU's most recent regulation on deforestation supply chains. Following is an analysis of the EU's Timber regulation and older but still enforced internationally oriented Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) policies. Finally, there is a review of the recent contributing policy that aims to strengthen and develop the forestry sector through an array of initiatives and financial support.

The EU's most recent Regulation on Deforestation-Free Supply Chains (EU/2023/115) replaces the EU's Timber Regulation (EU/995/2010) and aims to significantly curb deforestation and forest degradation worldwide, focusing particularly on the European Union's role in these environmental challenges. The regulation expands from its predecessor's sole focus on timber by targeting a broad array of commodities known to contribute to deforestation, including wood, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber, soy, and cattle, along with products derived from these commodities. The primary objectives include the implementation of measures to restrict deforestation, monitoring and fulfilling the regulation's obligations at the national level, and facilitating information exchange and reporting among MS and partner countries. Risk assessments will also be conducted to categorise partner countries based on



the level of risk they pose in terms of deforestation and degradation. To achieve these goals, the policy sets clear targets. These include prohibiting the placement of commodities linked with deforestation in the EU market, requiring operators to conduct due diligence in forest management, and mandating that traders—specifically non-SMEs—implement anti-deforestation measures. Each EU MS is required to establish competent authorities to oversee the implementation of (EU) 2023/115, and they must regularly report to the EU Commission on their practices and results. Much like its predecessor, (EU) 2023/115 encourages sustainable forestry by discouraging illegal logging, providing transparency, and promoting legal timber trade between the EU and its partner countries. In summary, the new regulation aims to make existing regulations more encompassing and restrictive, expanding both the range of commodities covered and the depth of risk assessments.

Regulation (EC) No 2173/2005 establishes the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance, and Trade (FLEGT) licensing scheme for timber imports into the EU. The regulation implements the Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs), which are legally binding bilateral trade agreements between the EU and partner national and regional organisations. The scheme's primary objective is to ensure that each shipment of timber entering the EU market is accompanied by a FLEGT license, issued by competent authorities, attesting to its legality. Member states have the discretion to impose penalties for infringements of this regulation and are responsible for designating competent authorities to implement and oversee the licensing scheme. To monitor the effectiveness of this scheme, the designated authority in each MS is required to issue annual reports that include data on the quantities of timber products imported under the FLEGT licensing scheme, the number of FLEGT licenses received, and the total quantity of products involved. By setting this legal framework, the EU aims to encourage responsible forest management and combat illegal logging activities, thereby contributing to global efforts for sustainable forestry. An indirect yet important result of the regulation is that demand for global sustainably managed forests enables local EU markets to remain competitive.

The FLEGT Action Plan aims to combat illegal logging and its associated trade while promoting sustainable forest management. Though the plan is considerably old (2003), its objectives include capacity building in timber-producing countries, enhancing law enforcement, establishing verification systems, and helping countries control the legal origin of their timber exports. Though the document does not lay out explicit targets, it proposes a range of suggestions like establishing a VPA for timber exports, improving due diligence in trade, increasing both public and private procurements, and supporting the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). By aiming to make legitimate forest industries more competitive, the plan may influence European markets to source timber more responsibly, thereby affecting forest management practices within the EU. Additionally, by collaborating with timber-producing countries and aiming for greater control and verification of timber origin, the FLEGT Action Plan sets a precedent for international cooperation that could have effects on EU policies and practices. This is particularly important given the interconnectedness of global timber markets and their influence on local forest management strategies.

Last year, Regulation (EU) 2022/2472 introduced measures to facilitate investments in the forestry sector under the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy's (CAP) second pillar. The objectives cover a wide array of areas crucial for forest management. These include the preservation of cultural the heritage of forests and fostering research, development, and innovation (RDI) in forestry. Other objectives include afforestation and the restoration of degraded forests. There are targeted investments aimed at enhancing the resilience and environmental value of forest ecosystems. Furthermore, the regulation covers advisory services in the forestry sector, infrastructure development, and the conservation of genetic resources among others. Importantly, the regulation introduces a streamlined procedure for authorising MS aid, which can cover up to 100% of the costs



for initiatives that align with its objectives, such as RDI and restoration of damaged forests. This aid will be granted yearly and is tailored to meet the specific objective pursued.

In summary, the newer regulations like (EU) 2023/115 expand the scope of anti-deforestation efforts beyond timber to other commodities, while also tightening due diligence requirements. Established frameworks like FLEGT continue to focus on legality and sustainability in timber imports, facilitating international cooperation. Recent policies like (EU) 2022/2472 offer financial incentives for sustainable forestry practices, targeting a range of objectives from conservation to innovation. The nature of the policy sector orients policies clearly towards ‘nature for society’, however purposely introduces sustainable regulations. By tightening regulations they generally steer towards higher harvesting within the EU through the establishment of hard targets aimed at preventing the import of illegal timber from outside the EU. Collectively, these policies aim for a more comprehensive, transparent, and sustainable approach to forest management and the EU timber trade.

Table 3. Timber trade (industry) policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) (EU No 995/2010) | Legally binding | 2010 |
| Aids for investments for supporting foresters, in the framework of the CAP (EU No 2022/2472) | Legally binding | 2022 |
| FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the EU (EC No 2173/2005) | Legally binding | 2005 |
| Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | 2003 |

4.4 Agriculture & rural development

This section presents the findings from the analysis of recent agriculture & rural development policies (see Table 4). The Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) is the primary legally-binding policy programme for the sector comprising several binding regulations. The CAP addresses, both, agriculture and rural development in separate pillars. The two other strategies are non-binding, yet the objectives and targets set in the documents are well integrated into the current CAP 2023-2027 programme. To initiate the findings from the analysis, the complexity of CAP is addressed.

The CAP has three central aims: to provide affordable, safe and quality food to EU citizens; ensure a decent standard of living for farmers; and, preserve natural resources and respect the environment. To achieve these aims the CAP is divided into two pillars. The first pillar involves direct support and market measures. Pillar 1 also deals with key agricultural policies incentivising and restricting certain forms of land management, including cross-compliance standards. The second Pillar comprises rural development policy for the EU with the objective to foster modernisation, increase competitiveness, protect the environment and mitigating climate change.

As of 2023, the CAP has entered a new programming period 2023-2027 which aims to make agriculture and forestry ‘greener and fairer’. The CAP programming period 2023-2027 comprises of three legally binding regulations, however, for this report, the analysis focuses on the Regulation for Establishing Rules on Support for a National CAP strategic Plan (EU/2021/2115). Forest-related objectives of the current CAP programme include promoting climate change mitigation, with a focus on reducing



greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing carbon sequestration. Closely related is the objective to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and preserve natural landscapes. Forests play a crucial role in maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services. Specific targets in the CAP aim to maintain and ideally improve diversity within agricultural landscapes, promote agroforestry systems, and discourage monocultures. The Eco-schemes initiative has been allocated 25% of the CAP's direct payment budget, providing a substantial financial tool for enhancing agricultural and forest practices. For example, investments in the restoration of forestry following natural disasters or adverse climatic events have also been given priority. One specific target example is providing farmers with 100% financial support for investing in reforestation, establishment and regeneration of agro-forestry systems, land consolidation in forestry and non-productive investments. Targets under both objectives include the sustainable production of biomass, which includes afforestation efforts, and soil organic carbon accumulation through proper agricultural soil management. These targets aim to align forest management practices with broader climate change and biodiversity objectives, in the hope that it encourages an increased afforestation effort and the implementation of sustainable forest management techniques.

Finally, the CAP 2023-2027 seeks to foster knowledge and innovation. Primarily this focuses on the allocation of funds for research and innovation projects related to rural development and the bioeconomy. Though not directly impacting forest management, digitalisation targets can positively impact forest management, particularly when it comes to monitoring. The CAP's commitment to knowledge exchange and training could help propagate best practices in sustainable forestry management, boosting the sector's contribution to environmental and climate goals. The CAP also ties payments to a set of mandatory requirements such as dedicating at least 3% of arable land to biodiversity and non-productive elements. This enhances conditionality and aligns well with efforts to integrate forestry into broader land-use planning and conservation strategies, thereby creating a more harmonised approach to forest and land management in the EU.

The Long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas (COM/2021/345) is a strategy document that aims to ensure that rural communities become more resistant, interconnected and prosperous. The policy document places great importance on environmental resilience and economic diversification, including sustainable food production and forestry. The vulnerability of the agricultural and forestry sectors to climate events and biodiversity loss is emphasised. In response, the policy promotes qualitative targets that demand an expansion of well-managed forested land for regulating water flows, capturing carbon, and providing ecosystem services. The policy aims to enhance resilience in both environmental and economic sustainability. Targets forward bioeconomy, renewable energy production, and restoring degraded ecosystems, aiming to create new economic opportunities in rural areas, which could diversify and strengthen the forestry sector. This includes promoting the role of forestry in producing bio-based materials and other high-quality community-based production. Furthermore, it highlights the benefits to rural communities establishing bio-zones that would stimulate tourism, afforestation, and conservation efforts. The strategy stresses the necessity of stakeholder participation in decision-making and promotes place-based policy solutions. Digitalisation objectives also hint at optimising resource utilisation and management, including forests. The strategy aligns the ambitious goals of the EU Green Deal with rural development policy, purposely incorporating forest management practices with broader rural development and environmental goals, making them more adaptive and resilient to future challenges, thus serving the multi-faceted role forests have in the EU's rural landscape.

The Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381), as part of the EU Green Deal, sets a list of objectives that target food production and consumption practices in Europe. While the policy mainly targets the agri-food sector, its implications for forestry and forest management are worth mentioning. For instance,



the strategy's target to reduce pesticide use by 50% by 2030 will help to alleviate forest degradation by improving soil and water quality. Furthermore, the emphasis on carbon sequestration as a green business model specifically includes foresters, suggesting that forestry practices aimed at removing CO₂ from the atmosphere could be financially incentivised. This aligns with the EU's LULUCF climate neutrality objective and offers a new income source for those in the forestry sector and farmers who wish to participate in afforestation, while also contributing to broader efforts to decarbonise the food chain.

The Farm to Fork Strategy also mentions the development of a legislative proposal to reduce the EU's contribution to global deforestation and forest degradation by restricting certain products found to be unsustainably sourced. This will impact the forestry sector by creating more stringent requirements for timber and related products entering the EU market. Coupled with the Carbon Farming Initiative and the Circular Economy Action Plan, which is developing a framework for certifying carbon removals, the Farm to Fork Strategy could foster sustainable forestry management practices. These policies align with EU-level efforts to integrate various sectors in achieving a transformation to a circular low-carbon economy, thereby providing multiple avenues for forestry to contribute to these objectives.

Although the primary focus of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the Farm to Fork Strategy is the agricultural sector, both policies' implications for the EU forest sector are noteworthy. The CAP, with its eco-schemes initiative and provisions for agroforestry, aligns forestry practices with broader objectives related to climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation. Likewise, the Farm to Fork Strategy targets to reduce pesticide use and fostering carbon sequestration practices offers new income streams for the forestry sector, while also aiming to improve forest health. A primary focus of reforestation in this sector is for carbon sequestration and use as important biomass, however multifunctionality of forests as areas of biodiversity conservation is briefly mentioned. The Long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas further complements these policies by emphasising the role of forestry in enhancing environmental and economic resilience in rural communities. This sector's policies position forests as serving a crucial role for society. Furthermore, while not prescribing specific forest management practices, these policies create conditions conducive to responsible and sustainable forest management through eco-schemes, agroforestry provisions, and incentives for afforestation and carbon sequestration. Nevertheless, the limited mention of forestry in the current CAP 2023-27 programme is worth noting, given the intrinsic link between the two. Better integration would leverage sectoral synergies to achieve the EU's ambitious environmental and climate goals.

Table 4. Agriculture & rural development policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - The Financing, Management and Monitoring of the CAP (EU No 2021/2116) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | 2021 |
| Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381) | Non-Legally binding | 2020 |



4.5 Nature conservation / environment

In analysing the EU's key policy documents on nature conservation and the environment, seven policy documents were identified (see Table 5). Of these seven, the four most recent documents are legally non-binding instruments that have mostly been developed as well integrated components of the Union's Green Deal initiative. The three directives are much older, however play an important role in the governance of European forests and forest management.

The 8th Union Environment Action Programme (EAP) (EU/2022/591) sets forth goals and objectives aimed at accelerating the green transition in Europe by 2030 and ensuring a sustainable, well-being economy by 2050. Key objectives include the reduction of GHG emissions in line with Regulation 2021/1119, enhancing adaptive capacity to climate change, transitioning to a non-toxic circular economy, and protecting as well as restoring biodiversity. Though non-binding, the EAP lays the groundwork for aligned environmental policies across EU Member States. Importantly, the EAP's emphasis on biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation, and a circular economy will likely promote more sustainable forestry practices. The programme aims to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and improve the state of ecosystems. As part of the broader strategy to reach climate neutrality and to adapt to climate change, forests are seen as crucial carbon sinks and biodiversity hotspots. The move toward a 'non-toxic' circular economy will also influence how forest resources are managed and used, promoting sustainability and efficiency. Although forestry is only mentioned in the introductory section, it serves the overall goals of the EAP, making it a key sector for achieving the programme's objectives.

The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (COM/2020/380) sets ambitious goals for enhancing forest cover, improving the health and resilience of forests, and protecting areas of high biodiversity value. These objectives align closely with the EU Forest Strategy for 2030 and LULUCF guidelines, incorporating forest management into a broader environmental and energy framework. The policy promotes the specialisation of forests to strengthen biodiversity, steering towards lower harvests. Forest managers in the EU will have to adapt to these objectives, which are further articulated in the EU Forest Strategy and the three other forest-related guidelines. The strategy mandates the strict protection of all remaining primary and old-growth forests in the EU and sets a target for the planting of 3 billion trees by 2030. The strategy and the many associated initiatives are designed to make EU forests more resilient against environmental threats such as drought, fire, pests, and diseases while increasing protected land areas to 10% from 3% today. Of note is the "No Net Loss" initiative first launched in 2014, focuses on halting biodiversity loss by balancing human-induced biodiversity losses with ecological gains. This concept has direct implications for EU forest management, influencing Forest Strategy's guidelines and requiring the adoption of sustainable practices that align with conservation goals.

The Guideline for Defining, Mapping, Monitoring and Strictly Protecting EU Primary and Old-Growth Forests (SWD/2023/62) aims to protect areas of high biodiversity value, specifically focusing on the EU's remaining primary and old-growth forests (OGF), which currently make up less than 3% of EU forest land. The objectives include meticulous mapping and structural monitoring of these forests, with a strong emphasis on their strict protection. Targets for these forests include an increase in ecological features like deadwood, native species, and old or large trees. This data will be consolidated at the EU level and used for forest inventories and strategic plans. The guidelines are a part of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and provide a roadmap for member states, which includes submitting pledges and mapping methodologies to the Commission by 2023, finalising the mapping of public and private primary and OGF by 2025, and achieving strict protection of these mapped forests by 2029. This policy



document significantly impacts EU forest management by placing stringent guidelines on the conservation and monitoring of primary and old-growth forests, thus ensuring that these critical biodiversity hotspots are given the attention and protection they deserve.

Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) mandates the environmental assessment of both public and private projects that could significantly impact the environment, including afforestation and deforestation projects aimed at land use conversion. This directive directly affects EU forest management by requiring MS to evaluate the environmental effects of any large-scale changes to forested areas before granting approval, thereby ensuring that forestry practices align with broader environmental and sustainability goals.

The Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) focuses on the long-term protection and management of naturally occurring bird species within the EU. The primary objective is to preserve, maintain, or restore adequate and diverse habitats for all bird species to ensure their survival and reproduction. Specific targets include creating protected areas, maintaining and managing habitats according to ecological needs both within and outside these zones, and re-establishing destroyed biotopes. Forests serve as crucial habitats for many bird species; hence, their management will need to be aligned with the ecological needs of these species. This can influence activities like logging, replanting, and overall forest upkeep. Moreover, the directive mandates the re-establishment of destroyed biotopes and creation of new ones, which may result in reforestation efforts or adjustments in current forest management practices. However, Article 9 provides an exception when forest protection conflicts with bird conservation, thereby acknowledging that a balanced approach is necessary for the sustainable management of forest ecosystems.

The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) aims for the preservation, maintenance, and improvement of environmental quality, specifically focusing on the conservation of natural habitats and species. One of its major targets is the establishment of a coherent EU ecological network, known as Natura 2000, that involves conservation measures and appropriate management plans for special areas, including forests. These measures are designed to prevent the deterioration of natural habitats and disturbances to species. Additionally, the Directive mandates strict protection measures for certain plant species, including those found in forests, such as the prohibition of deliberate picking, uprooting, or destruction. In terms of its impact on EU forest management, the Directive frames forests primarily as habitats for tree species listed in Annex II and requires their preservation and maintenance. This policy directive has and continues to have significant implications for how forests are managed, with a particular focus on sustaining their ecological functions and biodiversity. MS are obligated to take appropriate conservation measures and report every six years on the implementation status, providing a structured, long-term approach to forest and habitat conservation.

The Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE) Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2021/783) establishes an EU initiative dedicated to environmental and climate action. The programme aims to halt biodiversity loss and address ecosystem degradation. It specifically supports the management of the Natura 2000 network. The program places a strong emphasis on multi-stakeholder approaches and good governance, enabling MS' to collaborate with each other to more effectively achieve higher levels of environmental protection. The programme's objectives and targets outline pathways in dealing with a multitude of environmental challenges facing EU MS, including those specifically relating to forests. It also provides financial support for projects that align with other EU conservation objectives, including the promotion of innovative techniques and methods for sustainable forest management. Moreover, the program aims to leverage existing European Agricultural Funds to support conservation



projects. Finally, it encourages Member States to mainstream biodiversity action, which would have a direct impact on forest conservation efforts.

The EU's key policies on nature conservation and the environment form a comprehensive framework for sustainable forest management. In general, the policies in this sector promote the single purpose of forests as sites to promote greater biodiversity. Lower harvest is encouraged as beneficial to increase biodiversity health and a clear vision of nature for nature is forwarded. Addressing trade-offs between promoting biodiversity, carbon sequestration and intensified utilisation of EU forests is seldom mentioned. However, by promoting sustainable practices the policies hope to minimise trade-offs by encouraging sustainable practices that protect biodiversity. The newer, non-binding instruments, part of the Union's Green Deal, set ambitious targets and objectives for enhancing forest resilience, increasing forest cover, and protecting biodiversity. These newer strategies complement older, legally binding directives that lay the groundwork for forest governance by mandating environmental assessments, habitat conservation, and species protection. Together, these policies create an integrated approach that influences how EU MS manage, conserve, and utilise their forests.

Table 5. Nature conservation / environment policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Guidelines for Defining, Mapping, Monitoring and Strictly Protecting EU Primary and Old-Growth Forests (SWD/2023/62) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| 8th Environment Action Programme (EU/2022/591) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| LIFE Regulation (EU/2021/783) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| The New Biodiversity Strategy 2030 (COM/2020/380) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Halting biodiversity loss – the EU no net loss initiative | Non-legally binding | 2014 |
| Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | 2011 |
| The EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) | Legally binding | 2009 |
| The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | Legally binding | 1992 |

4.6 Climate change

This section presents an analysis of key EU climate policies that specifically address forests in their objectives and targets (see Table 6). The two most recent policy documents 'Adaption to Climate Change Strategy & the Climate Action Plan integrate the climate sector's objectives into the EU's broader sustainable transition goals. Furthermore, an analysis of climate laws, LULUCF regulations and the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) (amended) Directive shows how a range of legally binding rules are setting mandatory targets for MS that have direct implications on forest management in Europe.

The New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82) outlines goals and objectives aimed at making European society, economy and natural ecosystems resilient to climate change by 2050. This policy has significant implications for forest management in the EU, emphasising the importance of basing decision-making on the latest science to understand the specific effects of climate change on forests, such as fire and drought risks. A major focus of the strategy is on expanding knowledge and employing digital transformation, especially remote sensing technologies, to understand the impact of climate change on ecosystem services, including forests. This will help in the planning and implementation of adaptive forest management strategies. Funding for climate



adaptation activities is set to be raised to 30% of the EU's climate action budget for 2021-2027, which could mean increased financial support for forestry projects aimed at adaptation. The strategy promotes the use of nature-based solutions, which include reforestation and afforestation projects that aim to strengthen climate resilience and meet the Green Deal objectives. Moreover, the plan targets boosting local resilience and incorporates climate resilience into national fiscal frameworks, potentially driving more resources toward sustainable forest management.

The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/ 562) is another recent strategic document analysed. The plan has ambitious goals for climate action across the European Union, establishing one of the EU's flagship targets aiming to reduce GHG emissions by 55% compared to 1990 levels by 2030. Specific targets are directed at the EU forestry sector. Under the Energy System Transformation objective, targets look to minimise the use of whole trees and food crops for energy production to protect biodiversity and avoid unsustainable forest harvesting. The plan also promotes sustainable forest management and existing legislation to contribute to emission reduction. Another focal point is the broader integration of the LULUCF sector through the carbon sink enhancement objective, which aims to improve forest protection, sustainable management, reforestation, and soil management to enhance natural carbon sinks. The actions outlined in the Climate Adaptation Strategy and Climate Target Plan provide non-legally binding guidance intended to align emission reduction targets at both the EU and Member State levels.

The EU's Climate law (EU/2018/1999) focuses on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, establishing a comprehensive legally binding policy framework for achieving climate and energy targets between 2021 and 2030, as well as long-term goals up to 2050. The regulation mandates MS to develop integrated national energy and climate plans, with specific targets for reducing GHG emissions, increasing the share of renewable energy, and improving energy efficiency. It calls for at least a 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 levels and sets additional targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency. The framework emphasises accurate and consistent reporting and continuous assessment of progress, fostering investor certainty and economic development. Regarding EU Forests, the regulation focuses on the LULUCF sectors mandating MS' to assess and report on the impacts of bioenergy demand and biomass supply on the LULUCF carbon sink. Given that the policy aims for net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 and highlights the importance of carbon sequestration, implicitly urging MS towards sustainable forest management practices.

The EU's Climate Law also establishes the principle of effort sharing, which places emphasis on the need for a coordinated approach to achieving the LULUCF sector's emission reduction targets. Binding laws require MS to coordinate with each other, reporting on critical carbon sinks, to align the broader objective of achieving a balance between anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals. The regulation encourages MS to develop long-term strategies, including those for carbon sequestration and sink enhancement in the LULUCF sector. Primarily, the regulation enforces a coordinated approach of MS, to ensure LULUCF sector climate ambitions. However, while the regulation establishes the importance of forests in the EU's climate action, the regulation is notably vague on specific forest management strategies. It mentions goals like sustainable resource management and enhancement of carbon sinks but lacks explicit plans, methods, or benchmarks that directly pertain to the management of forests. Most importantly, there are no quantifiable emission/removal reference levels for forests, making targets for MS unquantifiable.

The recent amendment to EU Climate Law (EU/2021/1119) increases the domestic emissions reduction target to at least 55% compared to 1990 levels by 2030. The amendment stresses the importance of "enhancement of removals by sinks," which will likely further prioritise sustainable forestry practices



aimed at maximising the carbon-sequestration potential of forests. The Climate law calls for public participation and stakeholder engagement through instruments like the European Climate Pact, facilitating a multilevel dialogue. The Law also stipulates the creation of mandatory National adaptation strategies for MS that will be guided by scientific evidence. These strategies will be aligned with the broader objectives of achieving climate neutrality, ensuring that forest management practices across EU Member States will need to be coherently integrated into both national and Union-level climate goals.

LULUCF Regulation (EU/2018/841) aims to integrate the LULUCF sector into the EU's broader climate goals for 2021-2030, with a particular focus on the sector's emissions accounting and sustainable forest management. The regulation mandates that MS ensure no net emissions from the LULUCF sector, setting compliance report deadlines for 2027 and 2032. Specific accounting rules are outlined for various land categories, including managed forest lands. This places significant emphasis on maintaining complete data records and ensuring accounting for natural disturbances. The regulation also opens room for flexibility in balancing emissions and removals, while enforcing stringent accounting protocols to prevent double counting and ensure transparency. Stringent accounting rules and the aim for zero net emissions means MS must also align their forestry practices. In addition, the regulation integrates the LULUCF sector's role within the Union's biodiversity strategy and its coherence with the Common Agricultural Policy. Therefore, forest management practices in EU MS must focus on emissions and enhancing biodiversity. Investments in innovative technologies, including agro-ecology and agro-forestry, are encouraged to mitigate climate change and foster economic and social development. The policy's targets, both qualitative and quantitative, outline the specific details and timelines that Member States must adhere to (see Appendix I).

The Commission Delegate Regulation (EU/2021/268) amends Annex IV of the above Regulation (EU) 2018/841 establishing new forest reference levels for Member States for the period 2021-2025. These new forest reference levels mean forest emissions and removal targets are now far more tangibly achievable for MS. For EU forest management, this means that Member States will have to align their forestry practices more closely with these new reference levels, effectively impacting how forests are managed in terms of their role as carbon sinks and sources of biomass, to meet the broader 2030 climate and energy framework goals.

Another important regulation on annual GHG emission reduction (EU/2018/842) sets forth binding targets, aligning with both the Union's long-term targets and the Paris Agreement. The framework covers multiple sectors, including energy, industrial processes, agriculture, and waste, and provides mechanisms for flexibility among Member States, such as borrowing, banking, and transferring emission allocations. It establishes compliance checks and safety reserves to ensure adherence to these goals. Notably, the policy framework introduces a 280 million tonnes of Co₂ equivalent net removals target (target amount now amended, see below) from LULUCF to offset exceeded emissions, highlighting the role of forests as carbon sinks. The inclusion of net removals from LULUCF underscores the crucial role that forests play in climate mitigation. By setting annual emission targets that integrate forest management with broader climate objectives, the policy again encourages MS to adopt sustainable forest management practices.

The most recent EU LULUCF Regulation (EU/2023/839) amends certain objectives and targets for the sector. It set new stringent GHG accounting and removal targets for the years 2021-2025 and 2026-2030. The regulation also introduces Managed Forest Land flexibility measures, which give MS certain flexibilities to meet their emission targets. These flexibilities, however, come with conditions like having a conservation strategy for forest sinks. Special considerations are also given to Finland's unique needs and challenges regarding forest management. The regulation also introduces a robust



accounting framework, demanding that MS submit national forestry accounting plans and provide mechanisms to penalise those who fail to meet their obligations. Very importantly a new Union-wide target for net GHG removals is now 310 million tonnes of Co2 equivalent by 2030. To ensure accountability, Member States must use geographically explicit and scientifically reviewed data to account for their emissions and removals, including from forests. Measures to consider natural disturbances in forests and a mechanism for transferring surplus removals to other Member States are also in place. The policy aims to provide a socially fair transition and requires that financial gains from any transfers be used for addressing climate change.

The 2023 Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) Amended Directive (2003/87/EC) significantly updates the EU's 2003 ETS directive (Directive 2003/87/EC), integrating many of the sector's targets into the policy document. The directive provides a clear objective to achieve the 55% reduction target by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050, aligning itself with the Paris Agreement. The focus on forestry is particularly evident; it includes objectives to support forestry sequestration, reduce deforestation, and promote afforestation and reforestation. The directive even addresses nuanced elements like genetically modified organisms and invasive species in the context of forest management. These provisions are tied into a broader carbon capture strategy, which also includes soil sequestration. The aim is to make forestry a central element of the EU's emissions reduction strategy, encouraging responsible biomass utilisation and supporting sustainable forest management. Specifically, the directive establishes targets and objectives that will directly impact EU forest management. It mandates that at least 50% of the auction revenues from GHG emission allowances must be used for climate initiatives, including forest sequestration within the EU and afforestation efforts in developing countries. To combat potential trade-offs between biodiversity and carb sequestration, the policies introduce measures to avoid deforestation, focusing on biodiversity-friendly afforestation and reforestation techniques, and calls for technological transfers to support adaptive forest management practices in countries that have ratified the Paris Agreement.

The policies in this sector promote the multifunctionality of forests, primarily focusing on the need for greater afforestation and reforestation to improve carbon sequestration across the EU. Legally binding targets support this while placing emphasis on forest management that promotes the greatest carbon sequestration specific to localised environmental contexts. For this reason these policies in this sector primarily position forests as delivering ecosystem services for society.

Table 6. Climate change policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (2023/959/EU) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU/2023/839) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Commission Delegated Regulation (EU/2021/268) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| European Climate Law (amending) (EU/2021/1119) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU/2018/842) | Legally binding | 2018 |
| European Climate Law (EU/2018/1999) | Legally binding | 2018 |
| EU LULUCF Regulation (EU/2018/841) | Legally binding | 2018 |



| | | |
|---|-----------------|------|
| Emissions Trading Scheme Directive (2003/87/EC) | Legally binding | 2003 |
|---|-----------------|------|

4.7 (Bio-) Energy

Closely related to the EU's climate sector are the policies explicitly dealing with the Union's Energy goals, objectives and targets (see Table 7). In this section, the Renewable Energy Directive (RED) is examined along with the very recent ambitions set in the RED III proposal and the REPowerEU Plan. Following this, the EU Bioeconomy strategy is examined. The focus of this policy document extends beyond energy, however, the greatest impact regarding forestry involved forest biomass and biofuels. Finally, the increased demand for biomass and biofuel impact on the EU's forestry sector is explored through the examination of two older but relevant and legally binding policy documents.

The Renewable Energy Directive (REDII) (2018/2001/EU) mandates the use of energy from renewable sources across the Union. The policy is designed to balance the demand for renewable energy, including forest biomass for bioenergy production with the EU nature conservation and carbon removal targets. It lays out specific objectives and targets that emphasise preserving biodiversity, landscapes, and carbon stocks while minimising the risk of using unsustainable forest biomass. Operational guidance for compliance verification, a risk-based approach to harvesting operations, and alignment with international climate commitments like the Paris Agreement are also highlighted. Overall, the Directive underscores the EU's commitment to responsibly manage its forests in a way that aligns with broader environmental and climate goals.

Since 2021 there has been a new RED III proposal that aims to bolster the EU's efforts to combat climate change by increasing the target share of renewables in the EU's energy capacity to between 40 to 45% by 2030 (provisionally agreed upon in 2023), a substantial increase from 32% target stated in Directive 2018/2001/EU. This will promote renewable energy use and the reduction of GHG emissions across multiple sectors including energy, construction, industry, and transport. For the EU's forest sector, the proposal stipulates specific implications, particularly with respect to biomass fuels. The proposal states that biomass fuels must meet established sustainability criteria and GHG reduction standards, signalling tighter regulations for sourcing biomass from forests for certain types of energy use. For example, one target is a 70% reduction in GHG emissions from biomass fuels used in electricity, heating, and cooling installations operating until the end of 2025, and at least an 80% reduction starting from 2026. Moreover, stringent targets and verification systems will likely influence cross-border forest management collaborations among MS, as they work to meet collective renewable energy and emissions reduction objectives.

The central goal of the REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) is to transform the EU's energy landscape by focusing on energy conservation, promoting a green transition, and diversifying energy sources. Key targets include reducing energy consumption by 20%, reaccreting RED III's target to increase renewable energy capacity to 45% by 2030, mobilising €300 billion for renewable energies, and forming strategic partnerships with countries like Namibia, Egypt, and Kazakhstan for renewable hydrogen. For the forest sector, the proposal's emphasis on a green transition and significant investment in renewable energies could have substantial implications. The commitment to increase renewable energy capacity may drive the demand for biofuels and biomass, despite the proposed targets to reduce forest biomass for energy outlined in RED III. Analysis of the EU's bioeconomy strategy will provide more clarity on this issue.

The Sustainable Bioeconomy for Europe (COM/2018/673) puts forward a plan to transform the EU MS' economies by introducing more circular and sustainable production and consumption across all key



sectors. The strategy outlines numerous objectives and targets that directly impact the EU's forest sector. One notable target includes a carbon farming pilot program that incentivises forest owners to engage in projects that increase soil and biomass carbon sequestration while incorporating conservation measures. Furthermore, to increase carbon sequestration, the strategy promotes the increased usage of sustainably sourced timber for construction where the carbon can be stored for long periods of time. Alternatively, the strategy recommends the development of around 300 new sustainable biorefineries based on sustainably sourced resources, which include forest biomass. However, the strategy promotes the sustainable transformation of biological waste, residues, and discards into valuable resources. This could reduce pressure on forests by utilising waste streams for bio-based products instead of relying solely on forest biomass. Interestingly, the targets in the bioeconomy strategy appear to be at odds, in one way they promote the principle of circular economy and sustainable forest management, however, on the other hand, they appear to incentivise an intensification of the usage of biomass such as timber.

The Delegated Regulation on Indirect Land-Use Change (EU/2019/807) may provide a clear answer to the conflicting objectives of the bioeconomy strategy. The regulation aims to mitigate the environmental impact of Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC) by focusing on the sustainability of biofuels, bioliquids, and biomass fuels. For EU forest management, this policy introduces criteria to identify high ILUC-risk feedstocks, which could discourage the expansion of biomass production into forests with high carbon stock potential, promoting more responsible and sustainable forestry practices. It also sets up a certification system for low ILUC-risk biofuels and biomass fuels, influencing forest managers to adopt sustainable practices that meet these criteria to stay competitive in the renewable energy market.

A 2015 Directive to Reduce Indirect Land Use Change for Biofuels and Bioliquids (2015/1513/EU) mandates specific targets for reducing GHG emissions and promoting renewable energy. Facilities operational after October 5, 2015, are now mandated to achieve at least a 60% reduction in GHG emissions, thereby potentially increasing the demand for forest-derived biofuels. Additionally, MS has been required to establish a minimum proportion of biofuels from specific raw materials by 2020. An earlier Decision on Information about Biofuels and Bioliquids (2011/13/EU) enhanced the understanding, sustainability and traceability of biofuels and bioliquids. For EU forest management, this policy imposes new reporting obligations on operators, requiring them to submit detailed information about the sustainability certifications, emission calculations, and soil carbon management factors for each consignment of biofuel or bioliquid. Both these policy documents deliver targets that do not match the ambitious targets set by the EU's Green Deal, however, these targets are legally binding and therefore have a greater impact on the EU's forest sector.

While the principal aim of these policies is to integrate renewable energy, particularly forest biomass, into a sustainable policy framework for carbon sequestration and biodiversity, certain trade-offs can be identified. Specifically, the push for greater renewable energy capacity contradicts stringent conservation goals and carbon sequestration targets, while also not resolving concerted emissions reduction targets for forest biomass. This sector's complex landscape underscores the need for carefully aligned strategies that reconcile the ambitious aims of the EU's Green New Deal with the practical implications for forest management and renewable energy.

Table 7. (Bio-) Energy policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |



| | | |
|---|---------------------|------|
| Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Delegated Regulation on Indirect Land-Use Change (EU/ 2019/807) | Legally binding | 2019 |
| Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | 2018 |
| Renewable Energy directive II (RED II) (2018/2001/EU) | Legally binding | 2018 |
| Directive to reduce indirect land use change for biofuels and bioliquids (2015/1513/EU) | Legally binding | 2015 |
| Decision on information about biofuels and bioliquids (EU/2011/13) | Legally binding | 2011 |

4.8 Water and Soil

This section analyses policies relating directly to water and soil (see Table 8). Thematically, these sectors are deeply interrelated with issues directly impacting the European forest sector. However, as it will be shown policy integration at the EU level is poor. There is noted improvement with newer policies however these policies are not legally binding.

The Flood Directive's (2007/60/EC) central goal is to establish a framework for assessing and managing flood risks to protect human health, the environment, cultural heritage, and economic activities. It outlines preliminary flood risk assessments, the creation of flood hazard and risk maps, and the development of coordinated flood risk management plans. While the directive does mention sustainable land use practices and water retention, it lacks a focused approach to the interrelation of forest and forest water management. Unlike the detailed forest water management strategies at the MS level, where it is asserted that forests play a critical role in water retention and flood prevention (see for example, Ireland's Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021). The EU's flood directive does not explicitly integrate forest management strategies as part of its flood risk mitigation plans, leading to a gap in policy coherence in terms of forest-water interactions.

The Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) focuses on preventing and controlling groundwater pollution in accordance with the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC). It aims to establish criteria for assessing the chemical status of groundwater, identify significant pollution trends, and implement measures to limit pollutant inputs. Threshold values for good chemical status are to be published in river basin management plans and updated based on new information. While the policy addresses important aspects of groundwater protection, which is essential for the health of forests, it does not integrate principles of forest-water management. Forests serve a crucial ecosystem service for groundwater by acting as natural filters for pollutants. However, the directive does not highlight this symbiotic relationship that would help in achieving the directive's broader objectives

This year the EU submitted the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) to the UN which takes a more integrated approach to environmental challenges, targeting improvements in water quality, biodiversity restoration, climate adaptation and mitigation, and sustainable forest management. The Action Agenda introduces the concept of circular economy into water action planning and highlights the need for individual MS thematic plans on water to improve coordination. Its targets include reducing agricultural emissions into water bodies by 50%, enhancing drought risk management, and promoting sustainable land and soil management. Unlike earlier policies, the implication is that land-use changes, including those related to forests, should be more coordinated between sectors and MS. Despite these optimistic changes, the policy is non-legally binding and does little to establish greater



integration between water and forest sectors. The targets and objectives represent a commitment but lack enforceable measures to ensure actual implementation. While the policy acknowledges the need for resource efficiency and the role of land-use in water management, it doesn't explicitly tackle how forest management practices could be harmonised with water action goals.

EU Soil Strategy (COM/2021/699) presents four main goals relating to soil management: climate change mitigation and adaptation, preventing soil and land degradation, improving soil knowledge and data, and enabling the transition to healthy soils. These goals, as specified in the EU Green Deal, are intended to help meet broader objectives of climate neutrality, circular use of land, soil biodiversity, and sustainable soil management. Objectives and targets aimed at managing and protecting soil health have indirect but significant implications for forest management, as healthy soils are critical for healthy forest ecosystems. For example, one target proposes legally binding objectives to limit the drainage of wetlands and organic soils and restore peatlands—measures that are vital for forest ecosystems. Targets related to data and monitoring, propose EU-wide harmonised monitoring of soil organic carbon content, crucial for forest management. These targets should be coordinated with LULUCF regulations to provide an integrated approach to soil and forest monitoring and health.

Despite a recent acceptance of the interrelatedness of the three sectors, the water and soil policy documents do not explicitly lay out a cohesive plan for greater integration. Furthermore, these newer documents do not set legally binding targets which leaves MS to be responsible for integrating the overlapping thematic challenges of each sector. Currently, objectives and targets focus largely on water and soil-specific issues without delineating how these measures can be harmonised with forest management practices. Given the inherent interconnectedness of water, soil and forest ecosystems, there is a missed opportunity for a more holistic approach at the EU level.

Table 8. Water and Soil policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|---|----------------------|------------------|
| Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | 2007 |
| Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | Legally binding | 2006 |
| Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | 2000 |

5. National Level Forest and forest-related target

5.1 Germany

Forests play a pivotal role in Germany's environment, society and economy. A slew of strategies, plans and regulations shape the management and utilisation of forests (see Table 9.). The policies are interlaced showing how deeply interwoven matters of economy, environment, and society are. The following sections delve into the nuances of Germany's approach towards forests and their relevance, spanning from direct forest management to their broader implications in sectors like timber trade, agriculture, environment, and climate change. Understanding these policies not only offers insights into Germany's forest vision but also its alignment and contribution to broader EU objectives.



Forest-focused:

The German Federal Forest Act 1975 (amended 2021) in Germany sets three main goals: the sustainable management of forests for economic, environmental, and recreational functions; the promotion of forestry; and balancing interests between forest owners and the public. It sets mandated targets that include mandatory consultation with forestry authorities for public projects, stringent regulations for forest land conversion, and obligations for restoring clear-cut areas. The requirement for large-scale forest inventory every 10 years aligns with the EU's monitoring and data collection efforts and is integral for achieving Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF) sector targets. Furthermore, Forest owners are obligated to restore clear-cut areas within a set timeframe, and forests can be designated as protection or recreational forests under specific conditions in line with the EU CAP 2023-2027 programme. These targets aim to ensure that forestry practices align with broader economic and public interests. Furthermore, there is strong policy integration across forestry and rural development policy, as part of the LULUCF sector. However, more ambitious targets can have been ascribed in the Forest Strategy 2050.

The Forest Strategy 2050 is based on a guiding principle that must be achieved by 2050. It presents 2030 milestones in 10 different areas: Climate protection and adaptation to climate change, biodiversity and forest protection, timber production and usage, recreation sport and health, soil and water, forest development sustainable management and hunting, forest property and added value, digitalisation and technology, research and development and communication and information. The strategy provides clear objectives for each topic. However, the targets are not always clearly stated, sometimes they are missing or stated as general ideas. Clearly identified targets include: expanding forests' role for national climate protection, surprising substituting fossil fuels with timber in energy production EU level policy calls for caution, and establishing a remuneration model for climate services provided by forests. The policy also addresses the environmental impacts of wind turbines, crisis management for drought-threatened forests, and alignment with the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030. Additional targets relate to soil and water balance, data standardisation, and enhanced cooperation among forestry operations. The Forest Strategy 2050 sets targets that seek to address the complex challenges posed by climate change, while offering an integrated and holistic approach to sustainable forest management. At the same time, further critical conjecture regarding the targeting of timber as biofuel fuel is necessary.

Timber trade (industry):

The Timber Trade Protection act is the German implementation instrument of the EU's FLEGT licensing scheme for timber imports into the Union. The law lays down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market. Involvement of authorities to take the necessary measures to detect violations of the legal acts. Involvement of Customs authorities to cooperate in monitoring the import of timber products from partner countries and timber and timber products from third countries into the EU. The law states the rules and importance of information exchange and cooperation between customs and federal authorities. It affirms the power and role of different authorities to regulate the conduct of investigations, including sampling and methods of analysis of timber. The law rules on fines and penal provisions.

Agriculture & rural development:



The GAK Framework Plan 2023-2026 is divided into two pillars: legal and funding. Both pillars set out the key objectives of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture's (BMEL) programme. The legal pillar establishes a joint taskforce aimed at improving agricultural structures and coastal protection within Germany. While specific targets are not described, the objectives clearly aim to modernise and make more efficient the agricultural and forestry sectors, ensuring their competitiveness in the EU's common market. This includes improving production and working conditions in agriculture and forestry, such as efficiency enhancements and overcoming natural locational disadvantages, as well as encouraging market structure improvements through mergers. Furthermore, the policy prioritises the sustainable development of rural areas, emphasising environmentally friendly and resource-conserving agricultural and forestry practices. This entails market- and location-adapted land management, including contractual nature conservation, and measures to promote afforestation, sustainably reshaping rural areas in Germany. The policy addresses both the economic and environmental dimensions of forestry, closely aligning with broader EU CAP 2023-2027 objectives.

The funding pillar outlines a comprehensive framework for rural development and forestry practices in Germany, with a clear emphasis on sustainable management and climate resilience, aligning again closely with the EU's CAP objectives. Specific funding avenues include investment support for establishing agroforestry systems aimed at raw material extraction or food production and resources for transitioning to near-natural forest management. Other relevant funding targets include standing maintenance for climate-resilient tree species mix, soil protection, and forest conversion aimed at stability, ecological and economic performance. There are also provisions for coping with extreme weather events, including reforestation and soil-friendly timber removal. These various funding mechanisms serve to create a robust approach to forest management in Germany, while fully integrating broader transitional ambitions of the EU's Green Deal policy framework.

Nature conservation / environment:

The Federal Nature Conservation Act of 2009, amended in 2022, aims to safeguard biological diversity and ecosystem services, as well as the aesthetic and recreational values of nature and landscapes. The Act forwards a legally binding framework to conserve wild flora and fauna, protect various environmental attributes like soil and air quality, and the prevention of landscape fragmentation. It aligns with EU-level objectives from Natura 2000 and the EU's Biodiversity strategy, covering a wide array of responsibilities among federal, state, and local authorities. Public authorities, including those in forestry and agriculture, are mandated to consult with conservation authorities during project planning and are obliged to either avoid or compensate for negative effects on nature and landscapes.

The Act incorporates various targets and policy instruments, including mandatory consultation with public nature conservation authorities, landscape planning, and regular monitoring at federal and state levels. Additionally, different types of protected areas are designated to comply with the EU's Natura 2000 objectives. A specific target set by the Act is to create a network of connected biotopes that cover at least 10% of the area in each federal state. This target serves as a quantifiable measure, allowing for the monitoring and evaluation of the Act's success in achieving its broader goals of conservation and sustainable land use.

The National Strategy on Biological Diversity (2007) focuses on enhancing the natural diversity, structure, and composition of forests. The dated targets aim for 5% of the total forest area to undergo natural development by 2020, encourage the use of domestic tree species, and advocate for contractual nature conservation on at least 10% of private forest areas. The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) also outlines



objectives for carbon storage in land-based ecosystems and strives to keep global warming below 2°C. The BMUV's Climate Action programme 2023 complements the strategy by emphasising the role of forests as carbon sinks and habitats. It envisages the development of close-to-nature forest ecosystems by transforming existing forests and reforesting damaged areas, considering biodiversity a pre-condition for their adaptive capacity to climate change. In addition, it aims to enlarge forest areas to contribute to carbon storage, EU targets for tree planting, and biotope networks. Between 2023 and 2030, approximately 10.000 ha of forest will be annually created. Both the National Strategy and the BMUV's Climate Action Programme align well with broader EU's forestry and conservation objectives of afforestation and degradation prevention.

Climate change:

The Federal Climate Change Act of 2019, amended in 2021, is Germany's legally binding framework for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in line with both national and European objectives. The act is in line with warming below 2°C target (ideally below 1.5°C). It sets ambitious, quantitative reduction targets compared to 1990 levels: a 65% reduction by 2030, 88% by 2040, and net neutrality by 2045, with negative GHG emissions projected after 2050. These targets are allocated across various sectors, including energy, industry, and agriculture, which encompasses fuel consumption in forestry. Specifically for the LULUCF sector, the act aims to reduce emissions by at least 25 million tonnes of CO₂-equivalent by 2030, 35 million tonnes by 2040, and 40 million tonnes by 2045. The act aligns closely with the broader objectives of the EU, with a specific focus on LULUCF regulations and overall climate goals. By setting sector-specific targets, including for forestry, Germany is making a substantial contribution to the EU's collective climate protection efforts.

The German Adaptation Strategy to Climate Change from 2008 serves as a comprehensive framework for Germany's national approach to climate change adaptation across multiple sectors, including forestry. The strategy emphasises the need for forests to adapt early to climate change, specifying objectives such as transforming monocultures into resilient mixed forests. The adaptation strategy lays the foundations and creates a framework for national adaptation to the consequences of climate change. Although the strategy is from 2008, it sets the groundwork for all or a medium-term process in which the risks of climate change are to be assessed systematically with the federal states and other stakeholder groups, offering orientation for such groups. However, its targets are increasingly dated, especially when considering the EU's evolving Green Deal and forestry management guidelines.

Acknowledging that more aggressive measures are needed, the BMUV has advanced new climate targets in the aforementioned Climate Action Programme 2023. Climate neutrality by 2045 requires that the pace of emissions reductions will need to double or even triple in the coming years. Despite some progress, such as the reform of the Renewable Energy Act, the BMUV acknowledges already that there exists a projected cumulative gap of around 200 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalents in reaching the 2030 targets—most of which is attributed to the transport sector. This underscores the need for even more stringent targets on climate action, possibly placing more responsibility on German forests as the Nation's primary carbon sink.

(Bio-)Energy:

The Renewable Energy Sources Act of 2014, modified in 2023, aims for a transition to a sustainable and carbon-neutral electricity supply as part of broader climate and environmental goals. It sets an ambitious target to derive 80% of electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2030, with a focus on water, wind, solar, geothermal, and biomass energies. Specific quantitative expansion targets are outlined, including 115 GW of wind power, 215 GW of solar power, and 8.4 GW of electric power



from biomass by 2030. The Wind-on-Land Act of July 2022 supplements this by mandating state-level land area targets to achieve wind energy expansion. Given that biomass can include forestry by-products, this could impact forest management in Germany, increasing supply demand for biomass. A specific ordinance defines what counts as biomass, laying out acceptable technologies and environmental considerations. The act sets granular targets for electricity generation, including wind power capacity reaching 115 GW by 2030 and 160 GW by 2040, solar power capacity reaching 215 GW by 2030 and 400 GW by 2040, and electric power from biomass sites reaching 8.4 GW by 2030.

The National Bioeconomy Strategy of Germany promotes a path to a more circular, climate-neutral bio-based economy focused on sustainable biological production and consumption. Its objectives include ensuring sustainable biogenic raw material production, developing supply chains for the bioeconomy, and leveraging technology while promoting management that reduces land use pressure. The strategy is particularly concerned with land use efficiency and biodiversity conservation, especially within forest ecosystems, which are expressed in the strategy as crucial sinks for GHGs in Germany. The strategy sets several specific targets for achieving its goals. These include the establishment of a comprehensive monitoring system to measure and analyse biomass flows, increasing resource efficiency by implementing new infrastructures for material recovery and cultivating degraded and underutilised land areas through programmes such as responsible afforestation. Other targets focus on maintaining resource-efficient and climate-resilient agricultural and forest systems, promoting research into lower input cultivation systems, and raising consumer awareness about bio-based products. The strategy also calls for a balanced approach to increasing forest demands and their sustainability, suggesting a responsible use of forest resources as a biofuel.

Water and soil:

The Federal Water Act implement various EU directives concerning water and environmental protection, with a focus on sustainable water management. Its goals encompass the protection of waters as vital for human life, biodiversity and as a usable resource. Objectives include regulating riparian strips, managing land with slopes adjacent to water bodies, and implementing protective measures in floodplains and flood control areas. One target is the establishment of protected areas known as riparian zones that may not be felled and converted for agriculture purposes, without explicit permission. There are also measures to improve water retention capacity through sustainable afforestation in designated flood control areas. These regulations have implications for German forest management practices and contribute to broader EU sustainability and water policy objectives.

The German 2050 Water Strategy aims to manage water bodies and their catchment areas sustainably, ensuring their functional capacity and resilience. The strategy announces non-legally binding objectives the look to increase the protection of natural water resources, ensuring sustainable land use compatible with water bodies, mitigating risks from pollutants, and climate-adapted water infrastructure. Specific targets implement the creation of a water register, guidelines for handling water scarcity, and measures for soil conservation and groundwater recharge. The strategy successfully aimed to integrate water management into the Federal Forest Act, with the objective of enhancing the role of forests in water storage and retention.

The German Soil Conservation Law is a legally binding policy aimed at preventing harmful soil changes and remediating contaminated sites and associated water pollution. The overarching goal is to sustainably safeguard or restore the functions of soil as a natural resource. Specific targets include site-adapted soil cultivation, maintenance or improvement of soil structure, and the avoidance of soil compaction and erosion. The law emphasises the importance of preserving natural structural elements like hedges and copses, which can play a role in sustainable forest management. These objectives and



targets align with broader EU aims, especially in areas like agriculture, rural development, and environmental conservation, thereby contributing to the holistic management of forests in the EU context.

Recommendations to the Federal Soil Protection Act to better recent policy document that emphasises the role of soil in climate change mitigation and adaptation. The goals are to amend the soil protection law, focusing on the need for change and streamlining procedures. Specific targets include acknowledging the soil's contribution to climate change, strengthening soil biodiversity, introducing authorisation procedures for soil protection, and creating enforceable objectives for maintaining good soil conditions. The document also calls for more binding regulations in agriculture and forestry to support sustainability goals, underlining harmonisation across different legal sectors.

Table 9. German policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Forestry | | |
| Forest Strategy 2050 (Waldstrategie 2050) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Federal Forest Act (Gesetz zur Erhaltung des Waldes und zur Förderung der Forstwirtschaft) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| Timber trade (industry) | | |
| Timber trade Law (Holzhandels-Sicherungs-Gesetz) | Legally binding | 2011 |
| Agriculture & rural development | | |
| GAK Framework Plan 2023-2026 (Rahmenplan der Gemeinschaftsaufgabe "Verbesserung der Agrarstruktur und des Küstenschutzes" 2023-2026) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Nature conservation / environment | | |
| Federal Nature Conservation Act (Bundesnaturschutzgesetz - BNatSchG) | Legally binding | 2022 |
| National Strategy on Biological Diversity (Nationale Strategie zur Biologischen Vielfalt) | Non-legally binding | 2007 |
| Climate change | | |
| Federal Climate Change Act (Bundes-Klimaschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | 2008 |
| (Bio-) Energy | | |
| Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Cornerstone National Biomass Strategy (Eckpunkte für eine Nationale Biomassestrategie) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Renewable Energy Sources Act (Erneubare-Energien-Gesetz) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Water and soil | | |
| National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | |
| Key points for a reform of national soil protection law | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | 2021 |



5.2 Austria

In Austria, forest management is an integral part of a comprehensive policy framework that spans multiple sectors (see Table 10). Austria's forest policies focus on sustainable practices, climate resilience, and natural disaster protection, complemented by broader agricultural and climate strategies. These plans are further supported by targeted research and development in areas like renewable resources, food security, and digitisation. Collectively, these efforts aim to harmonise forest management with wider environmental and economic objectives.

Forest-related:

The forest code provides a definition and lays the foundation for all forest-related topics such as forest management, jurisdiction, forest protection, and recreational access. The forest fund is a pool containing 350 million Euros that aims at tackling the emerging impact of climate change on forests and their owners. The Austrian Forest Strategy 2020+ is a strategy paper that provides a plan for what Austrian forests should ideally look like in the future. It does so by including the Austrian Forest Dialogue (ÖWAD), where multiple stakeholders get together to discuss 7 fields of action. The indicator report is based on these fields of action and provides information on indicators used to monitor the success in each field. The indicators fit into several policy sectors which is why there is more than one entry for this policy.

The Action Plan Protective Forest provides an action programme encompassing 4 target corridors with 10 subordinate flagship measures to safeguard and promote protective forests. It gives examples of best-practice measures and sets milestones for the implementation of measures. With the focal point forest action plan, the government reacts to the ever-growing danger of wildfires. It defines targets and measures to take to meet these targets. Usually, the measures can be differentiated by being short-, medium-, or long-term measures. Austria is the only MS in this analysis to place as much emphasis on forest risk and hazards, dedicating an entire Action Plan to the topic.

Timber trade (industry):

The Wood Initiative aims to maximise the value chain of timber, both as a material and an energy source, leveraging funds from the Forest Fund to do so. The Timber Trade Surveillance Act localises FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) approval procedures into Austrian legislation, detailing regulations and penalties against illegal timber activities. Key targets include sourcing 70% of the country's raw wood needs from Austrian forests and 65% for material use specifically. Further objectives involve incrementing the foreign trade balance surplus by 10% and achieving an annual price increase in log and sawn timber prices at least at the level of the consumer price index.

These policies strive for self-sufficiency and economic growth, aiming to increase the marketed amount of wood to 3.2 million m³ by 2020 and ensuring that more than two-thirds of timber traded is sawn timber. These efforts are closely linked with forest management goals such as sustainable logging, as evidenced by Austria's commitment to comply with EU regulations against illegal logging. Ultimately, the strategy aspires for the forest and wood-based sector to be internationally competitive, innovative in the bioeconomy, and pivotal for rural development.

Agriculture & rural development:

Austria's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) strategy plan is intricately linked with forest management, emphasising sustainable practices that benefit both agricultural and forestry sectors. The strategy encourages farmers to adopt subsidised measures that boost the competitiveness and resilience of



their agricultural businesses while also safeguarding biodiversity and cultural landscapes in forestry. Among its priorities are the protection, conservation, and restoration of valuable species and habitats, enhancing genetic diversity, and implementing preventive measures for forests, especially those that act as natural barriers against pests and invasive species.

Moreover, the strategy focuses on the cross-sectional development of rural areas, advocating for increased digitalisation, social diversity, and innovation. A significant feature is the strategy's call for optimised carbon stock management in both agriculture and forestry, aiming to lower GHG emissions and adapt practices that are climate-friendly. This is supplemented by training and consulting provisions to improve knowledge of resource-efficient practices, biodiversity, and climate change among those working in agriculture and forestry.

Nature conservation / environment:

Austria's biodiversity strategy places a strong emphasis on forest management as a cornerstone for enhancing natural conservation. The strategy, formulated by experts and stakeholders, outlines specific targets to protect and improve forest biodiversity. These include increasing the areas of rare native tree species like fir, elevating the share of deciduous species, and maintaining specific types of trees in non-productive protection forests. Measures are also outlined to prevent the spread of invasive species within forest areas and to secure and expand contract-based conservation areas in alignment with the EU's biodiversity strategy for 2020.

The approach is holistic, targeting not just the preservation of existing forest biotopes but also the restoration of degraded ecosystems like bogs and floodplains that are crucial for both biodiversity and climate protection. The strategy is keen on connecting protected areas through designated habitat corridors, ensuring long-term ecological integrity. Funding mechanisms and legal frameworks are also emphasised to provide the necessary resources and policies for effective forest conservation, thereby achieving a harmonious balance between biodiversity preservation and climate protection objectives.

Climate change:

Austria's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy serves as a roadmap for sustainable societal restructuring with climate resilience in mind. It insists on embedding climate change considerations in all relevant national and international planning and decision-making processes. The strategy outlines adaptation goals and action plans across 14 different fields of activity, aiming for a holistic approach to climate change challenges.

The specific targets outlined in the strategy focus on maintaining forest carbon stocks and achieving an average CO₂ sink of 691 kt CO₂eq./year from 2013-2020 (target not updated). Additionally, the strategy aims to adhere to national emissions laws and provide action plans tailored to various sectors and stakeholders. These goals not only serve as guidelines for immediate action but also aim to inform anticipatory decisions for confronting future climate-related implications.

(Bio-)Energy:

Austria's Bioeconomy Strategy is designed to be a critical element of the country's broader Climate and Energy Strategy, focusing on decarbonising the economy. The strategy outlines cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary approaches, involving various levels of government and economic stakeholders. It sets ambitious targets aimed at increasing the value and sustainability of the forest sector, boosting renewable energy outputs, and enhancing material efficiency. These targets range from increasing



wood use and consumption to reducing material footprints, all with the aim of increasing Austria's resource productivity and fostering a circular economy.

The Renewable Expansion Act supplements the Bioeconomy Strategy by defining eligible measures for funding and setting output targets for renewable energy. It aims to balance the energetic use of wood with broader sustainability goals, like reducing GHG emissions to net zero. Through these two interconnected policies, Austria aims to significantly advance its bioeconomy by 2030, with metrics ranging from increasing economic output from renewable raw materials to fostering innovation through scientific publications.

Water and soil:

The Austrian National Water Management Plan offers a comprehensive overview of the country's water bodies and rivers, providing analyses of contamination risks, climate change impacts, and management guidelines. The plan also details specific targets, such as reducing soil degradation and enhancing both surface water and groundwater protection. Despite its thorough scope, the plan notably lacks forest-related targets, suggesting that there is minimal integration between water and soil management and forest management sectors in Austria.

Table 10. Austrian policies identified for analysis

| Policy name by sector (translation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|---|----------------------|------------------|
| Forestry | | |
| Forest Fund Act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legal binding | 2020 |
| Forest code (Forstgesetz) | Legal binding | 1975 |
| Austrian Forest Strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report (Waldstrategie 2020, ÖWAD, Indikatorenbericht) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Action Plan Protective Forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | 2019 |
| Focal point forest action plan (Brennpunkt Wald Aktionsprogramm) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | |
| Austrian Wood initiative | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Agriculture & rural development | | |
| GAP 2023 Nation Strategy Plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Nature conservation / environment | | |
| Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Climate change | | |
| Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (Klimwandelanpassungsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | 2017 |
| National Energy and Climate Plan Periode 2021-2030 (Nationaler Energie und Klimaplan) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| (Bio-) Energy | | |
| Action Plan Bioeconomy (Aktionsplan Bioökonomie) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |



| | | |
|--|---------------------|------|
| Austrian Bioeconomy Strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | 2019 |
| Renewable Expansion Act (Erneuerbare-Ausbau-Gesetz) | Legal binding | 2021 |
| Renewable Heat Act (Erneuerbare-Wärme-Gesetz) | Legal binding | 2022 |
| Water and soil | | |
| National water management plan (Nationaler Gewässerbewirtschaftungsplan) | Non-legally binding | 2019 |

5.3 Finland

By analysing Finland's current and relevant policy document (see Table 11) it can be seen that there is an integrated approach to forest management, incorporating both concerns for biodiversity and climate change. National strategies focus on sustainable forestry practices, carbon sequestration, and the promotion of bioenergy, all aimed at achieving carbon neutrality by 2035. These plans emphasise both the economic and ecological value of forests. The country's policies form a comprehensive framework for sustainable forest management, balancing economic, ecological, and social considerations.

Forest-focused:

Finland's National Forest Strategy 2035 places a particular emphasis on self-sufficiency, security of supply, climate considerations, biodiversity, and vitality. The essence of the strategy is centred around the renewal of forest-based businesses and activities. The strategy identifies four strategic objectives, consistent with its overarching vision. These include: making Finland a competitive environment for a responsible and self-renewing forest sector; promoting active, sustainable, and diverse use of forests; enhancing the vitality, diversity, and adaptability of forests; and bolstering knowledge-based management and expertise in the forest sector. Each of these objectives is supported by a specific set of goals and is to be implemented through three key projects: growth of forests, biodiversity in commercial forests, and renewal and competitiveness of the forest sector. These projects are composed of concrete measures designed to achieve the stated objectives and goals.

This approach makes Finland's Forest Strategy 2035 a comprehensive, adaptable plan aimed at sustainable forest management. By tying together economic, environmental, and social considerations under a unified strategic umbrella, the policy reflects an integrated, balanced approach to forest management. The focus on self-sufficiency and security of supply is particularly relevant in a global context where supply chain reliability is increasingly under question. Additionally, by emphasising the renewal of forest-based businesses, the strategy aligns with broader economic renewal and competitive positioning. Integrated into this analysis is the timber trade sector that is covered in Finland's forest strategy. No analysis of agriculture sector policy, with project partner LUKE stating that there existed only regional strategies that were beyond the scope of this national analysis.

Nature conservation / environment:

The "Saving the Nature for People - Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2012-2020" aims to halt biodiversity loss by 2020 and ensure the sustainability of biodiversity and ecosystem services by 2050. The policy has direct implications for forest management as it requires the integration of biodiversity conservation into forestry practices. One specific target is



that commercially managed forests should continue to safeguard biodiversity. This likely means the implementation of sustainable forest management practices that balance economic production with the conservation of flora and fauna, and ecosystem services. Furthermore, the strategy calls for maintaining a network of protected areas that cover at least 17% of the country's terrestrial environments and inland waters, which would include forested areas.

Another significant aspect of this strategy is its focus on enhancing ecosystem resilience and carbon sequestration through conservation and restoration. This ties back to forest management in terms of assessing the impacts of increased use of bioenergy on the forest ecosystem's nutrient and carbon cycles. Forests are seen not only as economic resources but also as vital ecosystems that provide a range of services from water regulation to carbon storage. The policy thereby supports a multi-dimensional approach to forest management, emphasising not just the economic value but also the ecological and social benefits these ecosystems can offer, while taking into consideration the specific needs of indigenous communities like the Sámi.

The National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 serves as Finland's first comprehensive framework specifically geared towards nature-based recreation, with significant implications for forest management. The strategy aims to augment public health and wellbeing by promoting more responsible and diverse utilisation of natural settings, particularly forests. It outlines strategic objectives like enhancing access to forested areas and ensuring the sustainability and diversity of recreational activities within these ecosystems.

By focusing on these objectives, the strategy effectively integrates forest management with goals like biodiversity conservation and public well-being. It calls for the balanced use of forest areas to maintain ecological integrity while supporting recreational activities. Targets like improving biodiversity and public respect for nature indicate a move toward more sustainable forest management practices. Additionally, the strategy seeks to expand the network of recreational forest areas, which will lead to new protocols in forest management to accommodate both conservation and recreation.

Climate change:

The Plan to Adapt to Climate Change sets forth various objectives and targets aimed at enhancing Finland's response to climate challenges, especially in the forest sector. By 2030, the plan seeks to adapt the use of natural resources, including forests, to the changing climate. Specific targets include the development of a research and development program focusing on the forest sector's adaptation to climate change, forming part of the National Forest Strategy. It also proposes a new incentive system to support the adaptation of forestry practices. Water management needs in agriculture and forestry are addressed through a new watershed-level management planning model. An improved network of protected forest areas and the recovery of degraded habitats are also highlighted to enhance forest resilience.

The Government Report on the Climate Plan for the LULUCF Sector (VNS 7/2022) emphasises the importance of state-owned forests meeting national LULUCF targets, and it aims to increase annual carbon sequestration in these forests. Deforestation is to be significantly reduced, especially in peatlands and mineral soils. Targets specific to the forest sector include increasing ash fertilisation in peatland forests, implementing watershed-level management planning in agriculture and forestry across 100,000 hectares, and promoting carbon storage in harvested wood products. The report also suggests the implementation of pilot projects aimed at advancing voluntary carbon markets in the land-use sector.

(Bio-) Energy:



The Carbon Neutral Finland 2035 – National Climate and Energy Strategy aims to transition Finland towards a carbon-neutral and eventually a carbon-negative society. While the policy addresses multiple sectors such as energy production, market development, and taxation, there are specific forest-related targets under the objective of promoting renewable energy. The policy aims to promote the production of bioenergy from sustainable sources, including forests. It focuses on improving the logistics and supply chains to make forest-derived bioenergy more accessible and sustainable. Targets to achieve this include support for pre-commercial management of forests, the development of terminals for forest biomass, and maintenance support for forestry roads. The plan also outlines the importance of avoiding the use of large dead wood and timber-sized wood for energy production. Additional forest-related actions under this strategy involve investment support, advice, and demonstration projects aimed at sustainable forest management for renewable energy production. These forest-specific initiatives are designed to contribute to the larger goal of carbon neutrality by 2035, acknowledging the crucial role that forests play not just as carbon sinks but also as sustainable sources of bioenergy.

Table 11. Finnish policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (translation or abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Forestry | | |
| Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Forest Act (HE 75/2013) (Metsälaki) | Legally binding | 2013 |
| Timber trade (industry) | | |
| No national policy identified | | |
| Agriculture & rural development | | |
| No national policy identified | | |
| Nature conservation / environment | | |
| National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 (Suomen luonnon monimuotoisuuden suojelun ja kestävän käytön toimintaohjelma 2013–2020) | Non-legally binding | 2013 |
| Climate change | | |
| Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 (Valtioneuvoston selonteko maankäyttösektorin ilmastosuunnitelmasta) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| (Bio-) Energy | | |
| The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy (Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Water and soil | | |
| No national policy identified | | |



5.4 Ireland

Ireland, in its mission to address climate change, enhance biodiversity, and achieve sustainability, has laid out comprehensive policies and strategies across various sectors (Table 12.). Forests having been almost being depleted on the island, are at the focal intersection of Ireland's rural development and GHG emissions removal. This review summarises the multifaceted approach Ireland takes across the national policy landscape as it pertains to forests, emphasising the intricate interplay between the country's ambitious goals, the role of forests, and the broader EU context.

Forest-focused:

The Forest Strategy for Ireland focuses on fostering a sustainable and emerging forest sector integral to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation. Underlining cooperation with farmers, landowners, and the private sector, the strategy aims to increase the country's relatively low forest cover of 11.6% by promoting diversity in tree species and employing innovative forest management techniques. It aligns with EU objectives and emphasises the economic, environmental, and climate benefits of increasing forest cover, advocating for the use of wood in long-lived products and the development of a circular bioeconomy. This year, the Forestry Programme for 2023-2027 complements this strategy by setting specific objectives and targets to boost forest cover and ecosystem delivery. It aims to plant 8,000 hectares annually across 12 different forest types and mandates that 20% of all new conifer forests must consist of broadleaf trees, with the broader goal of making half of all annual plantings of broadleaf species. The program also proposes new forest types like Forests for Water, Emergent Woodland, and Continuous Cover Forestry. Financial incentives include increased grant rates and premiums for farmers, extended to 20 years, and a Woodland Environmental Fund that allows companies to provide a €1,000 per hectare top-up to landowners.

The Forestry Act 2014 (S.I. No 31/2014) establishes a comprehensive framework for sustainable and regulated forestry practices in Ireland, focusing on economic, environmental, and social benefits. The act mandates Forest Management Plans and provides ministerial directives on environmental conservation, tree felling, and afforestation under the oversight of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Similarly, the Forestry Regulations (S.I. No 191/2017) mandates extensive environmental impact assessments, public engagement, and adherence to EU conservation standards. This regulation outlines the application processes for various forestry activities like afforestation and aerial fertilisation, ensuring the sector maintains a balance between development and conservation in line with European directives. Both legal instruments are crucial in harmonising Ireland's forest management practices with broader EU environmental and forestry standards.

Lastly, Coillte, Ireland's largest semi-private forest company and controls approximately more than half of all Ireland's forest stocks (440,000 hectares), sets out its forest policy goals in the 'Coillte Future Forest Estate Vision Consultation booklet'. This policy document is integrated into the government policies and advances objectives that include climate mitigation, biodiversity conservation, sustainable timber production, and community well-being. Coillte has set targets like creating 100,000 hectares of new forests to sequester 18 million tonnes of CO₂ by 2050. The company's activities significantly contribute to Ireland's forest management while, on paper, aligning with the EU's broader Green Deal objectives. Over the last three decades, Coillte has diversified its contributions to include wood products, recreation, and environmental services, and underpins an export-led forest products sector. As such, Coillte plays a crucial role in achieving both national and EU-wide forestry and environmental goals.

Timber trade (industry):



The European Union Timber and Timber Products (Placing on The Market) Regulations 2014 serves as Ireland's national framework for implementing the European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR). The Act, like the EUTR, aims to prevent the illegal trade of timber and other deforestation-driving commodities. With detailed objectives and regulatory instruments, the policy empowers authorised officers to inspect, enforce, and ensure compliance with timber regulations. These officers are granted a range of powers, from issuing compliance notices and penalties to seizing non-compliant goods. This multi-layered enforcement strategy enhances Ireland's sustainable consumption of forest goods by ensuring the sustainability and legality of timber resources.

Agriculture & rural development:

The Irish Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) outlines a comprehensive strategy with measurable targets for sustainable land use, forestry, and agriculture. For forestry and land use, CAP targets include: achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 through afforestation and better forest management, and aiming for agriculture to contribute 2 MT towards the 4.8 MT LULUCF emissions reduction target by 2030. Furthermore, specific objectives for carbon sequestration are set for at least 450,000 hectares of grasslands and 80,000 hectares of reduced management intensity on drained organic soils. Increasing afforestation rates and leveraging market opportunities for wood and biomass are also outlined. Aligning with the EU's CAP objectives, conservation targets include the conversion of 8.88% of utilised agricultural area (UAA) for carbon storage and 42.44% of UAA focused on improved soil nutrient management. A target of 7.45% of UAA focuses on the sustainable use of pesticides and 6.80% of UAA is committed to improving the quality of water bodies. The target will have indirect implications on forest health and the prevention of forest degradation.

Regarding financial allocations, Pillar II funding includes support for multiple low-carbon and biodiversity programs and a notable increase to €1.5 billion for the Agri-environment and Climate Measure (AECM) from 2023-2027. Socially, there's a commitment to fostering environmental and climate change education at the farm level. Gender balance initiatives and training programs also receive significant focus, with 234,898 training programs aimed at enhancing environmental and climate performance. Through the policy Ireland's agricultural sector sets a clear ambition to integrate economic, environmental, and social targets, aiming for a sustainable future in agriculture, forestry, and rural development.

Ireland's 'Our Rural Future: Rural Development Policy 2021-2025' set out the ambitions for the development of rural areas in the country. The policy document includes various targets that can offer insights for future forest management. Particularly relevant are Ireland's commitments to research and development in agri-food and bio-based systems, its focus on sustainable farming and forestry through the aforementioned CAP Strategic Plan, and efforts toward peatland rehabilitation and afforestation. These targets align with broader EU goals for increasing forest cover, promoting biodiversity, and mitigating climate change. The policy also lays emphasis on creating sustainable rural economies, potentially providing a blueprint for other EU countries. This includes a focus on skill development in forestry, community engagement in renewable energy, and outdoor recreational strategies that balance tourism with environmental protection. Such initiatives could serve as models for holistic forest management that address both economic and environmental objectives.

Nature conservation / environment:

Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan is a comprehensive strategy aimed at conserving and enhancing biodiversity across multiple sectors. However, the policy is designed to address urgent conservation needs, foster societal engagement, and integrate biodiversity considerations into



governmental policies. Through review of the previous '3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan (2017-2021)' it can be stated that there is far less mention of forest and forest management in the current policy (see appendix V). Nevertheless, the plan promotes sustainable land use and agriculture practices, aligning agricultural policy with on-farm biodiversity initiatives by 2024. Native tree planting is also highlighted as a measure to bolster biodiversity. The Action Plan also outlines steps to improving reporting mechanisms and cross-departmental capacity reviews, emphasising better data accessibility. Local authorities will have their own Biodiversity Action Plans by 2026, and the impact of biodiversity measures under the CAP will be evaluated by 2027. Efforts to increase public awareness about biodiversity aim for a 20% increase by 2027 and a wide-ranging business engagement through the Business for Biodiversity platform. Targets for species protection are set for 2030, along with specific goals like 7.5% land under organic farming and a 50% reduction in pesticide use by the same year. Freshwater bodies aim to be at a 'Good Ecological Status' by 2027. With a target to restore 33,000 hectares of peatlands by 2026. By 2023, the National Outdoor Recreation Strategy and National Bioeconomy Action Plan will both incorporate biodiversity considerations. On the business front, 90% of businesses in the Business for Biodiversity platform will have conducted biodiversity impact assessments by 2027. These targets do not directly address forests, however, the resulting improvement in soil, water and biodiversity will promote the health and the growth of existing targeted Irish forest expansion.

The Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000 – 2023 delivers a legally binding framework for the conservation and protection of Ireland's natural heritage sites. It seeks to enhance compliance with European and other international agreements and provides greater legal clarity on various aspects of natural heritage management in Ireland. While not providing specific targets, the Act mandates relevant objectives and instruments that impact the management of forest and wildlife conservation in Ireland. Specific objectives include expanding legal protections to natural heritage areas and significant geological sites, bolstering wildlife conservation efforts, and enhancing penalties for violations. One key objective is to increase the responsibility of the Environment Minister by giving the authority to act independently of existing forestry legislation, particularly concerning land acquisition and usage. This can have implications for forestry targets and forest management, as the Minister may prioritise biodiversity conservation over other forestry activities. Notably, the 2023 amendments introduce changes to the configuration of the raised bog network, establish criteria for blanket bog, and place a biodiversity duty on public bodies. Overall, the Act would encourage a more ecologically sensitive approach to forestry and forest management, aligning these activities more closely with conservation goals.

Climate change:

Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2023 aligns closely with the country's broader environmental and sustainability goals, mapping out a comprehensive approach to halve GHG emissions by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, mandated targets from the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill 2021. Within the Agriculture Sector, the plan focuses on diversifying land use to include more forestry and aims to reduce emissions by 1.5 MtCO₂eq between 2021 and 2030. It also encourages diversification into forestry, biomethane, and energy production. In the LULUCF Sector, there is a stated aim that there should be an acceleration of emission reductions by 2025 and beyond. The plan sets out multiple objectives and targets such as: increasing annual afforestation rates to 8,000 hectares from 2023; launching a new Forestry Programme; adopting Coillte's Strategic Vision (mentioned above); and, promoting forest management initiatives to increase carbon sinks. By 2030, the plan further aims to increase the area of afforestation by 68,000 hectares and enhance forest management across public and private lands to boost carbon sinks and storage. It also focuses on reducing emissions through peatland rehabilitation and sets targets for the launch of a new Forestry



Programme, which will focus on native woodland expansion. This includes addressing the backlog in forestry licensing to streamline future processes. These targets are specific, measurable, and time-bound, well-suited for monitoring and evaluation, and collectively aim to create new economic opportunities and improve public health through cleaner air and water.

The National Adaptation Framework for Ireland aims to provide a strategic policy outline to help sectors and local governments adapt to climate change impacts. The framework's policy goals include a multi-level governance approach involving all stakeholders, ranging from national to local authorities. The objectives clearly provide guidance on how to integrate local climate adaptation with the national strategy and policies such as the budgetary requirement and Ireland's 2040 National Planning Framework. Among the policy targets, there are provisions for legislative updates, advisory council reviews, and sectoral collaboration. Identified here are some important elements to highlight regarding the National Adaptation Framework and its impact on Irish forest management. Firstly, the 2023 updates, focus on developing a new National Adaptation Framework and specific methodologies for sectoral 2 planning. These updates could serve as vehicles for incorporating the latest scientific findings and best practices relevant to forest management and climate adaptation. Secondly, the emphasis on local adaptation strategies and sectoral plans facilitates more effective forest management in the face of climate change. This aligns well with the second target, related to nature-based solutions and water management implicates forest ecosystems, as forests often serve as natural buffers for flood control and groundwater recharge. Third, the development of a National Implementation Strategy for Nature-Based Solutions offers a crucial arena for integrating forest-related goals and objectives. Lastly, the target to mainstream climate adaptation into national policy and the emphasis on stakeholder engagement provide opportunities to ensure that forest policy is not siloed but is considered part of the broader adaptation policy landscape.

(Bio-)Energy:

Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 strategy is designed to transition the country to a low-carbon system by 2050 with a specific focus on sustainability, security of supply, and competitiveness. The policy aims to drastically reduce GHG emissions by 80-95% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels and to zero or below by 2100. Several concrete targets are set for 2030, including achieving the highest possible level of energy efficiency, particularly in the non-ETS sector, becoming a leader in renewable energy deployment, and reducing reliance on fossil fuels. The policy also aims for Ireland to be part of a single, interconnected EU internal energy market by 2030. Despite the target's ambition, the policy has been criticised for failing to meet its 2020 renewable energy targets (Climate Action Plan 2023) and, at the time, an absence of a bioeconomy strategy, indicated a need for re-evaluation of its effectiveness in strategies in meeting its targets.

In 2018 Ireland's Bioeconomy Action Plan was published, aiming to make the EU MS a global leader in the bioeconomy by aligning closely with the principles of circular economy. While specific targets for the 2023-2025 plan are still pending, the 2018 Bioeconomy Policy Statement outlines several key objectives. These include ensuring policy coherence across different sectors that impact the bioeconomy; establishing a robust network of stakeholders for multi-sector collaboration; translating research into real-world applications; identifying and addressing challenges to commercial and social development; developing a structured framework for implementing bioeconomy initiatives; and raising public awareness about the bioeconomy. The policy goals focus on addressing the climate and biodiversity crisis, fostering scientific and technological innovation, and engaging both the public and private sectors. Policy objectives aim to transition Ireland towards a more sustainable, decarbonised economy while enhancing job opportunities, particularly in the agri-food and marine sectors, and



fostering regional prosperity. Given the bioeconomy's intrinsic connection to sectors like agriculture and forestry, it has the potential to lower greenhouse gas emissions by replacing high-carbon products with bio-based alternatives, contributing to Ireland's broader climate targets.

The Bioeconomy Action Plan Consultation and Discussion Document 2022 outlines Ireland's ambitious plans for a sustainable, low-carbon economy, with particular relevance to sectors like agriculture and forestry. One of the major policy goals is to address the climate and biodiversity crisis, situating Ireland as a leader in scientific and technological innovation. This resonates closely with the central objective to decarbonise the economy. The document emphasises the role forests serve as carbon sinks, and the focus on developing innovative practices in agriculture and forestry aims to enhance their role in climate change mitigation. The plan's attention to bio-based alternatives also implies the increased use of sustainable forestry products to replace high-carbon materials like concrete and steel. Other targets aim at increasing the efficient use and reuse of resources, optimising harvest cycles, waste reduction, and incorporation of forest residues into biofuels. Ultimately, forestry plays an ever-emerging greater role in Ireland's bioeconomy. What this policy makes clear is that as forests become more widespread on the island, their use will become pivotal in the transformation to a low-carbon economy.

Water and soil:

Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme is tailored for agriculture but has ramifications for forest and forest management, particularly where agriculture and forestry coexist. It places restrictions on nitrogen and phosphorus application rates to safeguard water quality and mandates the maintenance of green cover, thereby creating a context in which afforestation or reforestation could be viewed as tools for better nutrient cycling and water quality. Although forests are not the main focus of the policy, they play an integral role in meeting its broader ecological goals, which align with national and EU-level targets for climate, biodiversity, and water quality. Consequently, the policy could catalyse more integrated and sustainable forest management practices that contribute to these wider environmental objectives.

The most recent Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022-2027 aims to align Irish forestry management with the EU's Habitats Directive and focus on ecological protection of water bodies. The plan introduces specific objectives like forest restructuring for water protection, the use of water setbacks in new forests, and targeted support measures to protect water quality. These objectives are supported by a range of policy targets, including streamlining license applications for forestry activities and increasing training for professionals in the sector. The plan identifies 223 water bodies currently impacted by forestry activities and proposes comprehensive measures for mitigation. By focusing on ecological assessments and water protection, this draft plan not only aims to improve Ireland's water quality but also contributes to wider EU objectives for sustainable land use and water management.

Interestingly, the older management plan for the water sector, 'Forests & Water: Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021', explicitly harmonises forest management and water quality, aiming for a balanced expansion of forests and water conservation. The policy is unique in that no other EU-MS directly sets targets that impact the country's forestry regulations, integrating them with water policies, promoting native woodlands, and encouraging research on the interplay between forestry and water. Specific targets include raising the national forest cover from 11% to 18% by 2046 and refining risk assessments related to forestry and water. The Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine emphasises that forestry practices can both pose risks and offer benefits to water quality, indicating that the protection of water will be a crucial factor in forestry



licenses and grants. By laying out both quantitative and qualitative targets, the plan provides a robust and unique framework for integrated forest-water management, which can serve as a model for sector integration at the EU and National levels.

The 'Land Types for Afforestation: Soil & Fertility' again integrates both forest and soil sector targets into a comprehensive guide for identifying lands in Ireland suitable for afforestation, primarily focusing on soil types and fertility levels. Aimed at aligning with the broader Forestry Programme for 2023-2027 and the European Commission's State Aid Program, it sets out to determine the eligibility of soil types for afforestation with respect to carbon budgeting and the production of sustainable commercial timber. Although lacking in explicit, quantifiable targets, the document employs methods like soil surveys and fertility scoring to ascertain eligibility. It includes qualitative targets such as requiring lands to be capable of supporting a commercial crop of Sitka spruce with a yield class (YC) of 14 or higher. By establishing these criteria, the policy aims to inform sustainable afforestation efforts in Ireland, guiding policymakers, landowners, and forest managers in their decisions and contributing to the better integration of the two sectors.

Table 12. Irish policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Forestry | | |
| Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| Forestry Act 2014 (No. 31/2014) | Legally binding | 2014 |
| Forestry Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 191/2017) | Legally binding | 2017 |
| Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Timber trade (industry) | | |
| European Union (Timber and Timber Products) (Placing on the Market) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 316/2014) | Legally binding | 2014 |
| Agriculture & rural development | | |
| Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | 2021 |
| Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Nature conservation / environment | | |
| Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | 2027 |
| Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2023 (No. 25/2023) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Climate change | | |
| National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | 2018 |
| Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| (Bio-) Energy | | |
| Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | 2015 |
| Bioeconomy Action Plan 2023-2025 (proposal) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | 2018 |
| Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (No 113/2022) | Legally binding | 2021 |



| Water and soil | | |
|--|---------------------|------|
| Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | 2022 |
| Land Types for Afforestation: Soil & Fertility | Non-legally binding | 2023 |
| Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | 2018 |

5.5 Croatia

Croatia, the newest member of the EU, boasts a majority proportion of publicly owned forests, reflecting a unique position for the Croatian Government's forest governance. Balancing the demands of economic growth, sustainability, and the challenges posed by climate change, the nation has quickly embarked on a well-integrated policy framework (see Table 13.), influenced by the broader EU policy context. This analysis presents this comprehensive policy framework, detailing key goals, objectives, and targets to provide an insight into Croatia's strategic approach towards integrated forest management.

Forest-focused:

The National Forestry Accounting Plan ensure that Croatia's forest management practices are both sustainable and context-specific. The primary objective of the Plan is to develop and implement a Forest Reference Level (FRL) for the Republic of Croatia for the period 2021-2025. This will be done in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/841 and will be tailored to the country's unique historical context, which has been deeply influenced by war and post-war circumstances. Finally, to achieve this primary objective, the Plan establishes two specific policy targets. The first target is to establish an average annual harvest level of 7.5 million cubic meters (Mm³) for the period 2021-2025, as projected in the Forest Reference Level (FRL). The second target is to implement a single, additional harvest scenario that prescribes an average annual harvest of 8.03 Mm³ for each year during the 2021-2025 period, as outlined in the General Forest Management Plan (FMAP) 2016-2025.

The Croatian National Forestry Strategy aim to bolster the national economy through the sustainable management, conservation, and utilisation of forest resources while adhering to international norms and local community rights. The strategy uniquely integrates various sectors, including tourism, hunting, and rural development, while aiming to harmonise nation targets with those of the EU forest sector. The targets are qualitative and prioritised areas like habitat assessment, forest management, and the adoption of 4E (ecological, ergonomic, economic and energy) technologies. Special targets include the inclusion of regenerating quarries through afforestation and plans to harness forest biomass for energy production. Other specific actions, include fostering cooperation between state bodies and the private sector and facilitating entrepreneurship in the forestry sector. Targets related to these objectives include quality control in the timber industry and the development of financial incentives for sustainable practices, such as environmentally friendly technologies. Another significant target aims to preserve and enhance habitat stability and forest health, supported by strategic actions like establishing criteria for functional forest categorisation and providing financial backing for adequate silviculture.



Finally, the strategy underscores the need to adapt forest education and research in Croatia to be on par with current EU forestry requirements. Targets in this vein aim to strengthen the capacities of scientific institutions engaged in forestry research. The strategy also sets targets for land-use planning and improved forest and water management, all in line with the EU's Green Deal cross-cutting objectives. This demonstrates Croatia's forestry sector's commitment to align with broader, ambitious climate goals. These specific targets collectively serve as a roadmap for advancing sustainable and integrated forest management practices in the country.

Timber trade (industry):

The National Plan for the Development of Wood Processing and Furniture Production 2022-2023 is part of Croatia's development strategy for sustainable growth and development of the timber sector. It aims to strengthen the industry's competitiveness, innovation, and resilience to climate change while also promoting balanced regional development. The plan sets multiple quantitative targets for 2026 and 2030, such as increasing the total annual income of wood processing and furniture production by 35% by 2026 and by 75% by 2030. It also outlines qualitative measures like promoting green construction and equipping with green products, which align with the EU's sustainability objectives. The plan aims to both improve sustainability standards within Croatia's domestic industry, while integrating EU sustainability and climate change objectives. Targets such as increasing the total power of wood biomass cogeneration plants and encouraging the sustainable use of wood resources contribute to the EU's energy and climate objectives. Other targets like improving the knowledge and skills of human resources and encouraging green transition align with the EU's emphasis on education and digitalisation for sustainable development. Thus, the plan complements both national and EU-level priorities in forestry and sustainable development.

A proposal to legislate the processing and use of wood and wood products aims to establish legally binding mandates for sustainable growth and development in the wood production sector. In the preamble it is stated that several objectives will be addressed with the proposed law, such as: regulation of the entire cycle of processing and use of wood; from the forest to the end user (procurement of wood raw material, production, distribution); encouraging environmentally friendly management and utilisation of renewable natural resources raw material, with the use of biomass for obtaining energy, encouraging the introduction of a quality management system for production processes and product quality; improving control; traffic and quality of imported wood and furniture processing products. The proposal aims to strengthen existing institutions for control of traffic in wood and furniture processing products and quality testing while establishing a system for monitoring the import and export of wood and furniture processing products. This will contribute to improving the recording of exporters and importers, based on the data of the State Statistics Office, and all for the purpose of increasing the export of finished wood and furniture processing products. The proposal also looks to put into law a harmonisation of the statistical classification of economic activities in line with the EU, creating conditions for stronger business connections of interested subjects. The proposed law would create a framework for investment in wood processing and furniture production to scale up the competitiveness of Croatian wood processing), both for the domestic and foreign markets. Finally, the proposed law will establish institutional support, informing and educating the public about the use of wood and wood products as ecologically acceptable material. The proposed law establishes multiple obligations and competencies for the government, as well as a framework for monitoring and sanctioning non-compliers, ultimately formalising EU forestry standards in Croatia.

Agriculture & rural development:



The primary aim of the Law on Agriculture is to promote the sustainable development of the agricultural sector, taking its economic, ecological, and social dimensions. The regulation sets forth several key objectives to achieve this overarching goal: enhancing competitiveness in the agriculture and food sectors, improving market mechanisms for selling agricultural and food products, ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources, adopting environmentally-friendly agricultural practices, stimulating balanced rural development and job creation, and guaranteeing stable income for farmers. While the law is less prescriptive in setting specific policy targets, it does outline key initiatives. One such initiative is the creation of a Plan for the Prevention and Reduction of Food Waste, designed to align with the United Nations' target of halving retail and consumer food waste and reducing production and supply chain losses by 2030. This will likely slow the need for agricultural expansion and intern prevent deforestation. The law also suggests a qualitative target of bolstering the quality system for agricultural and forestry products through labels such as Protected Designation of Origin (PDO), Protected Geographical Indication (PGI), and Traditional Specialties Guaranteed (TSG).

The Agricultural Strategy Until 2030 aligns closely with that of the EU CAP and rural development strategy, establishing four principal policy goals for agricultural and rural development: increase the productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural and food sector; strengthening the sustainability and resilience of agricultural production to climate change; reconstruction of the rural economy and the improvement of living conditions in rural areas, an often-overlooked aspect vital for social cohesion; and encouraging innovation within the agri-food sector. To operationalise these policy goals, a series of objectives have been prioritised for each goal, based on the needs identified for the Croatian agricultural sector. For the first goal, the objectives include increasing efficiency and adding value to agricultural holdings, ensuring higher and more stable incomes for small manufacturers, facilitating market diversification for Croatian agricultural food products, achieving integration of SMEs and young farmers in food and agricultural value chains, and access to strategic market segments. For the second goal, the objectives include improving sustainable soil, water and biodiversity management techniques, reducing vulnerability to climate change and fostering production with low emissions, and facilitating access to agricultural land. For the third goal, the objectives include the reduction of poverty in rural areas, the creation of new jobs in rural areas by increasing income and differentiating Croatian products, and accelerating the transition to a green rural economy. Finally, for the fourth goal, the objectives include increasing public and private investment in research and development and enhancing technology transfer.

The strategy's targets are designed to address the diverse needs of the sector, which encompass both agriculture and forestry. It proposes a redistribution of income support to include forestry stakeholders. Targets emphasise a need for greater backing for environmentally conscious practices, ranging from ecological agriculture to sustainable forestry management, to ensure climate and animal welfare benefits. Similarly, the strategy aims to improve access to critical environmental and agro-climatic data, a component important not just for agriculture but also for forest management. The strategy also encourages partnerships to boost organisational capabilities across the agri-food chain and the forestry sector. Other targets look to simplify administrative and regulatory burdens across both domains and aim to improve risk management tools applicable to agriculture and forestry. The strategy supports entrepreneurial endeavours in rural areas, including forest-based businesses. It also lays the groundwork for the development and implementation of a national bioeconomy strategy that encompasses both agricultural and forest products. Further targets include the promotion of destination tourism that combines agricultural and forest attractions, as well as fostering skills development programs and stronger ties with scientific institutions for research in agriculture and forestry.



Nature conservation / environment:

The Croatian Law on the Protection of Nature's overarching goal is to preserve nature, including biodiversity, landscape diversity, and geodiversity. It outlines six policy objectives, such as maintaining natural habitats and species, promoting sustainable resource use, and preventing harmful human interference. The law states several targets to facilitate effective nature preservation. Among these are various procedures and criteria for environmental impact assessments, habitat conservation, and species protection. Notably, the law mandates management plans for the ecological network, which include objectives for conservation measures and indicators for plan implementation. For forested areas, which make up 49.3% of Croatia's land area, within strict reserves and national parks, programs are established for protection, care, and renewal. Similarly, for special reserves of forest vegetation and park forests, protection and restoration programs are integrated into the broader forest management plans.

The law places particular emphasis on targets associated with habitat and species conditions, specifying what constitutes a 'favourable' status for both. It also outlines the Acceptability Assessment procedure to ensure the conservation of ecological network areas. Within forest-related domains, the law mandates programs for protection, care, and restoration, which are integral to overall forest management. Furthermore, the law introduces a concession system allowing for the economic use of natural resources, explicitly excluding forests owned by the Republic of Croatia that make up 76% of all forest cover in the country. It mandates public institutions to adopt management plans that focus on the condition of target species and habitat types within the ecological network, which could have implications for forest management as well. Lastly, the law emphasises public awareness and engagement in nature preservation through obligatory information dissemination by public entities.

The Strategy and Action Plan for Nature Protection of the Republic of Croatia for 2017-2025 outlines a comprehensive approach to nature conservation with five main objectives. These objectives include enhancing the efficiency of nature protection mechanisms, reducing pressures on nature while promoting its sustainable use, strengthening the capacities of the nature protection system, improving data availability and knowledge about nature, and raising public support and understanding for nature protection. To achieve these objectives, specific policy targets were established, they include setting up a functional network of areas important for nature conservation, standardising management in nature protection, and establishing measures to protect genetic diversity and manage alien species. The strategy is particularly strong in detailing activities for the sustainable use of natural resources, which include sectoral planning documents and an acceptance assessment for the ecological network. While not specifically forestry-focused, the targets 'to preserve unfragmented intact natural areas and restore the most endangered degraded habitats' explicitly protect and prevent the harvesting of a large portion of Croatian forests. The targets strengthen institutional capacities and technical knowledge for effective implementation, which includes forest protection initiatives. Furthermore, the strategy explicitly links its special goals to the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, thereby aligning with international conservation benchmarks.

Climate change:

Croatia's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change aims to enhance resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate impacts across various sectors, with specific objectives and implementation targets. In the context of forestry, the strategy emphasises the need to adapt the sector to climate change by updating key forestry documents, understanding forest vulnerabilities, and enhancing monitoring and fire protection systems. Specific targets include revising legislation, conducting vulnerability analyses, and developing early warning systems for fires, among others. These activities



align with objectives like implementing green infrastructure and fostering afforestation, which have direct implications for forest management. The strategy also focuses on cross-sectoral adaptation measures, such as sustainable water management and agricultural practices that are closely related to forest ecosystems. For instance, the objectives related to water resources and agriculture highlight eco-friendly solutions and water-saving methods, which can indirectly benefit forest health and management. Within the broader EU context, Croatia's approach is in line with the EU's climate adaptation goals and can be seen as a localised implementation of the EU's overarching climate policy, specifically in aligning forestry practices and governance with climate adaptation needs.

The Low-Carbon Strategy of the Republic of Croatia aims to decouple economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions through transformative societal changes. Two scenarios, NU1 and NU2, outline specific targets for reducing emissions and increasing the share of renewable energy. The NU1 scenario targets a 33.5% reduction in emissions by 2030 and 56.8% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels, while also aiming for a 36.4% share of renewable energy by 2030 and 53.2% by 2050. The more ambitious NU2 scenario aims for an 80% emissions reduction by 2050 and a 65.6% renewable energy share by the same year. Although not explicitly stated, as forests act as carbon sinks and can contribute to renewable energy through biomass, the policy has implications for forest management. Both scenarios align with Croatia's policy objectives to reduce emissions and increase energy efficiency, and they offer concrete measures for implementation from 2021 to 2030, with flexibility built in for the period from 2031–2050. In the context of EU policy, Croatia's Low-Carbon Strategy is closely aligned with the EU's commitments under the Paris Agreement and contributes to the broader objectives of the European Green Deal, specifically in potentially aligning forestry practices to meet these ambitious climate targets.

Finally, the Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer focuses on both adaptation and mitigation strategies for climate change, with policy objectives ranging from alignment with the Paris Agreement to bolstering climate resilience in natural ecosystems and human society. Specific policy targets include a 10% reduction in GHG emissions per unit of fuel or energy by December 2020, with interim targets of a 6% reduction and an additional indicative 2% reduction. The law also establishes emissions trading systems and adheres to EU regulations to limit emissions from specific sectors. Importantly, it mandates that emissions should not exceed removals in land accounting categories, which has a direct bearing on forest management as forests act as carbon sinks. The law further stipulates that from 2021 onward, emission units will decrease by a linear factor of 2.2%, aligning Croatia's goals with those of the EU. This alignment is crucial not only for Croatia's international obligations but also contributes to the broader EU objectives related to climate change, renewable energy, and LULUCF. In this context, the Croatian law complements the EU's efforts in forest management as part of its larger climate strategy.

(Bio-)Energy:

The Energy Development Strategy of the Republic of Croatia until 2030-2050 main goal is to transition the country's energy supply towards one that is low-carbon, affordable and secure. Four main policy objectives have been established: Growing, flexible and sustainable energy production through reducing dependence on energy imports by stopping the decline of domestic production; optimal use of existing production capacities and investments in new production (ensuring an adequate energy mix with lower greenhouse gas emissions); the development of energy infrastructure and new energy supply routes; and achieve higher energy efficiency. sets various targets that hold significance for forest management. One explicit target is to determine the potential of forest biomass for energy use from 2019 to 2022, which involves integrating data from the forestry sector with LULUCF rules and



energy consumption statistics. This aims to position forests as renewable energy sources and aligns forest management with the country's energy objectives. Another related target is to stimulate scientific research projects between 2019 and 2030 that assess the environmental impact of bioeconomy and circular economy, likely implicating sustainable forest management as part of these economies.

Additional targets indirectly affecting forest management focus on reducing GHG emissions and enhancing the utilisation of renewable energy sources (RES). Specifically, achieving a 32% share of RES in gross direct energy consumption by 2030 may increase the demand for forest biomass, thereby affecting forest management practices. Other objectives, like energy-efficient building renovations and a greater share of electric vehicles, may also impact the demand for wood and forest products. These targets align well with EU directives such as the Renewable Energy Directive II (RED II), indicating Croatia's policy moves in tandem with broader EU goals that likewise influence forest management. Lastly, the Croatian strategy outlines a target to establish a Landscape Basis from 2019 to 2025, setting standards for landscape character assessments that include forests. This could contribute to a more integrated and holistic approach to forest management, in line with the strategy's energy, environmental, and societal objectives. This reflects a similar trend in the EU to integrate various policy sectors, aiming for a more coherent and sustainable approach to managing resources, including forests.

Water and soil:

The Croatian Water Law aims to comprehensively manage water resources and quality, and it outlines multiple objectives such as ensuring water safety and availability for human consumption, mitigating flood risks, and preserving aquatic ecosystems. A set of targets focuses on the protection and sustainable use of water resources. These include the prevention of further degradation of aquatic ecosystems, sustainable water conservation measures, and the gradual reduction of hazardous substances and groundwater pollution. These targets could have implications for forest degrading activities like harvesting, as the health of forest ecosystems correlates with the ability to conserve and protect water quality. For instance, maintaining and enhancing the state of aquatic ecosystems will likely require integrated land and water management strategies that consider the role of forests in watershed protection. Targets aim at reducing or eliminating hazardous substances and groundwater pollution would also necessitate considerations about forestry practices, as these can impact water quality. In this context, forest management is implicitly tied to the law's targets for sustainable water use and ecological protection. It's worth noting that the Croatian Water Law's objectives and targets for sustainable water management and ecological protection are in line with the EU's Water Framework Directive, even going further to integrate forest management.

Croatia's Water Management Strategy aims to harmonise water regimes across the country with similar policy objectives to the Croatian Water law. However, the strategy sets ambitious targets to increase the supply of drinking water from public systems to 85-90% of the population and to achieve 87% functionality in flood protection systems by the end of 2023, reaching 100% by 2038. Another target is to protect both surface and underground waters as drinking water reserves and to preserve aquatic ecosystems. These targets again intersect forest management strategies, improving quality and acting as buffer zones in cases of flood. Given the strategy's targets for the conservation of aquatic and water-dependent ecosystems, the current Croatian Forest Strategy is well aligned to meet these water-related objectives.



Table 13. Croatian policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (translation and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Forestry | | |
| National Accounting Plan for the Republic of Croatia | Non-legally binding | 2019 |
| National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | 2003 |
| Timber trade (industry) | | |
| National Plan Development of Wood Processing and Furniture Production (Nacionalni Plan Razvoja Prerade Drva i Proizvodnje Namjestaja Republike Hrvatske za razdoblje od 2022. do 2030) | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| Proposal of the Law on Wood Processing and Use and Wood Products (Prijedlog Zakona o Preradi i Uporabi Drva i Proizvoda od Drava) | Legally binding | 2008 |
| Agriculture & rural development | | |
| Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Law on Agriculture (Zakon o poljoprivredi) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Nature conservation / environment | | |
| Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 (Strategija i akcijski plan zaštite prirode Republike Hrvatske za razdoblje od 2017. do 2025) | Non-legally binding | 2017 |
| Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | 2020 |
| Climate change | | |
| Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 (Zakon o klimatskim promjenama i zaštiti ozonskog sloja NN 127/19) | Legally binding | 2020 |
| Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 (Strategija prilagodbe klimatskim promjenama u Republici Hrvatskoj za razdoblje do 2040. godine s pogledom na 2070) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | 2021 |
| (Bio-) Energy | | |
| Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 (Strategija energetske razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. s pogledom na 2050) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Law on renewable energy sources and high-efficiency cogeneration (Zakon o obnovljivim izvorima energije i visokoučinkovitoj kogeneraciji NN 138/21, 83/23) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Water and soil | | |
| Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | 2023 |
| Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravljanja Vodom Uvod) | Non-legally binding | 2008 |



5.6 Spain

As the EU strides towards carbon neutrality by 2050, Spain's extensive policy landscape underscores the commitment to align its national forest and forestry-related sectors with broader European objectives. Spain, as one of Europe's largest countries, has mandated the largest ambition of forest carbon removals after Sweden. Such ambitions are matched with well-integrated forest management targets across all sectors analysed. This section provides an extensive overview of Spain's current policy directions, highlighting key policy goals, objectives, and targets.

Forest-focused:

The amended (2022) Spanish Forestry Law No.43/2003 aims to adapt forest management to contemporary social and economic conditions while enhancing sustainability and biodiversity. Among its key targets, the Spanish Forestry Strategy (EFE) and the Spanish Forestry Plan (PFE) serve as long-term planning instruments, with the EFE providing diagnostic data on forest conditions and projections for future management. The law specifically tasks the state government with various responsibilities, including fire prevention and the management of forestry databases. It introduces a new category of 'Protective Forests' and mandates the use of Forest Resource Management Plans for more holistic land-use planning. These targets aim to balance forestry production with conservation efforts, including fire risk mitigation and promoting the stability of forest ecosystems. Within the EU context, Spain's new forestry law aligns with broader European objectives on sustainable forest management, climate change adaptation, and biodiversity conservation. The focus on sustainable management, collaboration between different levels of governance, and the integration of international environmental protection objectives reflects the EU's approach to integrated, multi-sectoral policy-making.

The EFE 2022 is focused on enhancing forest management set targets of increasing Spain's forested area by at least 0.6 million hectares by 2030 and ensuring that at least 50% of private forests have an approved forest management plan. Targets leverage forests as carbon sinks, aspiring to increase net removals of CO₂ equivalent by 7.04 Mt through wooded forest areas and 4.34 Mt through proactive forest management. Other specific targets are aligned with broader ecological goals, such as limiting annual forest area affected by fires to 0.2% of the total forested area and raising the percentage of forest habitats in good conservation status to at least 35%. Economic dimensions are also targeted, with the aim to grow the forest sector's contribution to at least 1% of Spain's GDP by 2050 and increase forestry investment to over €100 per hectare of forest per year. The strategy aims to contribute Spain's extensive forestry experience to European and international forums, coordinating closely with EU policies and other member states for improved forest governance. This reflects a concerted effort to harmonise national targets and objectives with the broader policy landscape influenced by the EU's Green Deal initiatives.

Lastly, the PFE serves as the actionable roadmap for implementing the targets set by the EFE, with a planning horizon extending to 2050. It outlines specific, time-measurable targets for various lines of action including wildfire prevention, phytosanitary measures, sustainable forest management, and conservation. Each action item comes with defined programming, responsible agents, budgetary commitments, and evaluation criteria. Objectives encompass a range of focuses, from combating desertification and ensuring legal wood trade to fostering employment in the forestry sector and promoting scientific research. The plan aims for better coordination among various stakeholders, including state and autonomous community governments.

Timber trade (industry):



The National Plan for the Control of Legally Traded Timber 2022 aims to ensure the sustainable production and trade of timber is in line with EU former Regulation EU/995/2010 (EUTR), now succeeded by Regulation EU/115/2023. Specific targets include conducting a total of 324 annual inspections for merchants operating within the national territory. The inspections are to be distributed based on the characteristics and relative importance of various types of merchants, with approximately 10% of controls on all identified types. Further, each autonomous community and city is mandated to develop a Regional Control Program to organise and plan annual controls. A minimum of one inspection per type of merchant, both domestic and imported, is also specified per autonomous community. In the context of the EU, the plan aligns closely with the EUTR, emphasising the need for effective, proportionate, and deterrent controls on timber trading. It aims to ensure that forest management and timber trade are compliant with EU-wide standards and regulations, thereby contributing to the larger EU goals of promoting sustainable forest management and legal timber trade. This policy also supports Spain's forestry sector by aiming to avoid negatively affecting its competitiveness, particularly among forestry SMEs. However, it is not known if Spain's policy is in line with the EU's current EUTR - Regulation No. 115/2023 that expands controls to other vulnerable forest supply commodities.

The Law to Ensure the Legality of the Marketing of Timber and Timber Products No. 1088/2015 aims to regulate the legality of the marketing of timber and timber products in Spain. Its specific targets focus on requiring all agents involved in timber or timber product trading to implement a due diligence system, which they or a supervisory entity recognised by the European Commission must maintain and periodically evaluate. Timber and products with a valid FLEGT license are exempt from this obligation. Additionally, a National Plan for controlling the legality of marketed timber is to be established. It seeks to create a transparent and accountable timber trade system in Spain, which aligns with EU guidelines and regulations.

Agriculture & rural development:

The Spanish Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 aims to enhance the sustainability of the EU's agri-food system while addressing a range of economic, social, and environmental objectives. Several of these objectives and associated targets directly or indirectly affect Spanish forest management. For example, Targets set a quantifiable goal for subsidised area for afforestation and agroforestry restoration at 34,812 hectares, while another target commits to an investment total of approximately 1.14 billion EUR to improve forestry sector performance. Furthermore, a target of 1.84% of forest land is to be under commitments that support forest protection and ecosystem service management. In terms of climate and environmental sustainability, multiple targets are designed to intersect with forest management strategies. There is a targeted 32.11% of utilised agricultural area (UAA) in carbon storage initiatives, including on agricultural lands that are also forests, wetlands, or peatlands. Similarly, there is a planned 43.23% of UAA to be engaged in soil management beneficial for improving soil quality, an element critical for both agriculture and forestry. Lastly, 16% of UAA is to be set aside for the promotion of biodiversity conservation, which aligns with broader forestry goals of preserving habitats and species. The plan's targets are specific, measurable, and time-bound, making them valuable for monitoring progress toward these broader EU initiatives. The policy thus serves as a crucial instrument for aligning agriculture and forestry practices with EU-level objectives.

The Law on the Sustainable Development of the Rural Environment No.45/2007 aims to foster sustainable development in rural environments, touching upon various sectors from public infrastructure to social welfare. Pertinent to forest management, the law sets forth numerous key



targets. These include action plans for soil and aquifer protection, combating desertification, as well as reforestation, hydrological-forest restoration, fire prevention, and vegetation cover recovery. Moreover, the law encourages sustainable energy production, specifically highlighting the use of biomass and biofuels generated from forestry waste and sustainably managed forests. This not only supports forest regeneration but also aids in mitigating fire risks. The law also focuses on promoting agricultural, livestock, and forestry activities that are compatible with sustainable development goals. Targeted attention is provided to agricultural professionals, especially those owning territorial farms, advocating for economic diversity in rural development, including forestry. High-value-added activities and vertical integration processes are encouraged, aligning with broader policy objectives such as food safety, rural employment, and renewable energy goals. This highlights a cross-sectoral approach to rural and forest management, emphasising the importance of conserving and restoring natural habitats and species and the sustainable management of resources like water, soil, and forests.

Nature conservation / environment:

The State Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 aims to establish a comprehensive framework for the conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural heritage and biodiversity. In terms of forest management, key targets include the creation of 200,000 hectares of new forests by 2030, which involves planting at least 120 million trees, and the restoration of 100,000 hectares of existing forests by 2025, expanding to 200,000 hectares by 2030. These targets aim to enhance the conservation status and resilience of Spanish forests, aligning with the broader EU objectives of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land use.

In addition to forests, the plan sets ambitious targets for the preservation and restoration of other ecosystems. For instance, it aims for no deterioration in the trends and conservation status of any of the protected species and habitats, with at least 30% achieving favourable status or showing a strong positive trend by 2030. Targets also extend to marine and aquatic environments, such as the designation of new marine protected areas to reach 30% protection by 2030 and the restoration of 3,000 km of river corridors by the same year. These objectives contribute to EU goals of strict protection of 10% of land and marine areas and are designed to be harmonised with Red Natura 2000 and the EU's Biodiversity Strategy. The policy also addresses sustainable farming practices, pollution minimisation, and the mitigation of climate change impacts. For instance, it targets a 50% reduction in the risk and use of chemical pesticides and a 20% reduction in fertiliser use by 2030. Also, the strategy aims for a measurable and quantifiable improvement in the conservation status of native species threatened by invasive alien species, with a goal of a 50% reduction of such species on the IUCN Red List by 2030.

The Law on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity No. 33/2015 aims to amend the previous legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of Spain's natural sites. One of its notable targets is the elaboration and approval of the above-mentioned report. The law also mandates the creation of the Natural Heritage and Biodiversity Fund intended to support sustainable forest management, strategic forest fire prevention, and protection of forest areas. The law also emphasises the importance of eliminating or reducing disturbance factors in natural areas and improving conservation and restoration plans, including strategies to combat the threats to biodiversity from climate change. Additional targets focus on improving the Spanish Inventory of Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, which will contribute to better forest management by documenting the distribution, abundance, and state of conservation of various elements, including forests. The law also seeks to develop the Spanish Catalogue of Habitats in Danger of Disappearing, mandating protection and risk-elimination measures for endangered habitats. Both of these align well with forest management goals as they contribute to



data collection and strategic planning that directly affects how forests are managed for conservation and restoration purposes. In the context of EU policy, this law contributes again to the broader objectives of the EU's biodiversity strategy and Natura 2000 Network, emphasising the integration of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources into sectoral policies. For instance, the law mandates the designation of Sites of Community Importance and Special Areas to align with the conservation status of natural habitat types and habitats of species of Community interest.

Climate change:

The National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC) of Spain sets multiple targets relating to forest management. Key among these is deepening the understanding of how climate change affects forest resources, including both timber and non-timber products, and integrating these insights into forest planning and management. The plan also aims to prevent desertification and land degradation while actively promoting adaptive restoration of already degraded lands. Another forest-related target is the focus on actions against forest wildfires through integrated wildfire prevention and fighting plans. Beyond forest management, the plan aims to incorporate climate change considerations across multiple sectors, such as water resources, natural heritage, and agriculture. Targets here include the promotion of sustainable adaptation practices, the introduction of climate change adaptation criteria in the management of protected areas, and the strengthening of green infrastructure. Additionally, the plan seeks to reduce climate-induced risks to food security, which is indirectly related to forestry through impacts on land use and habitat stability. The PNACC aligns well with the overarching goals of the EU, by striving for coordinated action across multiple sectors, including forestry, Spain's plan contributes to the EU's ambitions for a more sustainable and resilient economy.

The law on GHG Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) Law no. 1/2005 outlines rules and regulations for the application of the EU ETS for the Spanish government and industry. While it does not explicitly state targets related to forest management, it does have implications for sectors like wood pulp and paper industries, as well as forest biomass as biofuels. The law mandates that facilities engaging in activities like electricity and heat generation, metal and chemical production, and commercial aviation obtain a greenhouse gas emissions permit. These facilities also have reporting obligations and must submit emission allowances for the preceding year. Additionally, facilities in sectors exposed to carbon leakage can receive allowances free of charge, as determined by the EU. The law emphasises that auctioning is the primary method for allocating emission allowances, adhering to principles such as free competition and transparency. This approach could have indirect effects on forest management. For instance, the cost of emission allowances could influence industries like pulp and paper to adopt more sustainable practices, potentially impacting forest resources.

(Bio-)Energy:

Spain's National Integrated Energy and Climate Change Plan outlines an ambitious strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and a medium-term reduction in emissions by at least 20% compared to 1990 levels by 2030. According to the Plan's forecast, the measures envisaged in the Plan will make it possible to achieve an emissions reduction level of 23%. The diffuse sectors (residential, transport, agriculture, waste, fluorinated gases and industry not subject to emissions trading) contribute to this objective with mitigation in 2030 of 39% compared to 2005 levels, while the sectors subject to emissions trading contribute with a reduction of 61% compared to 2005. Targets directly relevant to forest management include the promotion of sustainable biomass utilisation, with regulations developed across the biomass value chain. The plan also highlights sustainable forest management practices such as thinning regimes to boost carbon sequestration, as well as hydrological-forestry restoration in erosion-prone regions and silvicultural measures to mitigate forest fires. These forestry-



related targets provide a comprehensive approach to leveraging forest resources for climate mitigation and adaptation. Apart from forest-specific objectives, the plan incorporates broader targets like the creation of new power generation facilities with a capacity of 59GW from renewables, and adaptation of the power grid to accommodate these renewables. These broader energy targets have implications for forest-related industries, especially when incorporating renewables into the industrial sector. Additionally, the plan's focus on agriculture and livestock aims to reduce GHG emissions through methods like frequent slurry disposal and adjusting nitrogen supply to crops, which can indirectly affect land use and forest management. In the context of EU policies, Spain's plan closely aligns with the objectives of the EU Green Deal and LULUCF regulations. The plan serves as an example of how a MS can develop a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to meet both national and EU-level climate goals.

Spain's Law on Climate Change and Energy Transition No. 7/2021 sets mandates ambitious targets that span multiple sectors, with a particular focus on reducing GHG emissions by 23% by 2030 compared to 1990, and achieving a 100% renewable electricity system by 2050 (including carbon neutrality), while improving energy efficiency by decreasing at least 39.5% of primary energy. These targets have a variety of effects on forest management. For example, the law promotes the enhancement and improvement of carbon sinks, likely leading to more sustainable forestry practices. Principles of bioeconomy are mandated into law with specifications for building materials, requiring a low carbon footprint through the increased use of wood from sustainably managed forests. Another salient point is the integration of technology into the energy sector, including the use of digital technology and artificial intelligence needed to transition to a low-carbon economy. In the context of the EU, this law aligns well with the European Union's Green New Deal crosscutting policy and biodiversity strategy. It not only contributes to meeting Spain's domestic targets but also aids in fulfilling the EU-wide objectives aimed at sustainability, climate adaptation, and biodiversity conservation.

Water and soil:

The Strategic Orientations on Water and Climate Change offer a legally non-binding approach to achieving environmental sustainability for water bodies and their associated ecosystems, all set within the scope of climate change adaptation. Key targets of this strategy highlight the restoration of 20,000 hectares of wetlands by 2030, the reordering of flood-prone zones, the implementation of nature-based solutions, and the initiation of practices aimed at groundwater conservation and sustainable land use. Notably, adaptation measures in watersheds, like green infrastructures and natural retention, are closely linked with forest management strategies, emphasising practices such as reforestation or controlled forestry. The strategy also integrates innovative solutions like the integration of renewable energies for water management, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, and the development of an integrated water system. This involves balancing both conventional (surface and groundwater) and unconventional resources (reuse and desalination) to ensure water security. Furthermore, an emphasis is placed on the protection against diffuse pollution, which has implications for forest ecosystems, given their role in filtering and regulating water flow. The strategy goes beyond the current EU water policy and its relatively low cross-sectoral policy integration, focusing on the restoration and protection of aquatic ecosystems, the mitigation of pollution, and the enhancement of water security in light of climatic challenges.

The Green Book on Water Governance is again another non-binding strategy that represents a concerted effort by Spanish administrative and stakeholder bodies to formulate a more collaborative water governance model, addressing both current and anticipated challenges. The book underscores the necessity of integrating climate change adaptation into the normative framework, fortifying



organisational and financial structures, and enhancing cooperation and coherence among administrative bodies. It emphasises the need to integrate knowledge systems, adopt digitalisation, and ensure consistent quality across urban water services. Furthermore, it presents a series of targets, which include refining the Water Law to clarify ecological flow definitions, bolstering hydrological planning concerning climate change, widening stakeholder participation in water management, and restructuring the financial framework for water policies. Other targets involve legal enhancements to ecological flows, fostering community roles in water domain management, and advocating for public and business co-responsibility in water management. The book also proposes the creation of a public groundwater information system and emphasises the use of modern technology to improve water use data management and modelling. Although the Green Book provides extensive insight into water governance, it doesn't delve deeply into the specific interplay between forests and agriculture. Nevertheless, the broader context of water governance, including aspects such as ecological flows and hydrological planning, can have indirect implications for forest management, especially in regions susceptible to droughts or floods. The emphasis on public participation, inter-administrative coordination, and the integration of modern technologies resonates with the EU's directives on water management and its commitment to fostering sustainable and resilient ecosystems.

Table 14. Spanish policies identified for analysis

| Policy name (translation and abbreviation) | Degree of compulsion | Date of Document |
|---|----------------------|------------------|
| Forestry | | |
| Forest Law No.43/2003 | Legally binding | 2022 |
| Spanish Forestry Plan (Plan Forestal Español 2022-2032) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Timber trade (industry) | | |
| National Plan for the Control on Legally Traded Timber (Plan Nacional de Control de la Legalidad de la Madera Comercializada) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Law to ensure the legality of the marketing of timber and timber products No. 1088/2015 (Real Decreto 1088/2015 para asegurar la legalidad de la comercialización de madera y productos de la madera) | Legally binding | 2015 |
| Agriculture & rural development | | |
| CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | 2009 |
| Nature conservation / environment | | |
| Law 33/2015 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity (Ley 33/2015 del Patrimonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad) | Legally binding | 2015 |
| Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 (Real Decreto 1057/2022 Plan estratégico estatal del patrimonio natural y de la biodiversidad a 2030) | Legally binding | 2022 |
| Climate change | | |



| | | |
|---|---------------------|------|
| Law 1/2005 Green House Gases Emissions Allowance Trading Scheme | Legally binding | 2005 |
| National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| (Bio-) Energy | | |
| National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (Plan Nacional Integrado de Energía y Clima 2021-2030) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |
| Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | 2021 |
| Water and soil | | |
| Strategic orientations on water and climate change (Orientaciones Estratégicas sobre Agua y Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | 2022 |
| Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | 2020 |

6. Conclusion

The path toward a carbon-neutral Europe by 2050, as underlined by the European Green Deal, mandates a concerted effort from politicians, policymakers, industry actors and civil society from across all sectors. European forests, with their intricate blend of ecological, economic, and social dynamics, sit at the confluence of the major sectors of the EU. It is clear that Europe's forests, their management, health and growth are essential to achieve carbon neutrality. Thus, it is paramount to comprehend, navigate, and leverage the intricate web of policies and regulations governing these forests at both the EU and national levels. This understanding ensures that Europe progresses cohesively towards its ambitious climate goals, while also ensuring the holistic well-being of its forests and associated sectors.

Through the lens of the PathFinder project, particularly Task 4.1, this paper articulates the current policy landscape across the EU and selected Member States. The findings indicate a rising recognition of the forests' multi-dimensional role, transcending their traditional purview to encompass broader contemporary challenges like climate change, biodiversity conservation, and bioeconomy. The intertwined nature of these policies underscores the criticality of an integrated policy approach, allowing for harmonious interactions and minimised trade-offs.

Nonetheless, unresolved trade-offs persist at the EU and MS levels. Predominantly, these trade-offs exist between forest harvest intensification and utilisation, carbon sequestration and nature conservation. They underline the inherent conflicting policy goals categorised within the Nature's Future Framework, primarily between 'Nature for Nature' and 'Nature for Society' (Berghöfer et al 2022). Furthermore, bioeconomy policy at the EU level and among MS analysed demonstrate unresolved ambitions to both increase forest biomass utilisation, while simultaneously curbing forest biofuels and promoting biodiversity conservation through expansion of protected areas. It should be highlighted that the issue of unresolved trade-offs is only intensified when paired with unmeasurable targets that provide little guidance to policymakers and implementers at the national and sub-national levels. Nevertheless, guideline policy documents such as those providing clear guidance on sustainable forest management provide a strong starting point for policymakers to begin setting hard targets to resolve potential trade-offs within and between policy sectors.



The EU's overarching and cross-cutting policies highlight a clear intent towards leveraging forests as pivotal elements in climate action and sustainable development. This intent is further underpinned by policies centred on timber trade, agriculture, conservation, climate, energy, and water and soil management. At the national level, there was an examination of a regional fiver collection of Member States, offering a coherent and unidirectional strategy and ambitions. While each nation carries unique challenges and priorities, there's a shared undertone of aligning national forest policies with broader EU objectives. The ultimate goal of Task 4.1 is the development of a target policy map. Having identified and mapped out key EU and selective MS targets it will now be possible to model future forest scenarios. Through the data collected, the PathFinders project can deliver on enhancing stakeholder engagement in the co-designing of forest management pathways.



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**APPENDIX I List of identified EU policy targets by sector**

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Overarching / cross-cutting | | | |
| Implement a new Eco design and Energy Labelling Working Plan 2020-2024 | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create a European Dataspace for Smart Circular Applications containing value chains and product data | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Review the Industrial Emissions Directive | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement the Bioeconomy Action Plan | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Register the EU Environmental Technology Verification scheme as an EU certification mark | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen circular collaboration among SMEs | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Make all EU packaging reusable or recyclable by 2030 | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce over-packaging and associated waste | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Design for reuse and recyclability | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement EU-wide labelling to correctly separate packaging waste | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adopt circularity principles throughout building life cycles | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Address the sustainability of construction products | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve lifecycle performance and durability of assets | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Modernising EU waste laws and rolling out the sustainable product policy | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Significant reduction in total waste generation and halving the amount of residual (non-recycled) municipal waste by 2030 | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase in recycled content | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring high-quality recycling | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Make "recycled in the EU" a benchmark | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Regulatory Framework for Carbon Removals | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a system for the certification of carbon removals to ensure transparency and robust carbon accounting | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



| | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Carbon removal (Restoration of ecosystems, Forest protection, Afforestation, Sustainable Forest Management, Carbon farming sequestration) | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Emphasis on long-term storage in wood construction as a method of carbon storage | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Emphasis on sustainable materials | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Potential use of digital technologies, like product passports, to track and ensure sustainably | New Circular Economy Action Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mobilise at least €1 trillion of sustainable investment by increasing resources devoted to climate action under the EU budget and leveraging additional public and private financing | European Green Deal Investment Plan | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve a climate target of 30% for InvestEU operations, streamlining a single investment scheme to exploit the EU budget's ability to leverage additional funding for investment in internal Union policies | European Green Deal Investment Plan | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Establish a Just Transition Fund with €7.5 billion in fresh money up to 2027, a specialised just transition scheme under InvestEU, and a new public-sector loan facility with the EIB to leverage additional public funding for regions and communities most exposed to transition challenges | European Green Deal Investment Plan | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Allocate at least 25% of the post-2020 MFF resources to climate-related expenditure, incorporating climate considerations across various funds and programs of the EU budget | European Green Deal Investment Plan | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implement an EU Green Bond Standard as a tool to increase public and private finance for sustainable investments | European Green Deal Investment Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the tracking methodology and performance framework for climate mainstreaming in the EU budget | European Green Deal Investment Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the EU's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2030 to at least 50% and towards 55% compared to 1990 levels | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Enshrine the 2050 climate neutrality objective in legislation by implementing a European 'Climate Law' by March 2020 | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| All packaging in the EU market be reusable or recyclable in an economically viable manner by 2030 | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| A regulatory framework for biodegradable and bio-based plastics | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| At least 40% of the common agricultural policy's overall budget should contribute to climate action | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | |
| Increase the use of sustainable practices such as precision agriculture, organic farming, agro-ecology, agro-forestry, and stricter animal welfare standards | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Shift the focus from compliance to performance in farming, rewarding farmers for improved environmental and climate performance, including managing and storing carbon in the soil. | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the area under organic farming in Europe | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the coverage of protected biodiversity-rich land, including forests, building on the Natura 2000 network | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve and restore damaged ecosystems to good ecological status, including carbon-rich ecosystems such as forests | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement effective afforestation, and forest preservation and restoration in Europe to increase the absorption of CO2 | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce the incidence and extent of forest fires and promote the bio-economy | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The national strategic plans under the common agricultural policy should incentivise forest managers to preserve, grow, and manage forests sustainably | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote imported products and value chains that do not involve deforestation and forest degradation | European Green Deal | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance ecosystems and biodiversity on land | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|-------------|
| Ensure clean and healthy air, water, and soil | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sustainable food systems from farm to fork on land and sea | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restore damaged ecosystems | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce greenhouse gas emissions | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance sequestration and storage of carbon in ecosystems | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop new technologies for advanced applications in forestry | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Deep reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in EU systems | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Understand and utilise the climate mitigation and adaptation potential of ecosystems and primary production systems | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintain and increase natural carbon sinks | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide sustainable and climate-smart forestry | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support a circular climate-neutral, sustainable bio-based industry that offers bio-based materials and products with a low ecological footprint | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prevent and mitigate pollution, including plastic pollution | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement innovative nature-based solutions to replace fossil-based, carbon-intensive, and harmful materials with climate-neutral, bio-based, non-toxic materials and chemicals | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance societal risk awareness, prevention, and preparedness, including early warning and alert systems specifically for forest fires | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|--|---|---------------------|--------------|
| Improve cross-border management of climate-related risks and extreme events, specifically forest fires | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster understanding of climate change-related risks and vulnerabilities, including forest fires | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adapt more flexibly to climate change impacts in forested areas | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biodiversity Restoration in Forests: Prevent Forest ecosystem degradation, restore degraded forest ecosystems, and enhance biodiversity within forest systems | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Conservation & Management: Improve the conservation, management, and use of plant genetic resources in forests to enhance biodiversity | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Carbon Sequestration in Forests: Implement innovative approaches that maintain natural carbon sinks in forests and boost their carbon capture and storage functions | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Benefit sustainable forest management through R&I | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Unlock the potential of sustainable bioeconomy to replace fossil-based materials with innovative, climate-neutral, bio-based, circular materials and chemicals | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Engage in strategic alliances that explicitly deal with forest management, both on bilateral and multilateral levels and through forums such as the International Bioeconomy Forum | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish and enhance research and innovation partnerships, particularly with regions like the African Union, that touch upon sustainable agriculture, climate | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Collaboration in Bioeconomy Solutions and sustainability assessment methodologies of bio-based systems | Horizon Europe Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of at least 40% in economy-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 compared to 1990 | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Quantitative |



| | | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Aim to achieve a balance between anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals by sinks as early as possible and, if appropriate, achieve negative emissions | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Net zero GHG emissions in the Union by 2050 and negative emissions thereafter | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Land use, land use change, and forestry (LULUCF) to contribute significantly to the achievement of Union and international long-term climate goals, considers the impacts of land use, including forestry, on carbon emissions and sequestration | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| GHG Emission and Sink Reporting: Under the UNFCCC, the Union and its Member States should develop, update, and report national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transparent Reporting and Improved Systems for Sinks: Ensure that Member States use robust and consistent data for scenarios and projections related to the LULUCF sector, including the role of sinks | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States should submit their long-term strategies by 1 January 2020, 1 January 2029, and every 10 years thereafter | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strategies should cover emission reductions and enhancements of removals in the LULUCF sector, among others | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States and the Commission should inform and make available to the public their long-term strategies, including any updates | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strategies should address total greenhouse gas emission reductions and enhancements of removals by sinks | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The progress report should contain projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks (relevant to forest management) | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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|--|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Projections of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions by sources and removals by sinks (relevant to forest management) | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 15 March 2021, and every two years thereafter, Member States should report the required information to the Commission | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States should report on their national projections of GHG emissions by sources and removals by sinks, considering any policies and measures adopted at the Union level. | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| All reports and relevant assessments, including technical underpinnings and methodologies, should be made available to the public in electronic format | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Report on the trajectories of bioenergy demand, distinguishing between heat, electricity, and transport | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide details on biomass supply, specifically by feedstock and origin | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For forest biomass, assess its source and the impact on the LULUCF (Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry) sink | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Report on measures promoting the use of energy from biomass | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Account for new biomass mobilisation | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Highlight measures for the sustainability of biomass produced and used | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States are required to report to the Commission the preliminary and final national inventory data specifically for their LULUCF accounts by 15 January and 15 March respectively in the years 2027 and 2032 | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The Commission shall carry out a detailed review of the national inventory data in the years 2027 and 2032 | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Compliance check for e LULUCF accounting, considering the data changes | Effort Sharing Regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |



| | | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| To inform investors and economic actors on the environmental sustainability of an activity | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster transparency of environmentally sustainable investments in pre-contractual disclosures and in periodic reports | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use of the criteria in public measures, standards and labels | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Stabilising GHG concentration at the current moment | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening land carbon sinks, including through avoided deforestation and forest degradation, restoration of forests, sustainable management and restoration of croplands, grasslands and wetlands, afforestation, and regenerative agriculture | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reducing adverse impact of current and expected climate, provide adaptation solutions | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving water management | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reducing use of primary raw material | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase durability, reparability, upgradability, reusability of products | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase recyclability of products | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce content of hazardous substances | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prolong the use of products | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce or prevent waste generation | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preventing or reducing pollutant emissions into air, water or land | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving levels of air and soil quality | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster sustainable agricultural practices, and prevent soil and ecosystem degradation, deforestation and habitat loss | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sustainable forest management, including practices and uses of forests and forest land that contribute to enhancing biodiversity or To halting or preventing degradation of ecosystems, deforestation and habitat loss | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |



| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|-------------|
| Each Member State should designate authorities for monitoring the compliance of financial markets participants with the requirements of the regulation. Member States should also lay down penalties and measure applicable in case of infringement | Taxonomy regulation | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest-focused | | | |
| Create a roadmap to reduce carbon emissions in building construction by 2050 | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Scale up the production of long-lived wood products | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use carbon farming initiatives and certificates to promote wood products that are biodiversity-friendly | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must increase their renewable energy mix by 2030 | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Design biomass energy support schemes that are biodiversity-friendly and minimise market distortions | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Standardise methodology for calculating climate benefits of wood construction | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Share best practices on forest-relevant interventions through the Common Agricultural Policy | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strictly protect at least 30% of the EU's land area, including 10% under strict legal protection | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | |
| Develop guidelines for defining and mapping primary and old-growth forests | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Collaborate with stakeholders to identify new indicators for sustainable forest management | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a definition and guidelines for closer-to-nature-forestry practices | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote climate adaptation and resilience through the Climate-ADAPT platform | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|--|--|---------------------|-------------|
| Revise legislation to promote forest reproductive material suitable for future climatic conditions | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Propose a legally binding instrument for ecosystem restoration | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop guidelines for biodiversity-friendly afforestation and reforestation. | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote ecosystem service payment schemes and carbon farming through the CAP | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide technical guidance for such schemes | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Conduct a study on public fund uptake behaviour among foresters | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Propose legislation for coordinated EU forest monitoring, data collection, and reporting | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen climate effects monitoring through the Forest Information System for Europe | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Publish regular reports on EU forests with the help of a European forest science partnership | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a research and innovation agenda identifying gaps and future priorities | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support evidence-based design of forest restoration strategies | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Propose a research partnership focusing on forestry | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement complementary actions for Disaster Risk Reduction policies | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance compliance assurance at the national level | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop geospatial intelligence capabilities | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide updated guidance on relevant forest legislation | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|---|--|---------------------|-------------|
| Increase Citizen & Stakeholder Engagement | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create an alliance between tourism professionals and foresters | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a toolkit for lifelong learning in forestry | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Launch a Citizen’s Science Program for forest biodiversity | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage the role of civil society as compliance watchdogs | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The document focuses on forest management, setting various goals, objectives, and targets | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introducing new policies, strengthen forest institutions, and improve monitoring systems | New EU Forest Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/572) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| development of a valuation method that merges ecological and economic aspects to ensure a holistic understanding of ecosystem services. Public-private financing and CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) are seen as ways to fund and support this. MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification) is emphasised as crucial | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introducing a robust certification for scaling payment schemes for forest ecosystem services. Outlines the quality criteria for carbon removals, aiming to establish reliable markets and spur the development of private certification schemes | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Calls for identifying and assessing various ecosystem services | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Stresses the need for clear goals and objectives for payment schemes, enhancing transparency | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Suggests aligning the schemes with priority EU policies | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Bundling multiple ecosystem services to increase benefits | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Addresses the need to manage potential trade-offs in ecosystem services, aiming to avoid 'leakage' | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Advises on setting both short and long-term timeframes for the schemes to ensure continuous service provision | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prioritises forests for payment schemes based on type, condition, and location, among other factors. Establishes baselines and targets for at-risk or improvable services | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a robust MRV framework | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Advocates for stakeholder involvement at all stages to ensure transparency | Guidelines on the Development of Public and Private Payment Schemes for Forest Ecosystem Services (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Close-to-Nature Silviculture: Emphasise single-tree selection harvesting based on principles that are adaptable to local conditions | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Integrate Network: Align biodiversity conservation with sustainable wood production | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| CCF or Uneven-Aged Management: Maintain heterogeneity by selectively harvesting individual or groups of trees. Limit clear-felling to small areas | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Triad Management: Organise forests into sectors with varying levels of management intensity, ranging from protected to intensive use areas | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agroforestry and Agro-Silvo-Pastoral Systems: Combine agriculture and forestry, focusing on biodiversity and multiple ecosystem services, despite having lower timber quality | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Retention Forestry: Apply in even-aged management to enhance biodiversity and ecological function by preserving structural diversity in forest compositions | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promoting natural tree regeneration | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring respectful harvest conditions: The technique proposed by multifunctional approaches to promote diverse stands is partial harvesting (i.e. single-tree selection, group selection, or gap cuts (max. 0.2-0.5 ha)) mimicking natural disturbance patterns, as opposed to 'clear-cutting' larger areas | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Minimising other management interventions: limit fertilisation as it effects pH, diversity of plants, abundance of mosses, loiches and beeles amphubians and ungulates and root development | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preserving and restoring forest soils and water ecosystems | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Optimising deadwood retention | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Setting areas aside | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protecting specific species on-site | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Managing ungulate species at natural carrying capacity | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Taking a scale-specific approach | Guidelines on Closer-to-Nature Forest Management (SWD/2023/284) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the structural complexity of vegetation | Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase habitat resources | Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The proposal for a Regulation on Nature Restoration sets restoration targets in urban ecosystems, including a minimum of 10% urban tree canopy cover in all cities, towns and suburbs by 2050 | Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in urban areas | Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Involvement of citizen to green spaces – parks, private residents, informal green spaces, streets | Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Create heterogeneous agricultural landscapes | Guidelines on Biodiversity-Friendly Afforestation, Reforestation and Tree Planting (SWD/2023/61) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve access to forest information to enable adaptive forest management and conservation | New EU Framework for Forest Monitoring and Strategic Plans (Ref. Ares/2022/2758583) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance carbon sinks and biodiversity through informed forest management | New EU Framework for Forest Monitoring and Strategic Plans (Ref. Ares/2022/2758583) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Counter illegal logging by providing better information | New EU Framework for Forest Monitoring and Strategic Plans (Ref. Ares/2022/2758583) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Basic material consisting of genetically modified organisms must be proven safe for human health and the environment, requiring a prior environmental risk assessment | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Compliance with plant health conditions as per Directive 77/93/EC is mandatory | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Allow marketing of forest reproductive material stocks accumulated before January 1, 2003, until exhausted | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must communicate to the Commission the domestic laws they adopt relating to this Directive | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Imported material must offer equivalent guarantees to EU-produced material and be accompanied by a master certificate or official certificate from the country of origin | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Facilitate administrative cooperation between Member States to obtain necessary information, especially when reproductive material moves between Member States | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement an official control system to ensure that reproductive material remains identifiable through the entire process from collection to delivery to the end user | The marketing of forest reproductive material (1999/105/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States should provide, on request, all relevant information on the region of provenance or the origin and | Forest reproductive material to the end-user (EC No 1602/2002) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| national lists of basic material for the production of forest reproductive material | | | |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| the quantities of timber products imported into MSs under the FLEGT licencing scheme | FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the EU (EC No 2173/2005) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| the number of FLEGT licences received | FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the EU (EC No 2173/2005) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase quantity of products involved | FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the EU (EC No 2173/2005) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Issue annual reports tracking progress | FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the EU (EC No 2173/2005) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prevent deforestation driven by EU consumption and production of the six commodities included in the scope, with projected benefits well above 71,920 hectares of forest less affected by EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation annually by 2030. Resulting in a reduction of 31.9 million metric tons of carbon emissions | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Creating a level playing field for companies operating in the EU market, as well as to achieving the specific objectives of the regulation: Minimising the consumption of products coming from supply chains associated with deforestation or forest degradation and increasing EU demand for and trade in legal and 'deforestation-free' commodities and products | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| At least 71,920 hectares of forest less per year will suffer deforestation or forest degradation due to EU consumption or production of the commodities in the scope | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| At least 31.9 million metric tons of carbon per year will not be emitted to the atmosphere due to EU consumption and production of the commodities in the scope | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Fewer animal and plant species will be threatened by extinction through EU-driven deforestation and forest degradation | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Operators and traders dealing with the relevant commodities in the EU will have a clear and predictable EU legal framework that levels the playing field as regards obligations to prevent deforestation and forest degradation | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The quantity of products sold in the EU coming from supply chains associated with deforestation or forest degradation will be reduced | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| EU consumption and production of 'deforestation-free' commodities and products will grow | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prohibit the placement of commodities associated with deforestation and forest degradation on the EU market | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Require operators to exercise due diligence in assessing and mitigating deforestation and degradation risks | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mandate that traders who are not SMEs (Small and Medium-sized Enterprises) also implement measures against deforestation and degradation | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement risk assessment, mitigation, and reporting measures concerning deforestation and degradation | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish competent authorities within each Member State for implementing the EU DR | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Each Member State must report to the EU Commission on their deforestation and degradation practices, including the number of checks performed. Cooperation and best-practice sharing among competent authorities is required | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assign risk levels to partner countries by June 29, 2023 | Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains (EU No 2023/1115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhanced law enforcement in timber producing countries | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Encourage transparency and the use of accurate information within the forest sector. This includes monitoring and auditing | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a verification system | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Capacity building by broad governance reforms. This includes judiciary, police, military and even policy reforms | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify EU wood import pattern and engage with major timber consumers to explore multilateral patterns for timber trade (for instance in the context of the UNFF, of the EFTA etc) | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Set up a voluntary licensing scheme for timber exports (VPA) | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve due diligence | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase public and private procurements | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| fight money laundering | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| support CITES | Forest, Law, Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan (COM/2003/0251) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |
| Reduce direct emissions through the use of mitigation technologies or appropriate farming practices (primarily reducing CH4 and N2O emissions from rice production, ruminants and nitrogen fertiliser application) | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Provide a carbon sink through soil organic carbon (SOC) accumulation using appropriate agricultural soil management | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sustainable production of biomass, including afforestation, for the bioeconomy, without hampering food security | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishing systems of agroforestry | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Variety in Agricultural Landscapes: There is a need to maintain and ideally improve the diversity within agricultural landscapes. The policy should address how to discourage monocultures and promote diverse cropping systems | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Landscape Feature Density: The policy should aim to maintain or increase the number of landscape features on farmland, which could include elements like hedges, ponds, and other natural or semi-natural formations | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Context-Specific agriculture: if farmland habitats and species are to thrive, agricultural activity must be of the right kind. Many of the threats to biodiversity listed in figure 4 relate to intensification in its various aspects – a fact which brings us close to the heart of a key debate about farming and the environment (and the climate) | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing technologies (such as precision and digital farming) and to improved agronomic practices (e.g. appropriate multi-cropping, natural pest control, soil conservation measures) | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| In some cases a move towards a substantially | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | | |
| Different system of production (such as organic farming or agro-ecology, both of which are based on reducing inputs and enhancing natural processes) is desirable and feasible | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Advancing research, knowledge-sharing, and innovation is essential for securing a smart and sustainable agricultural sector | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| As part of its commitment to support research and innovation in agriculture, the Commission has proposed to set aside €10 billion from the Horizon Europe programme for projects relating to food, farming, rural development and the bioeconomy | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The reformed CAP benefits from this increased investment, incorporating stronger agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS) to boost the development of innovation projects, disseminate their results, and encourage their use as widely as possible. Farm advisory services are a key tool in sharing new knowledge and ideas | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Higher green ambitions: CAP plans are in line with environmental and climate legislation. In its CAP strategic plan, each EU country is obliged to display a higher ambition on environment and climate action compared to the previous programming period (no “backsliding”) and is required to update the plan when climate and environmental legislation is modified | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Contribute to the Green Deal targets: the national CAP Strategic Plans contribute to the Green Deal targets (the CAP recommendations set out how this contribution is expected) | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Enhanced conditionality: beneficiaries of the CAP have their payments linked to a stronger set of mandatory requirements. For example, on every farm at least 3% of arable land is dedicated to biodiversity and non-productive elements, with a possibility to receive support via eco-schemes to achieve 7%. Wetlands and peatlands are also protected | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Eco-schemes: multi-annual environment payments for agro-environmental and forestry measures, allowing for flexible budget planning and allocating 25% of direct payments to eco-schemes aimed at promoting climate and environment-friendly farming. These eco-schemes will focus on action areas defined at the EU level and support various sustainable practices including organic farming, agro-ecological practices, and carbon farming, as well as improvements in animal welfare | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Rural development: at least 35% of funds are allocated to measures to support climate, biodiversity, environment and animal welfare | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Operational programmes: in the fruit and vegetables sector, operational programmes allocate at least 15% of their expenditure towards the environment; | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Climate and biodiversity: 40% of the CAP budget has to be climate-relevant and strongly support the general commitment to dedicate 10% of the EU budget to biodiversity objectives by the end of the EU's multiannual financial framework (MFF) period | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Forestry interventions should align with the 'New EU Forest Strategy for 2030' and national or subnational forest programs, focusing on sustainable management plans that consider carbon storage, sequestration, and biodiversity protection. These interventions may include a range of | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| measures from afforestation and fire prevention to investments in forest conservation, resilience, and the provision of ecosystem and climate services, as well as support for renewable energy and the bio-economy | | | |
| 100 % support rates for: afforestation, establishment and regeneration of agro-forestry systems, land consolidation in forestry and non- productive investments linked to one or more of the specific objectives set out in Article 6(1), points (d), (e) and (f), including non-productive investments aimed at protecting livestock and crops against damage caused by wild animals | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 100 % support rates for: investments in the restoration of agricultural or forestry potential following natural disasters, adverse climatic events or catastrophic events and investments in appropriate preventive actions, as well as investments in maintaining the health of forests | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 40% of the CAP budget must be climate-relevant and demonstrate support for the general commitment to dedicate | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 10% of the EU budget to biodiversity objectives by the end of the EU's 2021-2027 multiannual financial framework | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| As part of the CAP plan it introduces a system of conditionality under which farmers and beneficiaries receiving direct payments and benefitting from certain rural development measures are penalised if they do not comply with the statutory management requirements or with the standards for good agricultural and environmental condition of land (GAEC) set out in the strategic plans covering: climate and environment, including water, soil and ecosystem biodiversity; public and plant health; animal welfare | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Increasing sustainable energy in agriculture: Sustainable production of renewable energy from agriculture and forestry | The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2023-27 - Establishing Rules On Support for National CAP Strategic Plans (EU No 2021/2115) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The economic activities of farming and forestry are the most vulnerable to climate events such as storms, floods and droughts. There for there need to be a greater integration to strengthen and resilience to adapt to the changing climate | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest and agriculture sectors are the first to feel the consequence of biodiversity loss – threatening the long-term economic perspectives of the rural communities that depend on them | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Targeting expansion of well-managed forested land: rural landscapes covered by forests and natural areas help regulate water flows, capture carbon and air pollutants from the atmosphere, prevent soil erosion and provide ecosystem services | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Resilience through Sustainable farming and forestry management: will encompasses environmental, economic and social sustainability, helps safeguard decent work and livelihoods, ecological systems and biodiversity and also enhances climate and risk resilience | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the quality of produced output and supporting farmers, foresters and rural entrepreneurs who are the enablers of the transition towards a greener society and economy is essential | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increased focus on mitigating climate change, including through renewable energy production, as it is an opportunity for rural areas to combat energy poverty provided that | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| ecosystem services are appropriately valued and business models retain value within rural communities | rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | | |
| Bioeconomy: accelerate progress towards a circular and low-carbon economy and will contribute to the modernisation and strengthening of its food sector as well as the industrial base of rural areas | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Bioeconomy: Sustainable bio- and circular economy will create new, more diverse value chains and greener, more cost-effective processes, while protecting biodiversity and the environment | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restoring former mines and mineral extraction sites - economic opportunities, creating employment in the affected areas, restoring degraded ecosystems and the services they provide to local communities | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of Tourism and development of 'Bio-districts' benefit from a wider offer of quality touristic activities, including on-farm activities, Forest recreation, the production of local quality products, the adequate management of landscapes and sea-land interactions in coastal rural areas | A long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas - Towards stronger, connected, resilient and prosperous rural areas by 2040 (COM/2021/345 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| 50 % cut in pesticide use by 2030 which will impact soil and water helping to target main drivers of forest degradation | Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381 final) | Non-Legally binding | Quantitative |
| a new green business model is carbon sequestration by farmers and foresters. Farming practices that remove CO2 from the atmosphere contribute to the climate neutrality objective and should be rewarded, either via the common agricultural policy (CAP) or other public or private initiatives (carbon market ¹⁰) | Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A new EU carbon farming initiative under the Climate Pact will promote this new business model, which provides farmers | Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| with a new source of income and helps other sectors to decarbonise the food chain | | | |
| Circular Economy Action Plan (CEAP) Commission will develop a regulatory framework for certifying carbon removals based on robust and transparent carbon accounting to monitor and verify the authenticity of carbon removals | Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote circular bio-based economy: advanced bio-refineries that produce bio-fertilisers, protein feed, bioenergy, and bio-chemicals offer opportunities for the transition to a climate-neutral European economy and the creation of new jobs in primary production (not mentioning forests) | Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| To reduce the EU's contribution to global deforestation and forest degradation, the Commission will present in 2021 a legislative proposal and other measures to avoid or minimise the placing of products associated with deforestation or forest degradation on the EU market | Farm to Fork Strategy (COM/2020/381 final) | Non-Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
| Increase in (observation of): deadwood, native species, old or large trees, stand origin, structural complexity, habitat trees, indicator species | Guidelines for Defining, Mapping, Monitoring and Strictly Protecting EU Primary and Old-Growth Forests (SWD/2023/62) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Consolidate and aggregate data at EU level; use data for forest inventories and strategic plans submission at EU level | Guidelines for Defining, Mapping, Monitoring and Strictly Protecting EU Primary and Old-Growth Forests (SWD/2023/62) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of GHG, to reach the 2050 GHG reduction target as laid down in the Regulation 2021/1119 | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Continuous progress in enhancing and mainstreaming adaptive capacity, including on the basis of ecosystem approaches, strengthening resilience and adaptation and reducing the vulnerability of the environment, society and all sectors of the economy to climate change, while improving | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| prevention of, and preparedness for, weather- and climate-related disasters | | | |
| Advancing towards a wellbeing economy that gives back to the planet more than it takes and accelerating the transition to a non-toxic circular economy, where growth is regenerative, resources are used efficiently and sustainably, and the waste hierarchy is applied | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protecting preserving and restoring marine and terrestrial biodiversity and the biodiversity of inland waters inside and outside protected areas by, inter alia, halting and reversing biodiversity loss and improving the state of ecosystems and their functions and the services they provide, and by improving the state of the environment, in particular air, water and soil, as well as by combating desertification and soil degradation | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 10% of these land areas (against today's 3%) | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Planting 30bn trees in the EU by 2030 | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Fight against drought, fire, pests, diseases | 8th Environment Action Programme (EU No 2022/591) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The preservation, maintenance and re-establishment of biotopes and habitats shall include primarily the following measures | Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of protected areas | Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones | Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes | Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of biotopes | Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Exception: when protecting birds threatens forests (art. 9) | Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Set up of a coherence EU ecological network (Natura 2000): establish the necessary conservation measures involving, if need be, appropriate management plans specifically designed for the sites or integrated into other development plans, and appropriate statutory, administrative or contractual measures which correspond to the ecological requirements of the natural habitat types in Annex I and the species in Annex II present on the sites (forests) | The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States shall take appropriate steps to avoid, in the special areas of conservation, the deterioration of natural habitats and the habitats of species as well as disturbance of the species for which the areas have been designated, in so far as such disturbance could be significant in relation to the objectives of this Directive | The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States shall take the requisite measures to establish a system of strict protection for the plant species listed in Annex IV (b), prohibiting: the deliberate picking, collecting, cutting, uprooting or destruction of such plants in their natural range in the wild | The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States shall take the requisite measures to establish a system of strict protection for the plant species listed in Annex IV (b), prohibiting: the keeping, transport and sale or exchange and offering for sale or exchange of specimens of such species taken in the wild, except for those taken legally before this Directive is implemented | The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Every six years from the date of expiry of the period, Member States shall draw up a report on the implementation of the measures taken under this Directive | The EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mainstreaming Biodiversity Action: The Regulation aims to mainstream biodiversity action by allocating a percentage of annual spending under the multiannual financial framework | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| to biodiversity objectives, considering overlaps between climate and biodiversity goals | | | |
| Catalysing Strategic Nature Projects: The LIFE Programme seeks to improve mainstreaming efficiency through strategic nature projects dedicated to catalysing the implementation of Union nature and biodiversity legislation and policy. It supports programs of actions in Member States to ensure proper funds are allocated | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Leveraging Agricultural Fund for Nature Projects: Member States have the option to use a portion of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development allocation to leverage support for actions complementing strategic nature projects defined by the Regulation | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Supporting NGOs and Networks: The LIFE Programme supports a wide range of NGOs and entities active in the environment or climate action domains. It awards operating grants to enhance their capacity to contribute effectively to Union policies | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Demonstrating Replicable Solutions: The LIFE Programme supports the demonstration of techniques, approaches, and best practices that can be scaled up, contributing to improved environmental performance and sustainability, particularly in areas like climate, water, soil, biodiversity, and waste | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Co-financing Rates and Flexibility: The LIFE Programme sets co-financing rates for grants to ensure effective support while maintaining flexibility based on specific needs. These rates are subject to relevant established maximum co-financing rates | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Financing Methods for Results: The LIFE Programme selects financing methods and implementation approaches that achieve action objectives, considering control costs, administrative burden, and non-compliance risks. Simplification for project developers is a priority | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Support from Funds: The LIFE Programme may receive support from the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund+, and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, in alignment with relevant provisions and regulations | LIFE Regulation (EU No 2021/783) Legally binding | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Climate Change | | | |
| Augment knowledge and tackle management uncertainties | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Propel digital transformation, especially in remote sensing technologies, to comprehend the interplay between climate change and ecosystem services | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure all-level adaptation strategies are grounded in the latest science | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Systematically ensure policy coherence considers adaptation | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Advocate for nature-based solutions, emphasising their significance for water, oceans, and soil health | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raise EU's climate action budgetary allocation to 30% for 2021-2027, earmarking adaptation as vital | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Execute Horizon Europe Missions relevant to climate adaptation, bolster support for genetic resources potential, update 8. Natura 2000, establish biodiversity-friendly | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| afforestation, and amplify the EU taxonomy for sustainable adaptation activities | to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | | |
| Address insurance targets, particularly minimising forest loss to maintain water quality | Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (COM/2021/82 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve 65% of electricity production from renewable sources by 2030 | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Encourage local and rural communities to invest in renewables | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Minimise the use of whole trees and food/feed crops for energy production to limit impact on biodiversity | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Avoid unsustainable intensification of forest harvesting for bioenergy and promote sustainable alternatives | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote sustainable forest management and enforce existing legislation to contribute to emission reduction | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Non-CO2 Emissions Reduction: This objective focuses on reducing non-CO2 emissions in the energy and agriculture sectors | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve up to 35% reduction in non-CO2 emissions (methane, nitrous oxide, F-gases) by 2030 compared to 2015 | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implement efficient technologies like precision farming and anaerobic digestion to reduce emissions | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Land Use Sector and Carbon Sink Enhancement: This objective aims to enhance the land use sector's role in reducing greenhouse gases through nature-based solutions and sustainable practices | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve forest protection, sustainable management, reforestation, and soil management to enhance the land carbon sink | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Shift towards growing woody biomass sustainably to increase land carbon sink | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Climate and Energy Policy Framework Update: This objective focuses on updating existing climate and energy policies to align with the emission reduction targets | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce emissions by 43% in large industrial and power installations through the Emissions Trading System Directive | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve a 30% reduction in emissions through the Effort Sharing Regulation at Member State level | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintain or enhance the net carbon sink from land use, as per the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry Regulation | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve 32% renewable energy and 32.5% energy efficiency in the EU's energy mix | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Agriculture, Land Use, Forestry Sector Integration: This objective integrates the Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry sector's emissions and removals into the 2030 EU greenhouse gas target | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Focus on protecting and enhancing the natural carbon sink, minimising unsustainable biomass use, enhancing removals, and incentivising carbon farming | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Targets for Sustainable Investment and Climate Neutrality: This objective sets targets for the Sustainable Europe Investment Plan, InvestEU, and other sectors like transport and industry | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Targeting funds, programs, and initiatives to accelerate the transition and achieve climate neutrality | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Global Leadership and Diplomacy: This objective emphasises EU's role in influencing global greenhouse gas emissions and promoting climate diplomacy | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raise EU ambition to 55% reduction by 2030 under the Paris Agreement | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Influence global greenhouse gas emissions trends and increase resource efficiency beyond international climate negotiations | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Support third countries in raising climate ambitions through external assistance | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use green, climate, and energy diplomacy to enhance ambition levels of partners and accelerate global transition to climate neutrality | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster sustainable finance and alliances for clean technologies and critical raw materials | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Propose a carbon border adjustment mechanism to address carbon leakage and comply with World Trade Organisation rules | The 2030 Climate Target Plan (COM/2020/562 final) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase Emissions Reduction to 62% by 2030 | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Compliance with Climate Neutrality Plans by ETS Installations by 2026-2031 | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adaptation of Auction Time Profile: Limit set at 900 million allowances | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Encourage Investments in Decarbonising District Heating Sector | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Auction Distribution: Specific pattern for auctioning allowances | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Revenue Utilisation: At least 50% for climate initiatives | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Comprehensive Report on Directive Application: Including aspects of international trading and forestry | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Implement Measures to Avoid Deforestation: Including biodiversity-friendly techniques | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Advance Forestry and Soil Sequestration within the Union | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement a Threshold at 95%: Balancing advantages and disadvantages for installations under the EU ETS | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Introduce Threshold for Zero-Rated Biomass Combustion: Excluding installations from the EU ETS and distributing allowances evenly | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Auction Distribution: A specific distribution pattern for allowances to be auctioned (88% based on verified emissions, 10% for solidarity and growth, and 2% for states with emissions 20% below the Kyoto Protocol base year) | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Revenue Utilisation: At least 50% of the auction revenues must be used for various climate initiatives, including: (a) Measures to avoid deforestation and increase afforestation and reforestation, and technological transfer in developing countries; (b) Forestry sequestration within the Community; and,(c) Afforestation, reforestation, avoided deforestation, and forest degradation in third countries in the event of the establishment of any internationally recognised system in this context | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implement measures to avoid deforestation, including the development of biodiversity-friendly afforestation and reforestation techniques | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support and enhance the protection of forests and other land-based ecosystems, such as peatlands | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Facilitate technology transfer to support climate change adaptation, including forest management practices in developing countries | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Advance forestry and soil sequestration efforts within the Union as a means to achieve carbon neutrality | Emissions Trading Scheme (amended) Directive (EU No 2023/959) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest reference level for accounting removals; considering specific national circumstances | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Compliance report submission deadlines for 2027 and 2032 | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Requirement for Member States to ensure zero net emissions from the LULUCF sector and long-term enhancement of sinks | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sector integration with Union's biodiversity strategy, mitigation and adaptation efforts, coherence with the Common Agricultural Policy | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Recategorisation rules for land conversion after 20 years | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintenance of complete data records | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Specific accounting rules for afforested and deforested land | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Calculations for managed cropland, grassland, wetland | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Specific accounting rules for managed cropland, grassland, and wetland | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Specific accounting rules for managed forest land | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Calculations for managed cropland, grassland, and wetland for specific periods | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Limitation on net removals included in managed forest land accounts | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Submission deadlines for national forestry accounting plans for the periods 2021-2025 and 2026-2030 | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Accounting for harvested wood products: methodologies for emissions and removals in specific categories | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Calculations for managed cropland, grassland, wetland | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Accounting for natural disturbances: exclusion rules for the periods 2021-2025 and 2026-2030 | EU LULUCF Regulation (EU No 2018/841) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must limit their greenhouse gas emissions by a specific percentage, based on Annex I, relative to their 2005 levels by 2030 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Emissions from 2021-2029 must align with a linear trajectory based on the average emissions from 2016-2018, concluding in 2030 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The Commission will set annual emission allocations, based on data reviews for the years 2005 and 2016-2018 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Collective emissions for each Member State from 2021-2030 should not exceed 100 million tonnes; pro rata reductions will be applied if exceeded | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Each Member State's cumulative emissions from 2021-2030 must not exceed the maximum amount of total net removals listed in Annex III. These quantities must be above what is required under Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2018/841 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States cannot acquire more net removals from other Member States than they transfer. | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must submit a plan describing how they intend to use the available flexibility options | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Any excess emissions will be added to the next year's emission figure, multiplied by a factor of 1.08 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Member States must limit their greenhouse gas emissions by a specific percentage, based on Annex I, relative to their 2005 levels by 2030 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Emissions from 2021-2029 must align with a linear trajectory based on the average emissions from 2016-2018, concluding in 2030 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The Commission will set annual emission allocations, based on data reviews for the years 2005 and 2016-2018 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States exceeding their allocations will be temporarily banned from transferring any part of their annual emission allocations to another state | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A Central Administrator will deduct excess emissions from the Member State's future allocations | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States meeting certain conditions may receive additional quantities from a safety reserve for compliance; this amount cannot exceed 20% of their overall overachievement from 2013-2020 | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| The Commission will publish these amounts after a 2020 review, for Member States that meet the conditions | Binding annual greenhouse gas emission reductions (EU No 2018/842) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve at least 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1990 by 2030 | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reach Union-level binding target of 32% for the share of renewable energy consumed by 2030 | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| As regards the "Renewable Energy" dimension of the Energy Union, the plan must establish a contribution to the EU's binding target of 32% renewable energy by 2030, with indicative milestones of at a least 18% increase by 2022, 43% by 2025, and 65% by 2027, relative to the national 2020 renewable energy target | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Improve energy efficiency by at least 32.5% by 2030 | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve 15% electricity interconnection target for 2030 | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Each Member State must notify the Commission an integrated plan by 31 December 2019, 1 January 2029, and every ten years thereafter | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve binding national targets for GHG emissions, compliance with Reg 2018/842 and 2018/241 (LULUCF), and align with Paris Agreement where possible | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve Union's binding target of 32% renewable energy by 2030 with indicative trajectories reaching specific reference points by 2022, 2025, 2027, and 2030 | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Contribute to Union's energy efficiency targets of 32.5% by 2030 in absolute levels of primary and final energy consumption | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase diversification of energy sources, flexibility, and resilience of regional and national energy systems | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve 15% electricity interconnectivity by 2030, with strategies including key infrastructure projects, market integration, and system flexibility. Set national objectives and funding targets for research and innovation, promote clean energy technologies, and align with long-term objectives | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Ensure contributions to reach 32% of energy from renewable sources at the Union level by 2030 | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Restrict Union's 2020 and 2030 energy consumption to defined levels. Prepare and submit long-term strategies with at least 30-year perspective | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Contribute to UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, limit global temperature increase, achieve emission reductions, and transition to a highly efficient renewable energy system. Assess and report trajectories on bioenergy demand, biomass supply, and impacts on the LULUCF sink | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Implement policies for the reduction of must-run capacity, promotion of renewable self-consumption and communities, biomass sustainability, and uptake of power purchase agreements | European Climate Law (EU No 2018/1999) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve balance in Union-wide greenhouse gas emissions and removals by 2050 | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Employ necessary measures at Union and national levels to achieve climate-neutrality objective | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve a domestic reduction of net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% compared to 1990 levels by 2030 | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Limit the contribution of net removals to 225 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent by 2030 | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Ensure continuous progress in enhancing adaptive capacity, resilience, and vulnerability reduction | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adopt a Union strategy on adaptation and regularly review it | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure policy coherence and focus on the most vulnerable populations and sectors | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement national adaptation strategies based on robust analyses and guided by scientific evidence | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate considerations for vulnerable sectors like agriculture, water and food systems in national strategies | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the collective progress made by all Member States towards climate-neutrality | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the collective progress made by all Member States on adaptation | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the consistency of any draft measure or legislative proposal with the climate-neutrality and climate targets | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Evaluate the consistency of national measures with the climate-neutrality objective | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the consistency of national measures in ensuring progress on adaptation | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Engage with all parts of society to facilitate an inclusive and accessible process | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use appropriate instruments like the European Climate Pact to engage citizens and stakeholders | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a multilevel climate and energy dialogue for active public and stakeholder engagement | European Climate Law (amending) (EU No 2021/1119) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Each Member State must ensure net zero greenhouse gas emissions and removals from 2021-2025. Flexibilities in Articles 12, 13, and 13a are applicable | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| The Union target for net greenhouse gas removals by 2030 is 310 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent. This is based on an average of emissions data from 2016, 2017, and 2018 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, each Member State must submit data to prove they have achieved the target set for them in column C of Annex IIa, based on their emissions and removals | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a budget for 2026-2029 based on linear trajectory and average emissions data for 2021, 2022, and 2023. Compliance to be assessed in 2032 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Commission to set annual limit values for each Member State for 2026-2029 based on average data from 2021-2023 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Consider a socially fair transition when adopting policies | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintain accurate accounts of emissions and removals | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Account for emissions and removals from afforested and deforested land from 2021 to 2025 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest accounting: Member States may re-categorise land converted to forest land as 'forest land remaining forest land' 30 years after the initial conversion, by no later than 2025 - This is conditional upon meeting IPCC Guidelines | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must submit their national forestry accounting plans, including a proposed forest reference level, to the | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Commission by December 31, 2018, for the period from 2021 to 2025. The plans will be made public online | | | |
| If required based on technical assessments, Member States shall revise and communicate their proposed forest reference levels to the Commission by December 31, 2019, for the period from 2021 to 2025 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The Commission will adopt delegated acts to finalise forest reference levels for Member States for the period from 2021 to 2025 based on the proposed levels and any technical assessments | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| If a Member State fails to submit its forest reference level by the given deadlines, the Commission will set the forest reference level for that Member State for the period from 2021 to 2025 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Delegated acts related to forest reference levels must be adopted by the Commission by October 31, 2020, for the period from 2021 to 2025 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States have the option to exclude from their accounts any greenhouse gas emissions from afforested land and managed forest land caused by natural disturbances that exceed the average emissions from 2001-2020, by the end of the period from 2021 to 2025 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| In paragraph 2, point (b), the year for calculating average emissions caused by natural disturbances is moved from '2030' to '2025' | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| If a Member State fails to comply with monitoring requirements by a set regulation, the Central Administrator shall temporarily ban that Member State from specific activities. Technical support may also be provided by the Commission | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For the period 2021-2025, if total emissions in a Member State exceed total removals, or for 2026-2030 if emissions and removals sum up to a positive difference from set targets, the | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| quantity of deleted emission allocations will be considered for compliance | | | |
| If total removals exceed emissions in a Member State for the period 2021-2025 or 2026-2030, the surplus can be transferred to another Member State for its own compliance with set targets | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| To avoid double counting, any net removals accounted for under a specific Article shall be subtracted from a Member State's quantity available for transfer to another Member State | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must use the financial value generated by transfers to address climate change and must report these actions to the Commission and make the information publicly accessible | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transfers of removals may result from greenhouse gas mitigation projects carried out in the selling Member State, with the condition of avoiding double counting and ensuring traceability | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| If total emissions exceed total removals in a Member State for the period 2021-2025, the Member State may use the Managed Forest Land flexibility to comply with specific regulations | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For 2021-2025, a Member State can compensate emissions under specific conditions, which include having a strategy for forest sink and reservoir conservation, and ensuring total Union emissions don't exceed total removals. Double counting is to be avoided by the Commission | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The compensation for sinks can only cover emissions against the forest reference level and cannot exceed 50% of the maximum allowable compensation for the 2021-2025 period as outlined in a specific Annex | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member States must submit evidence about the impact of natural disturbances and future mitigation plans to be eligible | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| for compensation. This evidence will be made publicly available by the Commission | | | |
| Member States must submit evidence about the impact of natural disturbances and future mitigation plans to be eligible for compensation. This evidence will be made publicly available by the Commission | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| If the demand for compensation exceeds available unused compensation, the unused compensation will be distributed among Member States on a pro-rata basis | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Each of these goals sets a high-level direction for policy and practice in the LULUCF sector, aiming to integrate it effectively into broader climate goals and compliance mechanisms | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a land use mechanism in the Union Registry allowing for up to 178 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent, subject to fulfilling Union targets as per Article 4(2). This is in addition to other flexibilities mentioned in Article 12 | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member States must provide evidence regarding the impact of natural disturbances to be eligible for compensation for net emissions or removals for the period 2026-2030. Unused compensation will be distributed among Member States on a pro-rata basis if demand exceeds supply | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The total amount of compensation for the Union shall not exceed 50 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent. If the demand for compensation surpasses this limit, distribution will be on a pro-rata basis among the Member States | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Submitted evidence must include a quantitative assessment of net emissions or removals and be based on reliable, geographically explicit data covering at least the period 2001-2025 and scientifically reviewed projections for 2026-2030. This evidence must reflect climate factors relevant to the LULUCF sector | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For eligibility in compensation, Member States must provide justification that the proportion of organic soils on managed | EU LULUCF Regulation (amending) (EU No 2023/839) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| land exceeds the Union average for 2030. This must include a quantitative analysis of reported emissions due to legacy effects on managed organic soils, supported by the best scientific evidence available | | | |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Member States must jointly ensure that the share of energy from renewable sources is at least 40% of the EU's gross final energy consumption in 2030 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| No later than December 31, 2025, each Member State must enter into an agreement with one or more other Member States to establish at least one joint project aimed at renewable energy production | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2050, Member States with ocean borders must jointly set marine renewable energy goals for their shared basin, with milestones for 2030 and 2040 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must establish an indicative target for the share of renewable energy in the construction sector's final energy consumption by 2030. This target will be consistent with an overall indicative aim of having at least a 49% share of renewable energy in the sector's final energy consumption in the EU by 2030 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States must promote the use of renewable heating and cooling systems and equipment | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2030, Member States will ensure that 50% of hydrogen used in industry comes from non-biological renewable fuels for both energy consumption and for non-energy purposes | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | |
| Industrial products labeled or declared as produced with renewable energy and non-biological renewable fuels must indicate the percentage of renewable energy or non-biological renewable fuels used in the raw material acquisition, manufacturing, and distribution phases | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Each Member State must increase the share of renewable energy in the heating and cooling sector by at least 1.1% annually from 2021 to 2030, based on 2020 levels | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member States must increase the share of renewable energy and residual heat and cold in urban heating and cooling by an indicative minimum of 2.1 % annually, from 2021 to 2030, based on 2020 levels | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Each Member State will contribute to the EU's 2030 renewable energy target with an indicative trajectory from 2021, hitting benchmarks of at least 18% by 2022, at least 43% by 2025, and at least 65% by 2027. The sum of these trajectories must meet the EU's 2030 target | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Each Member State must impose an obligation on fuel providers to ensure that the number of renewable fuels and renewable electricity supplied to the transport sector leads to at least a 13% reduction in greenhouse gas intensity by 2030 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Each Member State must impose an obligation on fuel providers to ensure that the share of advanced biofuels and biogas produced from feedstocks listed, in the energy supplied to the transport sector is at least 0.2% in 2022, 0.5% in 2025, and 2.2% in 2030; and the share of renewable fuels of non-biological origin should be at least 2.6% by 2030 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Each Member State must impose an obligation on fuel providers to ensure that the share of advanced biofuels and biogas produced from feedstocks listed, in the energy supplied to the transport sector is at least 0.2% in 2022, 0.5% in 2025, and 2.2% in 2030; and the share of renewable fuels of non-biological origin should be at least 2.6% by 2030 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| To achieve the EU's energy objectives, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the use of biofuels, bioliquids, and biomass fuels must be at least 70% for the production of electricity, heating, and cooling from biomass fuels used in | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| installations operating until December 31, 2025, and at least 80% starting from January 1, 2026 | | | |
| Achieve the EU's 2030 energy and climate objectives, including a binding reduction of at least 40% in domestic greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors compared to 1990 levels, a primary target for an energy efficiency improvement of at least 32.5% by 2030, and a 15% electrical interconnection target for 2030, or any subsequent targets agreed upon by the European Council or by the European Parliament and the Council for 2030 | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Biomass fuels must meet the established sustainability criteria and greenhouse gas emission reduction standards established | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member States must establish simplified national verification systems to ensure compliance with sustainability criteria and greenhouse gas emission standards in case their installations with a total nominal thermal power between 5 and 10 MW producing electricity, heating, and cooling | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member States will require providers to ensure the market availability of diesel fuel containing up to 7% of fatty acid methyl esters | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member States will ensure that the maximum allowable sulfur content in diesel fuels intended for use in non-road mobile machinery (including inland waterway vessels), agricultural and forestry tractors, and recreational boats is 10 mg/kg | Renewable energy directive III (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implementation of sustainable forest management principles | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protect designated areas for nature conservation | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adopting a risk-based approach to ensure legality of sustainability in harvesting operations | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of operational guidance for compliance verification. | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Maintain or improve long-term production capacity of forests | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Alignment with the Paris Agreement or laws to conserve carbon stocks | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Management systems to maintain or strengthen carbon stocks | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Commission to assess by 31 December 2026, potentially amending criteria after 2030 | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| High Biodiversity Value Land Restrictions (qualitative target) | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| High-Carbon Stock Land Restrictions (qualitative target) | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Peatland Restrictions (qualitative target) | Renewable Energy directive (RED) (EU No 2018/2001) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of cumulative criteria based on the expansion of such lands of the production area | Delegated Regulation on Indirect Land-Use Change (EU No 2019/807) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of criteria for the certification of biofuels, bioliquids, and biomass fuels with a low risk of causing an indirect change in land use | Delegated Regulation on Indirect Land-Use Change (EU No 2019/807) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Operators must submit information for each consignment of biofuel or bioliquid, about its certifications under voluntary sustainability schemes | Decision on information about biofuels and bioliquids (2011/13/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Operators must submit information for each consignment of biofuel or bioliquid on whether specific bonuses have been used in emission calculations for non-waste/residue-derived products | Decision on information about biofuels and bioliquids (2011/13/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Operators must submit information for each consignment of biofuel or bioliquid on the factor for emission savings from improved agricultural soil carbon management | Decision on information about biofuels and bioliquids (2011/13/EU) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce electricity consumption by at least 5% during selected peak price hours | Renewable energy directive Proposal (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Reduce overall electricity demand by at least 10% until 31 March 2023 | Renewable energy directive Proposal (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Set the inframarginal revenue cap at €180 EUR/MWh for certain electricity producers and conclude bilateral agreements regarding electricity trading by 1 December 2022 | Renewable energy directive Proposal (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Collect a temporary solidarity contribution on excess profits from the fossil-fuel sector if profits are above a 20% increase on the average profits of the previous three years | Renewable energy directive Proposal (COM/2021/557) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reducing energy consumption by almost 20% | REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase renewable energy capacity to 42.5% by 2030 | REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Mobilise close to €300 billion for the REPowerEU plan | REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Securing strategic partnerships with Namibia, Egypt, and Kazakhstan for renewable hydrogen | REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Investing in common purchase of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) | REPowerEU Plan (COM/2022/230) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The development of a tool-box of solutions to process biomass into bio-based products that will support the modernisation and the renewal of industries | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restore at least 15% of degraded ecosystems by 2020 | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Biowaste, residues and discards may turn into valuable resources and can create the innovations and incentives to help retailers and consumers cut food waste by 50% by 2030 | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Enhance the knowledge on the bioeconomy, including on biodiversity and ecosystems, to deploy it within safe ecological limits and make it accessible through the Knowledge Centre for Bioeconomy | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase observation, measurement, monitoring and reporting capabilities and build an EU-wide, internationally coherent monitoring system to track economic, environmental and social progress towards a sustainable bioeconomy | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Better integrate the benefits of biodiversity-rich ecosystems in primary production through a specific support to agro-ecology, the development of microbiome-based solutions, and new tools to integrate pollinators in supply value chains | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of new sustainable biorefineries with current estimates being around 300 new biorefineries, based on the availability of sustainably sourced resources | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | |
| Mobilise public and private stakeholders, in research, demonstration and deployment of sustainable, inclusive and circular bio-based solutions | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote and/or develop standards and emerging market-based incentives, and improve labels applicable to bio-based products on the basis of reliable and comparable data on environmental and climate performance | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Facilitate the development of new sustainable biorefineries and confirm the type and estimated potential | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement "Living labs" to develop and test place-based innovations based on ecological approaches and circularity in primary production | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Carbon farming pilot to buy carbon credits from forest owners who implement projects that aim at increasing soil and biomass carbon sequestration | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support local bioeconomy development (rural, coastal, urban) with instruments and programs from the Commission | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote education, training and skills across the bioeconomy | Bioeconomy Strategy (COM/2018/673) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biofuels produced in facilities operational after October 5, 2015, must achieve at least a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. For facilities operational on or before that date, the reduction must be at least 35% until December 31, 2017, and at least 50% from January 1, 2018 | Directive to reduce indirect land use change for biofuels and bioliquids (EU 2015/1513) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| To achieve the share of energy from renewable sources, the maximum joint contribution of biofuels and bioliquids made from grains and other starch-rich crops, sugars, oilseeds, and crops grown on agricultural land primarily for energy purposes will not exceed 7% of the final energy consumption in transportation by 2020 in Member States | Directive to reduce indirect land use change for biofuels and bioliquids (EU 2015/1513) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Member states must establish a minimum proportion of biofuels, made from specific raw materials and other fuels, consumed by 2020 | Directive to reduce indirect land use change for biofuels and bioliquids (EU 2015/1513) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| For Surface Waters: Implement the necessary measures to prevent deterioration of the status of all bodies of surface water. Protect, enhance and restore all bodies of surface water. with the aim of achieving good surface water status at the latest 15 years after the date of entry into force of this Directive | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For groundwater: Implement the measures necessary to prevent or limit the input of pollutants into groundwater and to prevent the deterioration of the status of all bodies of groundwater | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States shall protect, enhance and restore all bodies of groundwater, ensure a balance between abstraction and recharge of groundwater, with the aim of achieving good groundwater status at the latest 15 years | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For protected areas: Achieve compliance with any standards and objectives at the latest 15 years | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure that for each river basin: an analysis of its characteristics, a review of the impact of human activity on the status of surface waters and on groundwater, and an economic analysis of water use is undertaken | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Establish a register of all areas lying within each river basin district which have been designated as requiring special protection | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure the establishment of programmes for the monitoring of water status. These programmes shall be operational at the latest six years | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Surface waters programmes shall cover: the volume and level or rate of flow to the extent relevant for ecological and chemical status and ecological potential | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Groundwaters programmes: shall cover monitoring of the chemical and quantitative status | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protected areas programmes: the above programmes shall be supplemented by those specifications contained in Community legislation under which the individual protected areas have been established | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure that a river basin management plan is produced for each river basin district lying entirely within their territory | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure that, for each river basin district, they publish and make available for comments to the public, including user | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States have to submit summary reports of analysis required and monitoring programmes | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The Commission shall submit a proposal setting out a list of priority substances selected amongst those which present a significant risk to or via the aquatic environment | Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The threshold values applicable to good chemical status shall be based on the protection of the body of groundwater | Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| All threshold values established shall be published in the river basin management plans | Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States shall amend the list of threshold values whenever new information on pollutants, indicates that a threshold value should be set for an additional substance | Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Identify any significant and sustained upward trend in concentrations of pollutants, groups of pollutants or indicators of pollution found in bodies or groups of bodies of groundwater identified as being at risk and define the starting point for reversing that trend | Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Member States shall in particular take account of hazardous substances | Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake a preliminary flood risk assessment | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify those areas for which they conclude that potential significant flood risks exist or might be considered likely to occur | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prepare flood hazard maps and flood risk maps | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Flood risk maps shall show the potential adverse consequences associated with flood scenarios referred to and expressed in terms of: the indicative number of inhabitants potentially affected and type of economic activity of the area potentially affected | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish flood risk management plans coordinated at the level of the river basin district | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Flood risk management plans shall address all aspects of flood risk management focusing on prevention, protection, preparedness, including flood forecasts and early warning systems and taking into account the characteristics of the particular river basin or sub-basin | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Flood risk management plans may also include the promotion of sustainable land use practices, improvement of water retention as well as the controlled flooding of certain areas in the case of a flood event | Floods Directive (2007/60/EC) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| EU aims to improving EU water quality by 50% reduction of: the emissions into the environment of nutrients coming from agriculture; the use and risk of chemical pesticides; the use of | Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| more hazardous pesticides; and antimicrobials sales for farmed animals and in aquaculture | | | |
| Improve drought risk management, preparedness, and response, and to support monitoring and management of global freshwater resources through an exchange of experience on drought risk management in the EU, capacity building and dialogue | Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve coordination of thematic plans and other mechanisms | Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the rate of restoration of rivers in line with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive | Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote sustainable soil management and land-use | Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure that the EU Common Agriculture Policy contributes to efficient management of natural resources such as soil and water by supporting sustainable soil management | Voluntary Commitments for the Water Action Agenda (7443/23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Proposing legally binding objectives in the context of the Nature Restoration Law, to limit drainage of wetlands and organic soils and to restore managed and drained peatlands | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Present the EU carbon farming initiative and a legislative proposal on carbon removal certification in 2022 | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Set by 2023 ambitious national, regional and local targets to reduce net land take by 2030 | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrate the 'land take hierarchy' into their Urban Greening Plans | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Show its global leading role in building knowledge on soil biodiversity by publishing by 2022 the first assessment of EU soil biodiversity and antimicrobial resistance genes in agricultural soils under different management regimes | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the risk of further alien flatworm species for their potential inclusion in the list of 'invasive alien species of Union concern' | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| better coherence and stronger synergies between the Rio Conventions and strive for a post-2020 global biodiversity framework that recognises the importance of soil biodiversity, strengthens the use of sustainable soil management practices to safeguard ecosystem services | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Step up efforts in mapping, assessing, protecting and restoring soil biodiversity | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess requirements for the sustainable use of soil so that its capacity to deliver ecosystem services is not hampered. | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide assistance to Member States to put in place through national funds the 'Test Your Soil For Free' | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continue the dissemination of successful sustainable soil and nutrient management solutions | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continue to support the Global Soil Partnership in promoting sustainable soil management worldwide | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| publish information every five years about the state of land degradation and desertification in the EU | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the feasibility of the introduction of a soil health certificate for land transaction to provide land buyers with information on the key characteristics and health of the soils in the site they intend to purchase | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance the use of digital tools and Copernicus and rely on the JRC to further develop the European Soil Observatory (EUSO) ¹¹² and the EEA to develop the Land Information System for Europe (LISE), supported by geospatial analytical products | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide through the LUCAS soil surveys EU-wide harmonised monitoring of the evolution in soil organic carbon content and carbon stocks, complementing Member States' reporting under the LULUCF Regulation | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop an EU inventory of soil biota in order to monitor and better understand soil biodiversity | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Implement ambitious roadmaps for research and innovation to expand the knowledge base for soil stewardship and widen the access to and use of results from research activities. | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continue providing substantial funding to i) research solutions to increase soil biodiversity; ii) address soil degradation; iii) pilot innovative technologies for decontamination | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the development and use of digital and remote sensors, apps and handheld samplers to assess soil quality | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Publish a guide in 2022 with an overview of EU funding opportunities available for the protection, sustainable management and restoration of soils | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote investments in projects that sustainably manage and do not significantly harm soils under the EU Taxonomy Regulation | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Launch a soil literacy engagement and awareness initiative | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Facilitate and encourage the sharing of best practices in communication and engagement on soil, building an EU soil portal and setting up networks for healthy soils | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrate the issue of soil degradation under the European common reference framework of sustainability competences | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Run a comprehensive portfolio of actions for communication, education, and citizen engagement to promote soil health at various levels and bring soils closer to citizen's values | EU Soil Strategy for 2030 (COM/2021/699) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |

APPENDIX II List of identified German policy targets by sector

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Forestry | | | |
| Expansion of climate protection through sustainable forest management and the use of timber from sustainable domestic forests | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|---|----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Timber efficiency through increased recycling and cascade use | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the use of hardwood | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Substitution of fossil fuels by timber in the energy sector | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of value chains through digitalisation | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development and implementation of a national model for the knowledge-based and results-oriented remuneration of the climate protection services of the forest | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a market for the valorisation of the forest's climate protection performance | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Examine undesirable side effects of wind turbines in the forest. Forest loss is compensated in order to offset the adverse effects on the protective and recreational functions of the forest | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of risk and crisis management plans for Climate Change adaptation | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of a forest conversion plan specially for forests threatened by droughts | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Corporate and private forest implement measures of climate change adaptation | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of a climate change monitoring programme | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve forest biodiversity through near-natural forest management | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of a concept of forest conservation with concrete focal points that allow systematic planning | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Evaluate biodiversity inventories | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop and coordinate targets for biodiversity and species baskets | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the cooperation between national and federal level on forest biodiversity and nature conservation | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



| | | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Increase the use of the INTEGRATE network | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish rewarding measures in nature conservation of forest biodiversity | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| support the cultivation of site-appropriate tree species with a with a sufficient proportion of native and climate-tolerant tree and climate-tolerant tree species | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the wood construction rate of new residential construction by 30% | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | |
| Promote climate-friendly construction with timber in the public sector | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce legal obstacles for the use of timber in the construction industry | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the regional wood supply chain | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Simplify and harmonise the regulations on forest use for sports and recreational use | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of a concept for sports, recreation and health in the forest | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Expand forest soil information | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen forest soil protection | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Avoid nutrient-consuming or soil-damaging exploitation | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce atmospheric inputs of nitrogen and acids that threaten the important functions of forest soils | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include "landscape water balance" and "water retention" in forestry, silvicultural and forest policy decisions | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a nationally coordinated forest protection monitoring system | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Further develop choices of tree species, maintenance and utilisation soil cultivation and timber harvesting methods | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Hunting regulations support the major challenges of forest regeneration, the reforestation of damaged areas and the conversion to climate-resilient forests | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enforce a minimum game shooting plan | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Develop nationwide guidelines and criteria for recording and assessing game damage as well as for habitat analysis | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support forestry associations and other forms of between enterprise cooperation | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop Qualification standards, expand broadband and mobile communication in the forest | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Expand monitoring and research programs | Forest Strategy 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mandatory consultation with forestry authorities during the planning stages of public projects | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The conversion of forests to other land uses, or clear-cutting, requires official approval and involves a weighing of economic and public interests | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest owners are obligated to restore clear-cut areas within a set timeframe | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| forests can be designated as protection or recreational forests under specific conditions | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A clear-cutting or a light cutting in a protection forest shall require the approval of the competent authority | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A forest can be declared a recreational forest if the public demands it | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Large scale inventory of forests condition every 10 years | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The management of the forest shall also work as an archive for natural and cultural history | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest management associations coordinate operational plans; timber sales and other forest products; execute forest crops, soil improvement and forest protection; construct and maintain roads; execute logging, timber processing and timber harvesting | Federal Forest Act | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| Establishment of a FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber | Timber trade Law (Holzhandels-Sicherungs-Gesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |



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| No targets identified | GAK Framework Plan 2023-2026 (Rahmenplan der Gemeinschaftsaufgabe "Verbesserung der Agrarstruktur und des Küstenschutzes" 2023-2026) | legally binding | |
| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
| Create a net of connected biotopes that comprises at least 10% of the area of each federal state | Federal Nature Conservation Act | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2020, the share of forests with natural forest development represents 5% of the forest area. By 2010, certification of 80% of forest area with high quality ecological standards | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implementation of the national strategy on biological diversity | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | qualitative |
| Improve the database on the status and development of biodiversity in Germany | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restore and secure the habitats of species for which Germany has a special responsibility for conservation by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguarding the populations of all currently endangered species and those for which Germany has a special responsibility | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Consideration of the issue of species known to be invasive in management plans by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure that the release and use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) does not pose a risk to wild species in the future | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve knowledge of the occurrence and distribution of native animal, plant and fungal species. | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| long-term safeguarding of education and research in taxonomy at the phenotypic and molecular level | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Realisation of a cross-state functionally oriented biotope network system on at least ten percent of the state's area at all scales by the year 2010 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Development of a comprehensive concept to minimise fragmentation effects by the year 2010 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Avoidance of conflicts with the trans-regional biotope network in future planning and projects | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of the main endangering factors that lead to habitat degradation | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Regeneration and redevelopment of endangered biotope types and biotope complexes | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preservation and propagation of ecologically valuable extensively used habitats (for example, heaths, hedges, orchard meadows, parts of grassland, vineyard steep slopes) | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintaining a diversity of regionally adapted populations | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Avoiding the distortion of the genetic diversity of wild fauna and flora through the settlement and spread of non-native animal and plant species | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring the natural genetic exchange of wild species, | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preservation of resting places and migration routes of migratory animal species | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of artificial mutagenic influences (for example, substances, radiation) on wild species | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| no approval of GMOs with cross-pollination, wilding, establishment or spread potential, which are expected to pose a threat to the natural biodiversity of wild plants, particularly in centers of their origin or diversity, under current genetic engineering law | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preservation of large-scale, unfragmented forest areas | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preservation and development of natural and near-natural forest communities | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Special protection of old forest sites and preservation and, if possible, increase of forest areas with traditional forms of use that are important for nature conservation by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of contractual nature conservation in private forests on ten percent of the area | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| development of a strategy by the federal and state governments for exemplary consideration of bio-diversity issues for all publicly owned forests by 2010 and its implementation by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Clearer wording of the principles of sustainable forest management in the law by 2010 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| certification of 80 % of the forest area according to high-quality ecological standards by 2010 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| balanced ratio between forest regeneration and game stocking by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| adaptation of forests to the challenges of climate change, for example by cultivating mixed stands that are as diverse as possible | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| continuing to refrain from using genetically modified organisms or their reproducible parts that pose a risk to forest ecosystems, taking into account the special conditions of forest ecosystems | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve good ecological and chemical status or good ecological potential of watercourses by 2015 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improvement of the status of running waters of groundwater-dependent terrestrial ecosystems and water-dependent protected areas by 2015 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Coordination of management plans and programs of measures for flowing waters and their floodplains with the conservation objectives for Natura 2000 sites by 2009 (in accordance with the WFD) | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase retention areas on rivers by at least ten percent by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Restoration, dynamisation and new creation of natural or nature-compatible riparian forests | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adaptation of agricultural use in erosion-prone areas of floodplains and restricted application of fertilisers and plant protection products in the HQ100 range to avoid significant adverse impacts on water bodies by 2015 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of peatland development concepts in all federal states by 2010 and their implementation by 2025 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protection of the water balance of intact peatlands and permanent restoration of regenerable peatlands by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continuous reduction of nitrogen inputs below the critical load | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| natural development in all raised bogs and peatland forests; significant reduction of peat extraction from 2015 onwards while increasing the use of peat substitutes in horticulture | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support for regionally typical forms of farming that contribute to the preservation and development of cultural landscapes and their elements | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preservation and restoration of endangered semi-natural habitats (grasslands, heaths, hedgerows, orchards, steep slope vineyards with dry stone walls and so on) through adequate management, including by means of state incentive instruments | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Definition of a minimum density of linear and point elements (e.g. fringe structures, hedges, field margins, stepping stone biotopes) required for the connectivity of biotopes by 2010 and reduction of existing shortfalls | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Avoidance of adverse effects on the landscape | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Consideration of the unique character of the landscapes when implementing compensation measures within the framework of the impact regulation | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Continuation of the reduction programme for chemical plant protection with the aim of further reducing risks that can arise from the use of chemical plant protection products | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of the nitrogen surplus in the overall balance to 80 kilograms per hectare by 2010, with the aim of achieving a further reduction by 2015 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| consistent consideration of biodiversity aspects in the approval of GMOs for agricultural engineering | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of soil erosion by 2020 | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of (pollutant) inputs in order to exclude impairments of soil functions in the long term | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| No further introduction of transgenic micro-organisms that are expected to pose a risk to the diversity of soil organisms | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Minimisation of further soil consumption through effective land recycling and promotion of unsealing measures indoors and outdoors | National Strategy on Biological Diversity | Non-legally binding | qualitative |
| Climate Change | | | |
| Reduce at least 25 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2030 | Federal Climate Change Act (Bundes-Klimaschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce at least 35 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2040 | Federal Climate Change Act (Bundes-Klimaschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce at least 40 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2045 | Federal Climate Change Act (Bundes-Klimaschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Identify and communicate hazards and risks | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create awareness and sensitise actors | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Provide a basis for decision-making that enables the various actors to take precautions and gradually incorporate the impacts of climate change into private, corporate and official planning and action | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify options for action, to coordinate and define responsibilities, and to formulate and implement measures | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest owners should promote forest conversion from pure stands to site-appropriate, low-risk mixed stands | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The federal and state governments should re-evaluate the cultivation recommendations for all tree species differentiated by location under the aspects of climate change, the long production periods and the associated uncertainties and risk | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| convince the more than 1.3 million forest owners of the necessity of adaptation measures | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Choose species and varieties of trees, that are adapted to the site and its expected development | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include monitoring, establishment and operation of experimental plots, site mapping, forest plant breeding, provenance research, and regional cultivation recommendations, research into wood harvesting techniques and possible uses of wood under new climatic condition | German Adaptation Strategy (Deutsche Anpassungsstrategie an den Klimawandel) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Develop measures for sustainable biomass production and use; reduce disincentives | National Biomass Strategy (Eckpunkte für eine Nationale Biomassestrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Consistent adaptation of existing policy instruments (e.g. subsidy programs, regulatory law, dismantling of subsidies) | National Biomass Strategy (Eckpunkte für eine Nationale Biomassestrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| that are harmful to the climate and biodiversity) to the above-mentioned guiding principles | | | |
| Introduction of new measures to manage biomass flows | National Biomass Strategy (Eckpunkte für eine Nationale Biomassesystrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrate economy and ecology in holistic approaches | | | Qualitative |
| Establish a comprehensive monitoring system, measure and analyse biomass flows and implement comparative sustainability assessments | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase resource efficiency implementing infrastructures and processes for the separation and recovery of secondary materials, and adopting methods for coupled and cascade use targeting an overall reduction in the use of raw materials. The use of biogenic resources | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Cultivation of degraded and unused areas, and of land that is used inefficient. sustainable management of post-mining landscapes and of marginal yield sites in agriculture | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Productivity of areas used for agriculture and forestry. This must, however, go hand in hand with the conservation of biodiversity and landscapes | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintenance of innovative and sustainable agricultural and forest systems that are resource-efficient, competitive and resilient in the face of changing climate and environmental conditions | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Research funds on lower input cultivation and production systems | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the increased use of certain biogenic raw materials can be developed and implemented. Like 'Charter for Wood 2.0' | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raising of consumer awareness of the specific advantages and disadvantages of bio-based products to award particularly sustainable buildings made with a holistic choice of materials and also to projects involving wood | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|---|--|---------------------|--------------|
| Increase the efficient use of residues and waste materials from agriculture and forestry | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop an enduring balance, adapted to future requirements, between the increasing demands placed on the forests and their sustainability | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring a coherent political framework for the transition to a more bio-based economy requires the closer integration of policies and strategies, particularly those applying to the areas in which bio-based materials are produced or processed | Bioeconomy Strategy | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| <i>Renewable Energy Sources Act</i> (only for electricity generation): Wind power: 69 GW by 2024, 84 GW by 2026, 99 GW by 2028, 115 GW by 2030, 157 GW by 2035, 160 GW by 2040. Solar power: 88 GW by 2024, 128 GW by 2026, 172 GW by 2028, 215 GW by 2030, 309 GW by 2035, 400 GW by 2040. Electric power from biomass sites: 8.4 GW by 2030 | Renewable Energy Sources Act (Erneubare-Energien-Gesetz) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| Create a water register and reduce exemptions from the permit requirement for groundwater withdrawals | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a guideline for handling water scarcity | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Guiding principles for regional, semi-natural water regimes | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrate public water supply and water resource management interests better into the planning process | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve integration of water planning into overall spatial planning Improve soil conservation, soil hydrology and groundwater recharge | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Semi-natural rainwater management Strengthen protection of peatlands | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture and water sector practitioners' dialogue | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



| | | | |
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| Educational programmes and advisory services for agriculture and forestry | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| National practical handbook for water-optimised land use | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Amend the Federal Forest Act to include water aspects | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify areas for floodplain development and water body development corridors and include them in planning | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures to restore, protect, improve the ecological quality of and reconnect floodplains | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen chemicals management – restrict the use of relevant pollutants to essential applications that still need to be defined | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish further environmental quality standards in water policy | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop and implement a risk-based approach for the catchment areas of withdrawal points for drinking water abstraction | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assess the impact of the measures of the Fertiliser Application Ordinance on implementation of the Nitrates Directive based on impact monitoring and, if necessary, develop them further | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop climate adaptation targets for water infrastructure | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify and assess potential synergies of flood and low water risk management, especially with regard to storage management | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adapt (technical) water regulations to climate change | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Minimise hydropower impacts on water bodies | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish uniform nationwide guidelines for regional water supply plans | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Incorporate water issues into educational programmes and advisory services for experts and managers in agriculture and forestry | National Water Strategy (Nationale Wasserstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The watercourse edge strip is five meters wide in the outer area | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Owners and beneficial owners shall maintain riparian strips with regard to their functions | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| In the riparian strip is prohibited: the conversion of grassland into arable land, and the removal of trees and shrubs suitable for their location, except for removal as part of proper forestry management, and the replanting of trees and shrubs not suitable for their location | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Owners and persons entitled to use agricultural land bordering water bodies and having a slope to the water body of at least 5 percent on average within a distance of 20 meters from the upper edge of the embankment shall maintain a closed plant cover planted with vegetation all year round within a distance of 5 meters on the land side of the upper edge of the embankment of the water body | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| The groundwater shall be managed in such a way that deterioration of its quantitative and chemical status is avoided | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reverse any significant and sustained trends of increasing pollutant concentrations due to the effects of human activities;; | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A good quantitative and a good chemical status are maintained or achieved | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A good quantitative status includes in particular a balance between groundwater abstraction and groundwater recharge. | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| No permit or authorisation is required for the abstraction, extraction, discharge or disposal of groundwater for household use, for farm use, for watering livestock off the farm, or in small quantities for a temporary purpose; for | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| purposes of ordinary soil drainage of land used for agriculture, forestry or horticulture | | | |
| Waters can be protected required by the public welfare, in order to protect them from adverse impacts | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| to enrich the groundwater or to prevent harmful runoff of precipitation water as well as the washing away and entry of soil components, fertilisers or pesticides into bodies of water | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Owners and usufructuaries' of land shall be obligated to tolerate certain measures, in particular the observation of the watercourse and the soil, the monitoring of protective regulations, the erection of fences as well as markings, plantings and reforestations | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Floodplains shall be preserved in their function as retention areas | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| It is prohibited to plant trees or shrubs when there is a conflict with the objectives of preventive flood protection | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| It is prohibited to convert riparian forest to another type of use | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| In designated flood control areas, water retention capacity of the soil, shall be improved by unsealing soils or by sustainable afforestation of suitable areas | Water Resources Act (Gesetz zur Ordnung des Wasserhaushalts) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Duly consider the contribution made by soil to climate change mitigation and adaptation | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the protection of soil biodiversity | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduce authorisation procedures under soil protection law | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The particular significance of natural soil functions/ecosystem services must be embedded more firmly in law | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Good soil condition should be defined and its attainment should be established as an viable and enforceable objective | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| The precautionary obligation in agriculture and forestry should be regulated on a more binding basis and thus make a substantial contribution to achieving sustainability goals | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The protection of soil from material inputs must be strengthened | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil conservation areas should be identified for certain soils | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Clear technical specifications for precautionary soil protection and its harmonisation with other sectoral regulations, unambiguous procedural rules and an improved data pool can remove existing obstacles to implementation | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Duly consider the contribution made by soil to climate change mitigation and adaptation | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the protection of soil biodiversity | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduce authorisation procedures under soil protection law | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The particular significance of natural soil functions/ecosystem services must be embedded more firmly in law | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Good soil condition should be defined and its attainment should be established as a viable and enforceable objective | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The precautionary obligation in agriculture and forestry should be regulated on a more binding basis and thus make a substantial contribution to achieving sustainability goals | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The protection of soil from material inputs must be strengthened | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil conservation areas should be identified for certain soils | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Clear technical specifications for precautionary soil protection and its harmonisation with other sectoral regulations, unambiguous procedural rules and an improved data pool can remove existing obstacles to implementation | Federal Soil protection Act (Bundes-Bodenschutzgesetz) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Soil cultivation must always be adapted to the site, taking into account the weather conditions, | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The soil structure is maintained or improved | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil compaction, especially by taking into account soil type, soil moisture, and soil pressure caused by equipment used for agricultural land use, shall be avoided as much as possible | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil erosion should be avoided as much as possible through site-appropriate use, especially by taking into account slope, water and wind conditions, and land cover | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The natural structural elements of the field, especially hedges, copses, field margins and field terraces, which are necessary for the protection of the soil, are preserved | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The biological activity of the soil is maintained or promoted through appropriate crop rotation design | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The site-typical humus content of the soil is maintained, in particular by a sufficient supply of organic matter or by reducing the tillage intensity | Key points for a reform of national soil protection law (BMUV) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |

APPENDIX III List of identified Austrian policy targets by sector

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Forestry | | | |
| Compensation for loss of value due to bark beetle damages | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Installation of wet and dry deposits for damaged wood | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Afforestation and tending measures after calamities | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Mechanical debarking as a forest protection measure | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Measures to regulate tree species composition for developing climate fit forests | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Measures to prevent forest fires | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Research directed at climate fit forests | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |



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| Measures to promote biodiversity in forests | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Research directed at wood gas and biofuels as well as creating a research site to produce wood gas and bio fuels | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| Measures for the increased use of the raw material wood | Forest fund act (Waldfondsgesetz) | Legally Binding | Qualitative |
| No reduction in total forested area; Increase in regions with small forested areas | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Total stock of wood shall not decrease | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The area share of older forests in economically used forests shall remain the same | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| In the long run, 2.5 % of the total number of trees shall be >50 cm | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduction in the emissions of air pollutants | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| No surpassing of critical levels of concentration of air pollutants according to IG-L | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Needle-/tree defoliation: Decrease in crown transparency stages 2, 3 and 4 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Needle-/Leaf analysis: Decrease in the share of net points exceeding threshold values | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| In economically used forests: Decrease in peel, bite, pastoral and logging damage to certain percentages | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| In economically used protective forests: Decrease in peel and bite damage by 5 and 10 % as well as a 10 % decrease in inhibition factors for wood pasture | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Average yearly wood use of at least 85 % of the increment | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Timber: Increase in total logging to 18.5m m ³ of the 5-year average | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| 10-20 % increased value of marketed non-wood forest products until 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Value of marketed services in forests shall markedly (+20%) increase by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in the share of forest areas that are being managed according to a management plan or equal plan | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase in the number and extent of areas that are funded by the Austrian Programme for rural development | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 40 forest sectoral plans by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| No wood from illegal logging | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| No violations of the forest code or a decrease in the 10 year average | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintaining or increasing the share of certified forest area of total forest area | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Reduction of sites with non-existing rejuvenation in areas that are declared as needing rejuvenation both in economically used forests and protective forest compared to the reference year of 2000/02 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in existing rejuvenation sites in protective forests by 50,000 ha by 2012, compared to the reference year of 2000/02 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in existing rejuvenation sites in protective forests by 50,000 ha by 2012, compared to the reference year of 2000/02 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Lower the 'artificially' forested area to 0% by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintaining the ecologically important share of standing dead wood (> 20 cm DBH) of at least 3 m ³ /ha in economically used forests | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintain the share and area of gene conservation forests as well as an increase of rare provenances | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Construct, maintain and supervise seminal plantations. Harvest those whenever possible, especially for those that contain rare or endangered tree species | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Fragmentation of forest area shall not increase | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the share of forests of classes 1.2, 1.3, and 2 to 1.4 and 12 % of total forested land | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduction of areas that have a differing tree species composition to that of the potential natural vegetation by 10% by 2020 when based on individual forest communities | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| A share of more than 50% canopy cover of tree species that shape the forest community in overall canopy cover of all forest communities by 2050 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| An increase of 15% of expenses for services aimed at conserving ecosystem services by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintain the number of people with an education or training in forests in the private and public sector (base 2013) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The number of people employed in forestry shall remain the same (base 2013) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Lower the number of work-related accidents in the medium term | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| No lethal work-related accidents | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| No marked increase in permanently restricted forested area (increase of <= 10 % compared to the restricted areas of 2005) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Cultural and spiritual values: 400 activities per year, 2016-2022 a total of at least 2,500 activities | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Cultural and spiritual values: involved forested land after 10 courses: 90,000 ha | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Continue the activities to broaden awareness and extending the access to open government data in the field of natural disaster | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The budget for funding of public relations shall not decrease (base 2010) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Increase in expenses for research in forest and wood (inflation-adjusted) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in participants and alumni of forestry training centres (excluding BOKU) by 10 % (base 2005) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintain forestry-specific courses and number of students at BOKU (base 2014) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase number of advanced training courses for forest owners and increase number of participants | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase number of participants of the forest biodiversity educational project | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the share of thinnings | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Regular activities of the forest forum (Waldforum) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The number of courses on forest pedagogics shall remain steady or increase (base 2010) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in the number of registered forest educators with an education in forestry (base 2010) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in Green Care forest projects | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Pilot company network: Maintain or increase the number of participating companies in order to expand the topics and | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|---|--|---------------------|--------------|
| extend of large and small structured forests as well as international compatibility | | | |
| The number of Austrian partners or consortia in the research EIP-AGRI programme shall increase | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The budget for funding innovation in forestry shall not further decrease (base 2010) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Research projects shall continue (base 2010) to lead to successful patent applications and awards for innovation | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continuous emphasis on global sustainable forest management by Austrian politics | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| At least the same participation in international committees and summit relevant for forests | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Internationally active organisations of the forestry and wood sector at the round table of Austrian's forest dialogue: Maintain and expand international activities | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The forest sector will take a key role in climate protection | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Making full use of sustainably available reserves and enforcing the use of wood and wood products will result in decreased human CO2 emissions | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The forest's services, including ecosystem services are optimally ensured | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The evolutionary potential, natural ability for regeneration and genetical resources of forests are sustainably ensured | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| (Social) economical creation of value through ecosystem services of forests is actively pursued and sustainably ensured | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biological diversity is promoted through sustainable, multifunctional forest management | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The forest-based sector contributes to stopping the loss of biological diversity in forest ecosystems all over Austria | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Austria's green infrastructure of forests ensures sustainable protection from natural hazards and their resulting risks | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| It preserves and promotes resilience against climate and societal change | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The green infrastructure of forests is a major regulator of the natural hydrological cycle and is therefore providing an important basis for securing potable water, food and energy | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The use of wood as well as other ecosystem services of forests are socio-politically acknowledged | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The whole chain of custody is embraced as an attractive working environment in Austria | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Education, research and the transfer of knowledge promote innovation and make the forest and wood-based sector sustainable | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| A fair reconciliation of interests of the many claims on forests are ensured | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Site protective forests - No soil movements in productive protective forests on 77 % of the area at the next national inventory (ÖWI) evaluation | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Object protective forests - stop light system concerning the share of the area with a small, middle or high level of improvement measure urgency | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Funding for protective forests - The overall funds shall not decrease and all funds shall be used | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of a programme on applied protective forest research in Austria | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of a protective forest centre | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | |
| Earmarking of one million euros annually of available federal funds exclusively for the purpose of research on the topic of “protective forest” as well as systematic opening up of international research funds | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporating the protective forest in Austrian and European research promotion | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | |
| Establishment of a federal parcel-specific plan-display, that represents object-protective forests, and eventually potential site-protective forests in a geographical information system | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Analysis and assessment of the object-protective function according to subjects of protection (risks). Development of a risk-based priority planning for adapted measures | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integration of sectoral planning (hunting and ecology, tourism, and leisure-time activities, settlement and traffic development and other sectors) involving land-owners in an integral presentation and assessment | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of protective forest management plans for areas with high or very high risk due to natural hazards | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring a basic maintenance infrastructure for protective forest areas covering the whole territory | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Consideration of abiotic and biotic hazards and site-specific factors within the framework of protective forest measures | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Integration of climate scenarios in the implementation of adapted management concepts | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduction of a publicly accessible federal database about events with a harmful effect on protective forests (avalanches, mass movements, storm, forest fires, snow breakage, breaking-off of ice, bark beetle, erosion) as a basis for planning and management | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Federal survey and evaluation of the damage caused by these events | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring a sufficient quantity of seed and planting material | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development and implementation of utilisation and steering concepts for leisure-time activities and tourism in areas with great importance of protective forests. The concepts take into consideration natural resources, wildlife and hunting and are jointly developed by communities and regions | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Coordination of protective forest management, Alpine pasturage and hunting in the same spatial unit | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Separation of forest and pasture, unbundling of alpine pasturage and protective forests | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of a partnership within the framework of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept (ÖREK) with the purpose of coupling protective forest and spatial planning | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishing and creating networks of regional governance for protective forests | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening the role of protective forests in European and international forest policies; promotion of a governance network for protective forests; among other things within the framework of the European Macro-Regional Strategy for the Alpine Region (EUSALP) and the European Forestry Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO/EFC) | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Federal and regional implementation of a media campaign about the protective function of forests and the effects of climate change | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continuation of the social discourse about the protective forest within the framework of public federal and provincial protective forest platforms as well as the Austrian Forest Dialogue (Walddialog) | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Further development of formats with effective publicity: Protective forest adoption programmes and protective forest sponsorship models, establishment of an Austrian protective forest prize in coordination with already existing initiatives | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Addressing actively and involving small forest owners that hold limited farming background | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of intact protective forests as a quality label and a safety factor | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening the awareness for the high standard – also in technical terms – and degree of innovation for the treatment of protective forests in Alpine areas at national and international levels (export initiative) | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrating the topic of “protective forests” in touristic offers | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Awareness-raising for protective forests and natural hazards within the framework of the general school system | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening of university education: Specialisation “protective forest and climate” including a post-graduate course “protective forest management” | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of a training and further education priority on the topic of protective forests for forestry and hunting staff at the forestry training and education centres | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Science and technology export in protective forest management: Establishment of the Forestry Education Centre (FBZ Forstliches Bildungszentrum) Traunkirchen as an international “protective forest training centre” | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Online publication of diversified information on protective forests (knowledge, legal competences, financing) | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of a parcel-specific digital map (Protective Forest Plan) of all protective forests according to paragraph 21 Forest Act in order to increase legal security, establish a service instrument, as a basis for communication and planning | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Installation of a “one-stop-shop” at the level of the forest authorities for bundled competences and concentration of procedures (forest, nature conservation, hunting and water law | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Further development of the legal bases and their enforcement for i.e. protective forests, protective forest cooperatives and wildlife rest areas for the protection of forests; adapted to changed social and economic requirements | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of a subsidisation system with bundled instruments for the regional planning of measures from the fields of protective forest, nature conservation, wildlife ecology, wildlife management, water balance, infrastructure, and recreation | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Recognition and economic evaluation of the protective function of the forest as an ecosystem service for the population, as well as for the safety of infrastructural facilities | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Evaluation and presentation of the success of regional protective forest measures in order to increase public appreciation | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of measures in community projects with comprehensive forestry service – consulting, marking of trees, timber harvest, organisation, timber sale | Action plan protective forest (Aktionsprogramm Schutzwald) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create harmonised data basis for forest fires | Focal point forest action plan (Brennpunkt Wald Aktionsprogramm) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Refine risk assessment of forest fires | Focal point forest action plan (Brennpunkt Wald Aktionsprogramm) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Build effective alliances for the protection against forest fires | Focal point forest action plan (Brennpunkt Wald Aktionsprogramm) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Treat high-risk regions foresight fully | Focal point forest action plan (Brennpunkt Wald Aktionsprogramm) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raise awareness for the protection against forest fires and establish educational offers | Focal point forest action plan (Brennpunkt Wald Aktionsprogramm) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| Cover at least 70 % of the raw wood demand (including fire wood) from Austrian forests | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Cover at least 65 % of the raw wood demand for material use from Austrian forests | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Imports and exports of wood and wood products: Increase in a foreign trade balance surplus by 10 % by 2020 (base 2005) | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Development of log and sawn timber prices: A yearly price increase (base 2005) of at least the level of the consumer price index | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| More than two thirds of timber shall be sawn timber | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in the marketed amount of wood to 3.2m m ³ by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Illegal logging: implement the EU-regulations to an extent that the European Commission has no reason for leading infringement proceedings against Austria and so that Austria does not give market participants any incentive to introduce illegally logged wood to the market | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enter further bi- and multilateral cooperation agreements | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Wood is to be used efficiently | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The forest and wood-based sector are capable of competing internationally, innovative regarding the bioeconomy and a value adding pillar of the national economy as well as a warrantor for the development of rural areas | Austrian forest strategy 2020, including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Checks and samples as well as penalties for unlawfully introducing wood into the market or Austria and other violations | Timber trade surveillance act EUTR (Holzhandelüberwachungsgesetz EUTR) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Decarbonise the energy supply by 2050 and decarbonise the economical system (no time frame) | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |
| Developing Sustainable tourism | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase resource efficiency, realization of a circular economy | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Independence from mineral and fossil commodities | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | zur Forschung und Entwicklung des Non-legally binding BML) | | |
| Secure native resources and strengthen their resilience | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen modern agriculture, forestry and water management | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support direct producer-consumer relationships | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote emission-efficient local production and value creation | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote resilient supply systems | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Analyse and use the synergies of rural and urban areas | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguard cultural landscapes and biodiversity in forestry and agriculture | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure genetical diversity in agriculture and forestry | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protect, conserve, and restore species and habitats valuable to nature conservation | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Promote the consideration of region-specific aspects to reach the biodiversity goals | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve preventive measures and secure functioning of forests protecting against natural hazards | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen cooperation and innovation capacities in rural areas | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve broad-band provision in rural areas | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen equality, compatibility and societal political participation and social diversity | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the cooperation and innovation culture and improve touristic infrastructure | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improved material biomass-use according to the bioeconomy while taking climate protection into account | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve infrastructure, resource availability, diversification in forestry | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raise awareness on agricultural and forestry related topics in the general public | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide extensive supply of training and consulting | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the entrepreneurial competences of people working in agriculture and forestry | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve knowledge on digitalisation and innovation in forestry and agriculture as well as small and medium sized businesses | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve knowledge on efficient resource use, biodiversity and climate change | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguard and expand climate friendly, locally adapted livestock farming | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguard and improve the state of soils and soil fertility qualitatively | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Lower greenhouse gas emissions in agricultural production and rural areas | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Optimise the carbon stock in agriculture and forestry | GAP 2023 Nation Strategy plan (GAP 2023 Nationaler Strategieplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
| Promoting the sustainable handling of natural resources | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safe-guard and improve the resilience of habitats and ecosystems | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use the potential of digitization for natural environments and habitats | Program for research and development by the BML (Programm zur Forschung und Entwicklung des BML) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase in area shares of rare native tree species (e.g. fir) base: the reference year of 2000/02 | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in the share of deciduous species base: reference year of 2000/02 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in the share of shrubs in stands and of shrub sites; base: reference year of 2000/02 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maintain the shares of mountain pine and green alder in non-productive protection forests; base: reference year 2000/02 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Prevent the establishment of new invasive tree species | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Prevent the unhinged dispersal of new invasive tree species | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| No new occurrence of invasive plant species in the shrub and herb layer (i.e. no increment in affected forest areas) | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Make full use of funding schemes for the prevention of immigration and dispersal of neobiota | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| No deterioration of hazardous situations for biotopes, animal and plant species; Where possible melioration | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Stabilise the biodiversity index forest on the already high level and increase in landscapes that in comparison have levels below average | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Make full use of funding schemes | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continuous long-term reduction of areas with unfavourable inadequate and unfavourable bad conservation status | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Secure the existing contract-based conservation areas also after exceeding the contractual and funding periods | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Expand contract-based conservation areas as forestry's contribution to the preservation and improvement of forest habitats and species according to the EU's biodiversity strategy 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Nature reserves: Cover all of Austria's forest communities on an area of roughly 10,000 ha by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| No decline in forest sites with special traditional management (base: reference year 2000/02) | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| State of 30 % of endangered species, biotope types, and habitat types is improved | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Decline of pollinators is turned around | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Endemic species and biotope types are preserved | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduction, establishment and implication of invasive alien species is reduced | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 30 % of the country's area is under nature protection | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| On this 30 % of the country's area the share of strictly protected area is markedly raised | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Connectivity of protected areas is secured by habitat corridors | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forests and their biodiversity are preserved | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Degraded bogs and other carbon-rich ecosystems are restored | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Floodplains are preserved and ecological improvement measures have been implemented | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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|--|---|---------------------|--------------|
| Prioritised restoration sites are restored or show a positive trend | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Daily land consumption is reduced to 2.5 ha | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Biotope connectivity is permanently ensured through the designation of habitat corridors | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preservation of biodiversity and climate protection are harmonised | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biotope connectivity is considered in all processes and cycles of every sector | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Humans use biodiversity for recreation, staying healthy and getting healthy | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Awareness of the implications of imported products on biodiversity and the relevance of sustainable production and consumption patterns is raised | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biological diversity is universally fixed in programmes, projects and funding | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Share of biodiversity relevant funding in Austria's international funding for development is raised | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Options for the possible adjustment of the legal status of measures to protect biodiversity are discussed | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Funding for actions that improve biodiversity is sufficiently increased, financial products for economic activities promoting biodiversity have been developed | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Awareness of the value of biodiversity is increased and biodiversity is prominently fixed in curriculums of all levels of education | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Data on genetical diversity, species and habitats is available in sufficient quality and monitoring schemes have been expanded as well as implemented | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improvement of status and trends of species and habitats | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Effective protection and connection of all ecologically precious habitats | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restoration of ecosystems especially important for biodiversity and climate protection | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Marked reduction of land consumption and fragmentation | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduction of a transformative change in society and integration of biodiversity in all sectors - "Mainstreaming" | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve legal framework for maintaining biodiversity | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguard the funding for maintaining biodiversity and support actions that promote biodiversity | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Appreciation of biodiversity in society and the economy | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve scientific basis for reaching and evaluating the biodiversity goals | Austrian biodiversity strategy 2030+ (Biodiversitätsstrategie Österreichisch 2030+) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



| Climate Change | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|--------------|
| No reduction in carbon stocks of forest biomass | Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (Klimwandelanpassungsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Average sink of 691 kt CO ₂ eq./year from 2013-2020 | Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (Klimwandelanpassungsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Emissions and airborne emissions: compliance to the binding goals according to Austrian law (Emissionshöchstmengengesetz-Luft) | National energy and climate plan Periode 2021-2030 (Nationaler Energie und Klimaplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide recommended actions for the differing fields and offer links for all stakeholders involved in implementation | National energy and climate plan Periode 2021-2030 (Nationaler Energie und Klimaplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide a basis for decision making for anticipatory action in regards to future climate implications as well was promoting a successful implementation | National energy and climate plan Periode 2021-2030 (Nationaler Energie und Klimaplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Increase the value added of the forest sector to maintain the contribution of 9 bn. Euros by 2020 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the operational result alluded to the real prescribed felling in forest companies | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the per capita consumption of wood and wood products to 3.2 m ³ /capita/year by 2025 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the material wood use by up to 10 % by 2025 (base year 2000) | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce material footprint to 7 tons per capita per year by 2050 | Austrian Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (Klimwandelanpassungsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Plus 40 PJ wood-energy-carriers by 2015 (base 2005) | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the energetic use of wood by up to 10 % by 2015 (base 2000) | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Stabilise the share of wood energy to the total energy consumption on the level of 2014 | Austrian forest strategy 2020+ including the Austrian Forest Dialogue and the indicator report | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce national material footprint to 14 tons per capita and year by 2030 | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase national resource productivity by 50 % by 2030 | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase circularity rate to 18 % by 2030 | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce material consumption in private households by 10 % by 2030 | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero and drastically reduce the consumption of raw materials, energy, materials as well as waste | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The remaining demand for raw materials is widely covered by biogenic raw materials and recycled, qualitatively high-grade, sustainably sourced secondary fibre | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Still needed primary raw materials are sustainably sourced | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Product and service design in a manner that value and use are ensured for as long as possible in order to minimise waste and emissions as well as avoid pollutants | Circular economy strategy (Kreislaufwirtschaftsstrategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The soil sealing in Austria is to be massively reduced by 2030 | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| The contribution to economic output from renewable raw materials is to be significantly increased by 2030 in Austria compared to 2012 | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2030: number of scientific publications as well as transdisciplinary projects and patents in the area of bioeconomics doubled compared to 2017 | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030: number of bioeconomic application patents expected to be doubled from 2017 levels | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030: proportion of investments in bioeconomy companies of all sizes from private sources is increased considerably | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2030, Austria will have national accounts, which will include monetary variables as well as other parameters. The bioeconomy should be an important component in increasing economic performance and improving other non-monetary outcomes, e.g. health, environment or education. The goal is to boost value creation in several dimensions: economic performance, as well as social and natural capital | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2030, additional jobs will be created in the bioeconomy | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The knowledge about the bioeconomy is so widespread in the population by 2030 that people are able to form a qualified opinion on the content of the topic | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Bioeconomic topics are comprehensively anchored in education and research until 2030 | Austrian bioeconomy strategy (Österreichische Bioökonomie-Strategie) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| Reduce the share of degraded or contaminated soils | National water management plan (Nationaler Gewässerbewirtschaftungsplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Improve surface water and ground water protection | National water management plan (Nationaler Gewässerbewirtschaftungsplan) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
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APPENDIX IV List of identified Finnish policy targets by sector

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
|---|---|----------------------|--|
| Forestry | | | |
| Carbon sequestration markets and nature value markets: Increase number of contracts | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Target is to create positive development | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Applications for incentive grants are handled quickly: Target is to reduce the processing time | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Delayed maintenance operations of road network: Target is to reduce these times to improve forest access | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Awareness of forest owners on their own targets: Target is to increase awareness | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Volume of growing stock: Target is to increase the total volume | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Annual increment of growing stock: Target is to increase the increment | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Carbon sequestration in forests: Target is to increase the annual sequestration by 3 mill. t CO ₂ -ekv | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Delayed precommercial thinnings: Target is to reduce the area with delayed precommercial thinning | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Annual forest fertilisation: Target is to increase the area fertilised annually | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Percentages of different cutting methods: Target is to diversify the cutting methods | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Number of users in metsään.fi internet service: Target is to increase the number of users | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incentive grants to forest owners by different activities: Target for each activity is defined in hectares | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Income of forest owners in stumpage prices: No target nor trend defined | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Employment in bioeconomy: Target is to increase employment | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Wellbeing created by ecosystem services: actual indicator is to be developed | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | |
| Amount of dead wood in forests: Target is to move towards 10 m ³ /hectare in economic forests | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Volume of broadleaved trees: Target is to increase the volume (m ³ /ha) in economic forests | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Number of old trees: Target is to increase the number in economic forests | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Quality of closer-to-nature management activities in private forests: Target is to increase the quality -Actual indicator to be developed. | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Quality of intermediate cuttings: Target is to improve the quality | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest damage: Target is to keep the area of forest damage stable | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Percentage of mixed forests: Target is to increase the percentage | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Area of watershed level management plans for peatland forests: Target is to increase | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Public funding for Research and Innovation in forest sector: Target is to increase the funding | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Funding for the NFS2035 research and innovation programme: Target is to keep at the level defined in the programme | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Utilisation of open forest data: Target is to increase | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Students get employed and training reflects the needs of employing agents | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Produce research on acceptance of the use of forests (questionnaire study) | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Produce research on forest-related topics in media (questionnaire study) | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguard forest biodiversity, multiple use of forests and the interests of national economy, wood users and forest owners | Forest Act (HE 75/2013) (Metsälaki) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| Consumption of domestic and imported wood by forest industries and wood-based energy producers | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Investments by industries using wood: Target is that investments are higher than depreciations | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Forest owners are aware of the production capacity of their forests: Target is to increase awareness | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |
| Only few regional strategies on rural development exist | | | N/A |
| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
| By 2020 Finnish people have at least a basic knowledge of biodiversity and are aware of its significance and their own opportunities to contribute to its conservation and sustainable use | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biodiversity values have been integrated. Alternative measures to GNP have been adopted to measure how well sustainable development objectives have been realised. The goal of conserving biodiversity has also been integrated into decision-making on plans, programmes and projects | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Incentives and subsidies harmful to biodiversity have been identified and reformed, and economic controls related to biodiversity have been enhanced, considering national socioeconomic and cultural conditions | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Administration, business, civil society and stakeholders at all levels promote and implement plans for sustainable production and consumption, and keep the impacts of natural resource use within safe ecological limits | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The loss of all-natural habitats has been halted, and the degradation and fragmentation of natural habitats have been significantly reduced | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed and utilised sustainably, ensuring the conservation of biodiversity | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The multiple anthropogenic pressures on threatened ecosystems impacted by climate change have been reduced so as to maintain their integrity and functioning | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Finland's network of protected areas and the measures applied to conserve biodiversity in the use of other areas together cover at least 17 per cent of the terrestrial environments and inland waters of the country, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The functionality and coverage of the network have particularly been improved in Southern Finland | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Protected areas are suitably managed and ecologically and regionally representative: they are well connected, and green infrastructure also connects them to wider landscape entities, with regard to the special features of heritage landscapes | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Biodiversity also continues to be safeguarded in commercially managed forests | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



| | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|--------------|
| The extinction of threatened species has been prevented in Finland and the conservation statuses of those most threatened have been improved, with declining trends halted | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The genetic biodiversity of Finland's cultivated plants and their wild relatives, forest trees, fish stocks, and farmed and domesticated animals has been preserved and safeguarded | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, considering socioeconomic and cultural considerations, notably the needs of the indigenous Sámi community | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks have been enhanced through conservation and restoration. Finland participates in global efforts to restore at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification: the impacts of the increased use of bioenergy on biodiversity and the nutrient and carbon cycles of forests have been assessed, and guidelines have been set to safeguard biodiversity | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of the indigenous Sámi community relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, restored and conserved, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, by developing legislation and administrative procedures related to the protection of this traditional knowledge. Finland's implementation of the CBD allows for the full and effective participation of the Sámi community at all relevant levels in line with decisions set out in the CBD and by COPs | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends have been improved, and are widely utilised, applied and transferred to those needing such knowledge and technology: the impact assessment processes for plans and projects are open | National Nature Recreation Strategy 2030 (Kansallinen luonnon virkistysstrategia 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase recreation in forest to improve the health and wellbeing of citizen and also increases the regard of nature among citizen | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase access to recreation areas: no concrete indicator defined | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Public health through nature recreation: target is to improve. No concrete indicator defined | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase respect of nature: no concrete indicator defined | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase biodiversity: no concrete indicator defined | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Knowledge of acceptable behaviour in nature: target is to improve - no concrete indicator defined | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve network of recreation areas: target is to improve - area is suitable indicator as such | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | | |
| Improve digital services for nature recreation areas | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Trails and other services in recreation areas: target is to improve | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Information on recreation: target to improve -no concrete indicator defined. | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve know-how on recreation | Saving Nature for people: Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland 2013-2020 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Climate Change | | | |
| Implementation of research and development programme targeted to adaptation of the forest sector as a part of the National Forest Strategy | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| New incentive system to support adaptation of forestry | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development and implementation of a new watershed level management planning model, including water management needs in agriculture, forestry and constructed land | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improved network of protected areas and management of protected areas | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Recovery and management of degraded habitats to improve resilience | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Climate change is considered in planning, implementation and level of the protection of species and habitats | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Systematic monitoring system for effects of climate change on species and habitats | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improved policy coherence of adaptation activities in the different policy sectors | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of nature-based solutions and related legislation and timeliness of training materials and promoting of runoff management | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mainstreaming of nature-based solutions for water management in agriculture and forestry | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of national process for managing draught risks, including development of regional risk management | Climate Change Adaption Plan (Ilmastonmuutoksen sopeutumissuunnitelma) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase of annual carbon sequestration in state owned forests by 0.4 MtCO ₂ -ekv. by 2030 and 0.7-0.9 by 2035 | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reducing deforestation for agriculture by 900 hectares/year in peatlands and by 800 hectares/year in mineral soils, leading to reduced emissions by 0.5 MtCO ₂ -ekv | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reducing deforestation for built-up land | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of fine system for changing land use | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Afforestation of waste lands | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Afforestation of poorly productive agriculture land by 9 000 hectares | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| 30% of rich spruce fens are managed with continuous cover management system | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increasing ash fertilisation in peatland forests by 26 000 hectares/year | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implementation of watershed level management planning in agriculture and forestry in 100 000 hectares | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Pilot projects for promoting of voluntary carbon markets in land use sector | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continuation of Catch Carbon research innovation programme | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Pilot projects for trials and putting in practice scientific knowledge | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Fertilisation (nitrogen) added by 24 000 hectare/year | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Fast reforestation and improved genetic materials in regeneration after final felling | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increasing dead wood in forests for carbon storage | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Promoting of carbon storage in harvested wood products | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of greenhouse gas inventory methodology | Government Report on the climate plan for the LULUCF sector VNS 7/2022 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Companies are encouraged to launch new industrial ecosystems with the aim of developing technologies and business concepts around new bio-products | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase in value added for bio-based packaging | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening the resource-efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the forest sector through digitalisation | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the resource efficiency of the wood product industry and wood construction in energy, raw materials, labour, information and capital use | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the product properties of wood in the current areas of use and expand use to new application areas | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the use of wood and other natural materials in new construction | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support the development and export of construction products that increase the value added of wood | The Finnish Bioeconomy Strategy (Suomen biotalousstrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote construction of wind mills. (Several other targets and actions mentioned, but not relevant to forests/forestry. This is relevant because will lead to deforestation): Support investments, advising, communication, demonstration projects | Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy (Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote production of bioenergy and availability of sustainable raw-material streams by improving logistics and supply chains. Forest relevant actions: support to pre-commercial management of forests, develop the network of | Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy (Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| terminals for forest biomass, support to maintenance of forestry roads | | | |
| Avoid using large dead wood and timber-sized wood for energy production | Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy (Carbon neutral Finland 2035: National climate and energy strategy) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| Impact of forest management in water quality. Target is to reduce the phosphorus, humus, organic carbon, and nitrogen fluxes | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil quality: actual indicator to be developed | Forest Strategy 2035 (Kansallinen Metsästrategia) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |

APPENDIX V List of identified Irish policy targets by sector

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Forestry | | | |
| Establish the foundation for the Shared National Vision for 2050, focusing on the right trees in the right places for the right reasons with the right management | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve a major annual expansion of climate-resilient and healthy forests, following principles of Sustainable Forest Management, at a rate of 8000ha per annum | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Optimise Irish forests' potential as a long-term carbon sink and store, accounting for sequestered carbon and addressing legacy impacts on peatlands | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop systems to measure, record, and optimise carbon storage in wood products | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the use of sustainable wood products from Irish forests as alternatives to carbon-intensive products | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Expand native forests significantly and diversify native tree species | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Safeguard and enhance air, water, soils, landscapes, habitats, and protected species through forestry practices | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protect and enhance ancient and long-established woodlands. | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop strategies to manage and control invasive species effectively in Irish forests | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the supply of sustainable raw material from Ireland's forest resource | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the use of wood in the construction sector, particularly in Irish homes | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop new markets for wood and wood products | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage private forest owners' participation in forest certification | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote forest use for leisure, recreation, and well-being, emphasising physical and mental health benefits | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve public access and facilities in forests | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance community involvement and trust in forest planning | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Deliver educational opportunities to increase awareness of tree and forest benefits | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the overall economic value of Irish forests | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support a transition to a low carbon economy | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Boost rural economies by expanding wood product markets and sustainable practices | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the bioeconomy through forestry, fostering innovation and diversification | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish new organisational arrangements for strategy monitoring | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop efficient regulatory and legislative structures | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote land integration of trees and forests | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance forest culture through awareness initiatives | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create incentives for forest creation and management | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Promote sustainable forest management | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Monitor and assess forest health and condition | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support education, skills, and careers in forestry | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster research and innovation in forest management and wood product usage | Ireland's Forest Strategy 2023 – 2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Target of 8,000ha per annum broken down by 12 forest types | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increased premiums to 20 years for farmers | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Significantly increase grant and premium rates | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 20% broadleaf now mandatory for all conifer forest types | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Annual broadleaf target will increase to 50% of total annual planting | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| New Forest Types proposed –Forests for water, Emergent Woodland, Neighbourwoods, Seed Orchards, and Continuous Cover Forestry | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Woodland Environmental Fund option will continue -€1,000 per ha top up by a company to the landowner | Forestry Programme 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Enable the creation of 100,000 hectares of new forests, half of which will be native woodlands, which will sink 18m tonnes CO2 by 2050 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Manage the existing Forest Estate to increase the carbon store by 10m tonnes of CO2 by 2050 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Redesign 30,000 hectares of Peatland Forests for climate and ecological benefits by 2050 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Generate an additional 1 Gigawatt of renewable wind energy to power 500,000 homes by 2030 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Enhance and restore biodiversity by increasing the area of our estate managed primarily for nature from 20% to 30% by 2025 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Transform areas of our forests so that 50% of our estate is managed primarily for Nature in the long-term | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Produce 25m cubic metres of certified Irish timber, to support the construction of 300,000 homes by 2030 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Promote the use and benefits of wood products to increase the level of timber homes from 20% to 80% by 2050 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Promote the use and benefits of wood products to increase the level of timber homes from 20% to 80% by 2050 | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Double the number of Recreation Areas to 500, to benefit local communities and people's wellbeing | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Create 1,200 new jobs in rural communities to support the just transition to a low carbon economy | Coillte: Strategic Vision for Our Future Forest Estate | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| No targets identified | European Union (Timber and Timber Products) (Placing on the Market) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 316/2014) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |
| Agricultural sector to reduce GHG emissions by 22-30% | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Expect a 1.3 MT reduction in agriculture emissions by 2030, part of a total 5-7 MT CO2 eq reduction target | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Agriculture to contribute 2 MT towards the 4.8 MT LULUCF emissions reduction target by 2030; CSP will deliver 1.2 MT from 2023-2027 | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 via afforestation and forest management | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 80,000 ha. of reduced management intensity on drained organic soils | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Carbon sequestration management on at least 450,000 hectares of grasslands | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Cover crops in tillage on at least 50,000 hectares by 2030 | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Incorporation of straw in at least 10% of the tillage area | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Financial support for multiple low-carbon and biodiversity programs | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Concentration of supply for Fruit and Vegetables is 72.18% | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 4.76% UAA under commitments to improve climate adaptation | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| 8.88% UAA under commitments for carbon storage | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 25.54 MW capacity in renewable energy production | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 15.05% of farms benefit from climate-related CAP investment | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 10.61% UAA under soil-improving commitments | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 42.44% UAA under nutrient management commitments | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 7.45% UAA under sustainable pesticide commitments | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 234,898 training programs for environmental/climate performance | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 7.46% UAA supported for organic farming | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Improve water quality and adopt a catchment-based approach | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance land and grassland management, focusing on soil fertility | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage straw incorporation for better soil quality | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote sustainable farming systems like organic farming | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Make fertilisers use more efficient to cut down on nitrogen and ammonia emissions | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve on-farm slurry storage and management | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Manage peatlands more effectively | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage the adoption of agri-digitalisation and smart farming | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster environmental and climate change education at the farm level | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase afforestation and agroforestry | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage a whole-of-farm approach linking economic and environmental sustainability | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| 42.44% of the Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA) should focus on improved nutrient management | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 7.45% of UAA should focus on the sustainable use of pesticides | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 10.61% of UAA should be under commitments beneficial for soil management | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| 9.32% of UAA should be under commitments to reduce emissions and enhance carbon storage | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 4.88% of UAA should be under commitments to reduce ammonia emissions | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 6.80% of UAA should be under commitments to improve the quality of water bodies | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Incentivise High Nature Value (HNV) farming and ecosystem services | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance and maintain biodiversity on farms | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Manage forests and increase afforestation | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote low-input farming | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Educate farmers about biodiversity | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Engage the community and industry on biodiversity initiatives | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use resources effectively for environmental farm profiling | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil management beneficial for soil quality and biota: 10.61% of agricultural area | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Sustainable and reduced use of pesticides: 7.45% of agricultural area | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Natural resources-related investment: 13.93% of farms benefitting | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Environmental training: 234,898 trainings | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Organic farming: 7.46% of agricultural area supported | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Preserving habitats and species: 38.73% of agricultural area supported | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Investments related to biodiversity: 14.35% of farms benefitting | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Natura 2000 management: 80.14% area supported | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Develop sustainable tourism and agri-tourism | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Expand bio-economy and circular economy | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Manage and expand forestry | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage community-based energy production | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase afforestation rates | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Leverage market opportunities for wood and biomass | Ireland - CAP Strategic Plan | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Deliver flagship projects through the Just Transition Fund, such as the €108 million Bord na Móna Peatlands Restoration Project | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Maximise resources and strengths in the Green Economy for rural employment opportunities | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase rural population, particularly in settlements of <10,000 | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Support employment in the Green Economy for rural communities | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Examine recommendations of the SME Growth Plan for rurally based businesses | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support the development of Social Enterprises in rural areas | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Expand the use of socially responsible public procurement contracts | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop the Wild Atlantic Way, Ireland's Hidden Heartlands, and Ireland's Ancient East to boost tourism | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Publish an interim Action Plan for Sustainable Tourism | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement a new National Outdoor Recreation Strategy with a target of 80 new trails | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement a new National Heritage Plan, Heritage Ireland 2030 | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Deliver strategic investment programs through the €1 billion Rural Regeneration and Development Fund | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance the powers of Local Authorities to offer rate-based incentives for businesses | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Invest in infrastructure like water and wastewater systems for rural towns and villages | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase residential occupancy while adhering to national planning guidelines | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Enact and implement the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill for net-zero emissions by 2050 | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop new engagement models for societal contribution to climate action | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enable community energy for 70% of electricity through renewables by 2030 | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Expand the Sustainable Energy Communities Network from 500 to 1,500 by 2030 | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Rehabilitate peatlands for carbon reduction, sequestration, and enhanced biodiversity | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support R&D in agri-food, biobased systems, smart agriculture, and precision agriculture | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Pilot a results-based agri-environment scheme for sustainable farming | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Publish a successor forestry program with an afforestation target of 8,000 ha/year | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative Quantitative |
| Provide ongoing support for knowledge and skill development in agriculture and forestry sectors | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop the Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan for 2023-2027 | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Review the means test for Farm Assist | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Economic and Social Advancement | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support rural communities in developing long-term cohesive Master Plans | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a rural proofing model | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support new research into rural development priorities | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Establish a Higher Education Institutions Network on rural development | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance information sharing and deepen international engagement on rural development | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| These targets are designed to meet the policy's objectives and are to be implemented through collaborations among Government Departments, State Agencies, and Local Authorities | Our Rural Future Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
| By involving all sectors in shared responsibility and strengthening legislation, forestry would be mandated to integrate biodiversity conservation measures: this could include more stringent logging restrictions and the requirement for reforestation plans that favor native species | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Optimising opportunities under agriculture and rural development policies to benefit biodiversity suggests that sustainable forestry practices would be encouraged, perhaps incentivised | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| As forestry activities can impact flood risk and drainage, this target may mean implementing forest management practices that are harmonised with flood risk planning | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancing the knowledge base could involve forestry research initiatives focused on conservation and sustainable use, perhaps through the planting of more diverse species, soil management, or sustainable harvesting techniques | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of pollutants in terrestrial ecosystems might include limitations on the use of pesticides and fertilisers in forestry | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest managers might be required to control invasive species within forest lands, which could involve changes to current forestry practices | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Improved enforcement of wildlife laws would likely necessitate stricter monitoring of forestry activities to protect wildlife habitats | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The expansion and improvement of protected areas may restrict commercial forestry activities in these zones: It could also mean forestry practices need to be adjusted to help improve the status of protected species, perhaps by creating buffer zones or wildlife corridors | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| If forestry products are part of Irish trade, reducing its impact on global biodiversity could necessitate sustainability certifications or other measures that ensure responsible forestry practices are being followed | Ireland's 3rd National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Organisational Capacity and Governance: By 2023, improved progress reporting mechanisms will be implemented, and a cross-departmental capacity review will be carried out -By 2024, the government aims to have a comprehensive understanding of its biodiversity-related expenditures and needs. There are plans to fully implement the OPW's Biodiversity Action Strategy by 2026 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Local Authority Involvement: By 2026, local authorities are expected to increase their capacity to carry out biodiversity-related duties. Every local authority should have its own Biodiversity Action Plan by the end of 2026 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Land Use and Agriculture: A National Land Use Review will be completed by 2023. The impact and efficacy of biodiversity measures under the Common Agricultural Policy will be monitored by 2027, and agricultural policy will align with on-farm biodiversity initiatives by 2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Public and Private Sector Engagement: Public awareness about biodiversity is aimed to increase by 20% by 2027. A Biodiversity Citizen Science Strategy will be in progress by 2024, and at least 900 businesses will be involved in the Business for Biodiversity platform by 2025 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Legal and Regulatory Framework: Legislation arising from the review of Wildlife will be in place by 2027, and increased compliance with this legislation is targeted by 2030 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Designated Areas and Species Protection: DHLGH will review and enforce existing regulations and directives to bolster the protection of habitats and species by 2030. It aims to identify new protected areas by the end of 2023 and seeks to ensure all habitats and species are either in favorable status or moving toward it by 2030 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Biodiversity in Countryside and Agriculture: The policy targets a diverse set of sustainable farming and land management practices, like increasing land under organic farming to 7.5% by 2030. It also aims to reduce pesticide usage by 50% by 2030 and halt and reverse the decline of pollinators. Native tree planting is also to be continually supported | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Freshwater Bodies: The goal is to ensure all freshwater bodies are at a 'Good Ecological Status' by 2027, in line with the EU Water Framework Directive. This involves implementing the River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) from 2022-2027 and adhering to the Nitrates Action Plan by December 2025 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Genetic Diversity: The policy seeks to increase the proportion of species with at least 90% of their genetic diversity maintained by 2030. Strategies for plant conservation will be in progress by 2027, along with collaborative efforts by Irish seed banks to preserve native plants | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| National Restoration and EU Targets: The policy aligns with the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030, including specific river restoration targets. It aims to restore 300 km of rivers to a free-flowing state by 2030 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Control of Invasive Alien Species (IAS): The goal is to control, manage, and where possible, eliminate invasive species by 2030. Special focus will be given to controlling invasive species within Protected Areas and other key ecological zones | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| A 10-year national heritage plan, Heritage Ireland 2030, is in progress or completed by 2027 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strategies on biodiversity and traditional crafts, trades, and farming are to be published by end 2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancement of biocultural value in urban green and blue spaces by end 2027 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| A policy statement that includes biodiversity, landscape, and community development is planned for publication by end 2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2023, the National Outdoor Recreation Strategy will incorporate considerations of biodiversity | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Companies will be expected to report in accordance with the EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) by 2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enterprise Ireland and IDA are to include biodiversity considerations in their activities and strategies by 2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The National Bioeconomy Action Plan will contain recommendations for sustainable use and protection of biodiversity by 2023 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 90% of businesses in the Business for Biodiversity platform will have conducted an impact assessment related to biodiversity by the end of 2027 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2024, best practice guidelines for incorporating biodiversity, green infrastructure, and nature-based solutions into planning and development will be available | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2026, research will strengthen the evidence base on how climate change impacts biodiversity | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2024, biodiversity will be explicitly considered in the next cycle of sectoral climate adaptation plans | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 33,000 hectares of Bord na Móna-owned peatlands will be rehabilitated by 2026 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | |



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| Biodiversity representatives will be included in the revised Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan (ORED II) by 2023 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| An ongoing monitoring program for agricultural bioenergy sources is to be developed by the end of 2023 and implemented by mid-2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2025, nature-based solutions will contribute to Ireland's climate ambitions | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Significant progress will be made by 2023 to restore and rewet raised bog protected areas, as per existing management and action plans | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2026, a review identifying skills gaps in biodiversity will be completed | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2024, essential biodiversity research gaps for supporting conservation and restoration will be identified and prioritised | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By the end of 2024, an ongoing conservation needs assessment will be implemented for focused resource allocation | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By the end of 2025, industrial consent and license-related data will be more readily available | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Research projects covering various biodiversity-relevant topics are underway by the end of 2025 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2024, biodiversity monitoring will be robust enough to detect changes over time and fulfill reporting obligations | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improved guidance for habitat surveying and mapping will be available by 2024 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ongoing publication of Red Lists and systematic baseline surveys for invasive species will be maintained | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2023, the National Land Cover Map will be published | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The first national assessment of ecosystem services will be completed by the end of 2024 and again by 2027 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| By the end of 2025, systems for natural capital accounting will be developed and implemented | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Habitat biodiversity assessments will be conducted on all National Farm Survey farms by 2030 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2027, alignment will be achieved between relevant EU LIFE projects that work separately | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2024, cross-border consortia will secure grant funding for biodiversity-related projects | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| An all-island approach to managing invasive species will be adopted by 2025 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Investment priorities in the Shared Island chapter of the revised National Development Plan will be implemented by 2027 | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2027, the AICBRN (All-Island Climate and Biodiversity Research Network) will advance research with government support | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support for the All-Island Pollinator Plan and other all-island biodiversity initiatives will continue | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2025, Ireland will enhance its engagement with international biodiversity initiatives | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2023, Ireland will strengthen the inclusion of biodiversity in its international diplomacy and financing efforts | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Starting from 2024, a system will be in place for enhanced contributions to EU and international data hubs and networks | Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Climate Change | | | |
| Review the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 for potential legislative enhancements | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Involve the Climate Change Advisory Council in annual and periodic reviews of adaptation and resilience, while developing Ireland's first national climate change risk assessment | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Create adaptation indicators at national, sectoral, and local levels | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Fund Met Éireann research for local climate simulations and extreme weather event forecasting | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Align national adaptation research priorities with sectoral and local planning through the National Climate Research Coordination Group | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure emergency planning is aligned with climate proofing measures | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster collaboration in sectoral adaptation planning for inter-dependencies across sectors | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Analyse the enterprise implications of climate change and adaptation | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support international partnerships to contribute to global climate resilience | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement annual sectoral adaptation reporting to the Oireachtas | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Engage in collaborative efforts with other jurisdictions on adaptation and resilience | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Fulfil international reporting obligations including those under the Paris Agreement and EU mechanisms | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a new National Adaptation Framework | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Identify a methodology for the use of climate indicators in sectoral adaptation planning process | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Produce guidance on the assessment of adaptation measures and the development of Climate Change Adaptation Plans for past and new flood relief schemes | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Update the existing Minor Works Programme to ensure applications consider the potential impacts of climate change and, where necessary, that any measures proposed provide for, or are adaptable to, possible future changes in flood risk | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop options for the delivery of a National Implementation Strategy for Nature-Based Solutions and interim guidance to the management of rainwater and surface water runoff in urban areas | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Produce climate change groundwater flood maps and assess predicted climate change impacts to groundwater flooding at four pilot sites | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Finalise scoping report on coastal change management | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Translate the national standard set of climate projections | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop Climate Ireland portal as Ireland's climate information platform as part of the NFCS | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mainstream climate change adaptation into energy policy and strategic objectives to 2050 | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate adaptation to climate change in the ongoing programme of renewal and maintenance by EirGrid, ESB Networks and Gas Networks Ireland | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Publish a report following completion of ComReg's network resilience project: 'Climate Change and its Effect on Network Resilience in Ireland', and where appropriate implement the findings and key take-aways | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Collate and review the various methodologies available to calculate the environmental impact of electronic communications networks and promote the harmonisation of such measurement indicators across the EU | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the resilience of Ireland's water infrastructure to the impacts of climate change | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a better understanding of the health impacts of climate change in Ireland by undertaking analysis and research to obtain baseline information on the impacts of severe weather, flooding and drought on public health | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a new public health heat wave plan and seek to ensure more uniform system-wide planning for heatwaves | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Build the knowledge base required to improve health infrastructure resilience to severe weather events: severe wind, heat waves, flooding, and extreme cold snaps | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Engage with key stakeholders and adaptation practitioners in relation to building climate resilience and the importance of adapting to climate change Adaptation 282 | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase awareness of water conservation and the importance of protecting Ireland's water resources among students through the Green-Schools Partnership programme | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Frameworks & Methodologies: Develop a National Adaptation Framework and methodology for using climate indicators | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Flood Management: Create guidelines for flood relief schemes and update Minor Works Programme for climate resilience | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Nature-Based Solutions: Develop a National Implementation Strategy and assess pilot sites for groundwater flooding | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Coastal Management: Finalise a scoping report on coastal changes | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Data & Technology: Standardise climate projections and develop an Irish climate information portal | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Real-time Management: Operationalise the ANYWHERE system | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy & Infrastructure: Mainstream climate adaptation in energy policy and utilities' maintenance programs | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Network Resilience: Publish report on network resilience and implement findings | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Environmental Impact: Harmonise methodologies to calculate environmental impact across the EU | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Water Infrastructure: Improve resilience against climate impacts | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Public Health: Conduct research on health impacts of severe weather and develop specific plans for heatwaves | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Community & Education: Engage stakeholders in building climate resilience and raise water conservation awareness among students (Targets 19 & 20) | National Adaptation Framework: Planning for a Climate Resilient Ireland | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Establishment of a Just Transition Commission to advise the government | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Adoption of specific indicators to measure progress on just transition | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancement of social protection policies, especially in training and employment activation for those at risk | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Targeted implementation strategy for the Midlands region, which is already experiencing negative impacts due to the phase-out of peat extraction for power generation. | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| National Just Transition Fund, the plan commits to supporting 56 projects in the Midlands with up to €22 million in grant funding until 2024, expected to leverage an additional €15 million in funding and create an estimated 178 direct and 999 indirect jobs | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| The EU Just Transition Fund will further contribute €169 million in investment to the region by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Direct public and private investments toward achieving the plan's objectives | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Public investment of €165 billion over 2021-2030, higher than the EU average | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| electricity generation and large industry in the ETS are subject to EU-wide targets which require that emissions from these sectors be reduced by 43% by 2030, relative to 2005 levels | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| reduce its emissions from these sectors by 30% by 2030, relative to 2005 levels | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase renewable electricity to 80% by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Targets of 9 GW from onshore wind, 8 GW from solar, and at least 5 GW of offshore wind by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Attract businesses to invest in decarbonisation technologies | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Decouple economic progress from fossil fuel use, requiring carbon-neutral heating, energy efficiency, and zero-emission gas in industry | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Retrofit 500,000 homes by 2030, including free upgrades for low-income households | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Install 680,000 renewable energy heat sources | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| New dwellings to meet Nearly Zero Energy Building standards by 2025 and Zero Emission Building standards by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Significant reduction in transport emissions by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| 20% reduction in total vehicle kilometers, reduction in fuel usage, and significant increases in sustainable transport trips | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Continued fleet electrification and use of biofuels | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reducing chemical Nitrogen use to a maximum of 300,000 tonnes (2021-2030 = 0.5 – 0.65 MtCO ₂ eq.) Contributing to the delivery of the LULUCF targets for afforestation and reduced management intensity of organic soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Mobilise recommendations of the Food Vision sectoral groupings and support land use diversification options for livestock farmers, such as anaerobic digestion, forestry and tillage to incentivise voluntary livestock reductions (2021-2030 = 1.5 MtCO ₂ eq.) | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Invest in diversification measures to underpin the agriculture sector's transformation | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prioritise environmental, social, and economic sustainability | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduce farm practices that allow for world-class food production with a lower carbon footprint | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use less chemical nitrogen and more targeted use of fertilisers | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve herd genetics to reduce emissions and increase productivity | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Incentivise organic farming | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Diversify into forestry, biomethane, and energy production | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase our annual afforestation rates from approximately 2,000 hectares (ha) per annum in 2021 and 2022 to 8,000 ha per annum from 2023 onwards, to deliver an additional 28,000 ha of afforestation across the first carbon budget period | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Promote forest management initiatives in both public and private forests to increase carbon sinks and stores | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the store of carbon in harvested wood products in line with projected forecasts | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the inclusion of cover crops in tillage to 25,000 ha | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the incorporation of straw to 35,000 ha of tillage (cereal) area | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Improve our management for carbon sequestration of 200,000 ha of grasslands on mineral soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce the management intensity of grasslands on 25,000 ha of drained organic soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Rehabilitate 33,000 ha of peatlands as part of the Bord na Móna Enhanced Decommissioning, Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme and LIFE People and Peatlands programmes | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incentivise an increase to the area of afforestation by 68,000 ha | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Promote forest management changes and initiatives across public and private forests to increase carbon sinks and stores | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the inclusion of cover crops in tillage to 50,000 ha | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| the incorporation of straw to 55,000 ha of tillage (cereal) area | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Improve the management for carbon sequestration of 450,000 ha of grasslands on mineral soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce the management intensity of grasslands on 80,000 ha of drained organic soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Rehabilitate 35,900 ha of peatlands as part of the Bord na Móna's EDRRS and LIFE People and Peatlands programmes, and 41,700 ha of additional peatlands, to provide a total of 77,600 ha of rehabilitated peatlands | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| An enhanced new Forestry Programme which includes a range of forest creation measures, including native woodland expansion and planting of small native trees areas | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The work of Project Woodland to address the issues with the licencing backlog and streamline the licensing process for the future | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| An Inter-Departmental Working Group to facilitate coordination of the relevant actions to implement the Forest Strategy and Forestry Implementation Plan 2023-2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continued funding to the EDRRS for 33,000 ha of post-production peatlands across the Midlands | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Incentivise increased afforestation to 8,000 ha per annum, in order to start increasing planting to a rate consistent with realising our 2030 ambition and contributing to achieving carbon neutrality | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Launch a new Forestry Programme in 2023 focusing on the importance of climate-smart forestry | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Develop, assess, and adopt as appropriate Coillte's Strategic Vision which aims to capture additional carbon dioxide in its forests, soils and wood products by 2050 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| the Coillte estate to increase carbon storage by: Managing the age profile of our forest estate to improve its carbon efficiency | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| the Coillte estate to increase carbon storage by: Expanding proactive silvicultural management of our broadleaf estate | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| the Coillte estate to increase carbon storage by: Redesigning peatland forests to improve the carbon balance | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continue to support sustainable forest management (SFM) interventions across the entire forestry sector | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the inclusion of cover crops in tillage to at least 50,000 ha by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Launch the Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan (CSP) which will include a Cover Crop Measure and a capital support measure for investments in the tillage sector | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop the necessary research and data to facilitate the inclusion of this measure in the national emissions inventories | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the incorporation of straw to at least 55,000 ha of tillage (cereal) area by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Continue to fund the Straw Incorporation Measure | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Launch a capital support measure for investments in the tillage sector as part of the CSP | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop the necessary research and data to facilitate the inclusion of this measure in the national emissions inventories | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the management of at least 450,000 ha of grassland on mineral soils for carbon sequestration by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include measures in the CSP to improve sequestration on mineral grasslands under the Agri-Environment and Climate Measure (AECM) and Eco-Schemes | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Impose mandatory requirements under derogation to enhance carbon sequestration under the Nitrates Regulations | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Install the remaining GHG towers on mineral soil sites as a part of the National Agricultural Soil Carbon Observatory (NASCO) | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Develop the necessary research and data to facilitate the inclusion of this measure in the national emissions inventories | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce the management intensity of at least 80,000 ha of drained, agricultural, managed, carbon-rich soils by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Launch the CSP and include a Low Input Peat Grassland Measure under the AECM | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Open a new fund under the CSP to extend funding for the European Innovation Projects (EIP) | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Aim to improve peatland mapping by continuing to fund the RePEAT Project | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Leverage opportunities from the EU Just Transition Fund to support research, knowledge transfer and monitoring activities of farmed peat soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Install the remaining GHG towers on peat soil sites as a part of the NASCO | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop the necessary research and data to facilitate the inclusion of this measure in the national emissions inventories | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restore/rewet raised bog Special Areas of Conservation and Natural Heritage Areas – such restoration measures, and hydrological management of our protected peatlands, will halt and reduce peat oxidation and carbon loss | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake further research to assess the potential to sequester, store and reduce emissions of carbon through the management, restoration and rehabilitation of peatlands as outlined in the National Peatlands Strategy | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Upgrade land-use and habitat mapping systems to establish the baseline condition of wetlands, and inform the development of best-practice guidelines for wetland management, including the management of degraded sites and peatlands currently exploited for energy peat extraction | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop further measures to help rehabilitate exploited and degraded peatlands, including as part of national land-use | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| planning and the new Common Agricultural Policy, while recognising that strategies may need to differ between regions | | | |
| Rehabilitate 35,900 ha of peatlands as part of the Bord na Móna's EDRRS and LIFE People and Peatlands programmes, and 41,700 ha of additional peatlands, to provide a total of 77,600 ha of rehabilitated peatlands by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Develop the necessary research and data to facilitate the inclusion of this measure in the national emissions inventories | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake further bog rehabilitation: rehabilitation works on over 10,000 hectares of peatlands damaged by extraction for energy production | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase afforestation | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve grassland management on mineral soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the use of cover crops in tillage | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Rewet organic soils | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Launch of new not-for-profit focused on attracting corporate funds to plant new native woodlands | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporation of measures aimed at tackling deforestation into other Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine schemes | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce emissions by 51% by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase energy efficiency in the public sector from 33% in 2020 to 50% by 2030 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Enhance climate literacy within the public sector | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Implement green public procurement practices | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Retrofit public sector buildings | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate carbon budgets and sectoral emission ceilings | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance the role of the Climate Action Delivery Board, including providing recommendations | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create taskforces for specific areas requiring cross-Government collaboration | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduce an annual climate action planning and reporting cycle | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Target: Continuously update reports from the Environmental Protection Agency and Climate Change Advisory Council | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide €225 million in climate finance to developing countries by 2025 | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Focus support on gender-sensitive and locally-led climate initiatives | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Engage proactively in international climate negotiations | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Address sea-level rise, temperature changes, and changes in precipitation patterns | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prioritise the development of an updated National Adaptation Framework | Climate Action Plan 2023: Changing Ireland for the Better (CAP23) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Ensuring Policy Coherence: Aim to align different policy areas impacting the bioeconomy | Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishing a Network of Stakeholders: Facilitate multi-sector collaboration through a robust stakeholder network | Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Translating Research to Real Applications: Focus on practical applications of bioeconomy research | Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Identifying Fundamental Challenges: Work on identifying and addressing challenges to commercial and social development in the bioeconomy sector | Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing a Framework for Implementation: Establish a structured approach for rolling out bioeconomy initiatives | Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raising Awareness: Focus on public awareness campaigns to familiarise people with the bioeconomy and its products | Bioeconomy Statement | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce GHG emissions by 80-95% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce GHG emissions to zero or below by 2100 | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, achieve the highest possible level of energy efficiency, particularly in the non-ETS sector | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, become a leader in renewable energy deployment | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, reduce reliance on fossil fuels and align with agreed GHG emission targets | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, be part of a single, physically interconnected EU internal energy market | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2020, increase the share of renewable energy sources to 16%, broken down into individual targets for electricity (40%), heating (12%), and transport (10%) | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, the Better Energy Programme will deliver deep energy efficiency upgrades for the residential sector | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Energy transition primarily funded by commercial and household investment and charges on energy use, supported by Government initiatives and EU funding | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Highest possible level of energy efficiency focusing on the non-ETS sector | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Leader in renewable energy deployment | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Energy system part of the single, physically interconnected EU internal energy market | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Marked reduction in reliance on fossil fuels | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Excel in application of innovative approaches and smart technologies for decarbonising energy systems | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Created sustainable jobs through new approaches and technologies | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strong investor confidence supported by substantial private investment | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Infrastructure necessary for services citizens and businesses need | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Citizens and communities as active participants in the energy transition | Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve a 51% reduction in economy-wide GHG emissions by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality by 2050 | Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (No 113/2022) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Update the Climate Action Plan annually, detailing sector-specific actions. Ministers will be held accountable for sectoral performance | Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (No 113/2022) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure the first two five-year carbon budgets result in a total reduction of 51% emissions by 2030, aligned with the Programme for Government commitment | Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 (No 113/2022) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| Deliver an indicative 22-30% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase in energy efficiency by 32.5% | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Increase in renewable energy by 16-32% | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Quantitative |
| Cut the negative impacts of air pollution on human health by almost half by 2030 | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Quantitative |
| Meet a 1% reduction on 2005 levels by 2020 and a 5% reduction by 2030 under the NERCD | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Quantitative |
| Limits on farm stocking rates and legal maxima for nitrogen and phosphorus application rates | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prohibited spreading periods for organic and chemical fertilisers | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Minimum storage requirements for livestock manures | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Set-back distances from waters | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Review of management and oversight for Sewage/Industrial Sludges | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Soil tests compulsory for certain thresholds of holdings | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Interim Review of the Programme within 2 years | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| Phased approach for Low Emission Slurry Spreading (2023-2025) for farms above 100kg/ha | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |



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| From 1st January 2023, compulsory usage of Low Emission Slurry Spreading (LESS) will be introduced for all farmers operating above 150kg livestock N/ha | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 1st January 2024, LESS compulsory for farmers operating above 130kg livestock N/ha | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 1st January 2025, LESS compulsory for farmers operating above 100kg livestock N/ha | Ireland's Fifth Nitrates Action Programme 2022-2025 (Regulated by S.I. No. 393/2022) | legally binding | Qualitative |
| The productivity requirement under the Afforestation Scheme specifies that land must be capable of growing a commercial timber crop of Sitka spruce with a yield class (YC) 14 or greater, based on one standard application of phosphorus at establishment | Land Types for Afforestation: Soil & Fertility | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Streamline the licence application process for key forestry activities | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the area of forests with water setbacks via ongoing restructuring at clearfell/re-afforestation stages | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure the use of water setbacks in new forests under the Afforestation Grant and Premium Scheme | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Manage the application of support measures like the Continuous Cover Forestry Scheme and the Native Woodland Conservation Scheme for water protection | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage uptake of the Woodland Creation on Public Lands Scheme for water protection | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Roll out the Woodland for Water Scheme focused on strategic native woodland creation for water protection | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Address all forestry-related water incidents as identified or reported | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Engage further with stakeholders on forestry-related issues concerning water protection | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Train relevant professionals in forestry project design, assessment, and implementation for better water protection | Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 - 2027 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the forest cover from the current level to 18% in 2046 – currently forests are 11% | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implement forestry-related regulations, policies and requirements that align with national water policy | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continue to refine the integrated Environmental Risk Assessment approach to forestry operations | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the uptake of the Native Woodland Establishment Scheme and the Native Woodland Conservation Scheme, and finalise and launch the Environmental Enhancement of Forests Scheme | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop and implement the proposed Plan for Forests & Freshwater Pearl Mussel in Ireland | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Work with stakeholders to ensure the strategic deployment of forestry measures, focusing on the protection of high-status objective water bodies | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake forestry and water research to inform future forestry practices | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Minimum initial planting density required is 2,500 stems/ha for conifers and mixtures, and 3,300 stems/ha for broadleaves | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Allow natural regeneration as a component of reforestation, provided that management details are given | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve a minimum of 90% stocking of free-growing trees by Year 6 after planting | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland’s River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Submit a Felling Licence application with a management plan and map | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Minimum initial planting density is 1,100 stems/ha | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Allow natural regeneration as a component of reforestation, provided that management details are given | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include measures to reinstate natural hydrological conditions. | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Achieve a minimum of 90% stocking of free-growing trees by Year 6 after planting | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Include setbacks in relation to watercourses, archaeological features, and dwellings | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Examine forest planning and design to maximise contributions to water quality and quantity, and other benefits | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Inform policy and practice from the outcomes of research | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Explore the range of ecosystem services which forestry can deliver in relation to water quality | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Set out mechanisms to deliver these ecosystem services | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase awareness among bodies coordinating water policies | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Reduction in sediment mobilisation and runoff into watercourses | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Interception of nutrient runoff into watercourses | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve bank stabilisation | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Food input into the aquatic ecosystem | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Shading / cooling | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Regulation of floodwater | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Riparian restoration | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance biodiversity with greater numbers of invertebrates | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Produce commercial products from the trees, including biofuel and timber | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance animal welfare through shelter and alternative food supplements | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve soil quality through water uptake from trees | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Reduce the need for agricultural drainage through soil improvement | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support actions that enhance water quality, habitats, and species | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Aim to support the environmental enhancement of 1,000 ha of forests | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Provide funding to forest owners for environmental enhancements | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce sediment mobilisation and runoff into watercourses | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Interception of nutrient runoff into watercourses | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Food input into the aquatic ecosystem | Forests & Water Achieving Objectives under Ireland's River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |

APPENDIX VI List of identified Croatian policy targets by sector

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
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| Forestry | | | |
| To establish criteria and methods for the assessment of habitat condition and preservation | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| To establish criteria for decision-making process relating to forest-management measures | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| To establish criteria for functional forest categorisation | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| To provide financial support for adequate silviculture in defined functional forest categories | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| To support certification of forest management and timber products and elaboration of a National Standard | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake an inventory of current habitat condition (based on GIS and defined criteria) and establish sample plots to monitor changes in habitat condition | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support measures to improve seed husbandry and nursery production | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| To improve stand structure by the introduction of rare autochthonous species | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of appropriate evaluation of 4-E technologies in forestry | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support measures to provide the required training for the implementation of 4-E technologies | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| To develop financial incentives to support the implementation of environmentally friendly technologies (i.e. bio-oils, cable railways) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of work techniques and safety at work via capacity building, evaluation and verification | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sustainable utilisation of productive capacity of stands and the implementation of appropriate silviculture | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| The establishment of criteria for multipurpose utilisation of space – forests and forest soil | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support measures for the improvement of fire prevention and suppression and civil protection | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Areas designated for forest management activities to be clearly delineated in physical plans | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improvement of afforestation methods in karst regions | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identification of unused forest land favourable for tourist projects | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sustainable utilisation of productive capacity of stands and the implementation of appropriate silviculture | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| In co-ordination with the Croatian Mine Clearance Centre decide on mine clearance priorities and de-mining methods in forests and forest land | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of financing models for mine clearance in forests and forest land | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Training of staff engaged in de-mining of forest and forest land | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake an inventory of unused biomass as potential energy source | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identification of unused land, selection of the most favourable species and technology for the establishment of plantations | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| In co-operation with other sectors, defining and achieving incentives for biomass based on the implementation of the Kyoto protocol | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Utilisation of biomass as a principal energy source in forested areas | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the co-operation between state administration bodies to facilitate appropriate natural resource management | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Return the forestry and hunting inspection to the MAF | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Draft and implement regulations to allow for the implementation of main findings of the Restructuring Study | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support and promote measures to stimulate private entrepreneurship in the forestry sector | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake an inventory and total economic valuation of forest resources and delineate between agricultural and forest land | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a service for special purpose forests and non timber forest products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the forest guard service by giving them increased authority in the prevention of illegal activities in forests | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Simplify management plans for private forests and secure funds for their implementation | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish additional extension services to provide technical guidelines and facilitate associations of private owners | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Support and promote measures to ensure the sustainable management in private forests | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Supplement the legal regulations with instruments needed for the implementation of the strategy | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The drafting and revision of laws to be prepared by well-balanced expert groups and public participation encouraged through NGOs and public invitations for submissions | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include in legislation, provisions for monitoring to be regulated to supervise effects and decide on adequate measures should they be necessary | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Eliminate the possibility of forest and forest land concession and selling of state forest land | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Regulate by law that the surface of forest areas has to remain the same or be increased (i.e. forest areas lost due to road construction should be replaced by new forests on non forest land) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish an expert group(s), which will through a participatory approach, harmonise all laws pertaining to or regulating common areas of interest | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Comparison and harmonisation of forestry related regulations with EU forestry regulation and adoption of EU guidelines | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Define requirements and criteria for licensing forestry contractors | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of Chamber of Forestry for implementation of licensing | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Establishment and implementation of licensing system for forestry contractors | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Harmonise legal measures that regulate the relationship between tourism development and forest ecosystems management | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate provisions into legal framework which facilitate the development and utilisation of non timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Co-ordinate supervision regarding the implementation of regulations related to the utilisation of non timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the co-operation between state administration bodies to facilitate appropriate natural resource management | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Return the forestry and hunting inspection to the MAF | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
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| Simplify management plans for private forests and secure funds for their implementation | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
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| Incorporate provisions into legal framework which facilitate the development and utilisation of non timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Co-ordinate supervision regarding the implementation of regulations related to the utilisation of non timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake a study to identify and evaluate the tourism potential of forest ecosystems | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop market for forest tourism attractions (i.e. products and services need to be identified and marked on tourist maps, tourism in nature and hunting tourism included in promotional materials, schools in nature, etc.) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate forest ecosystems potential in tourism development plans and forest management plans | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop rural employment through stimulation of forestry related trade | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Utilisation of forestry facilities by local institutions | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake and maintain a national inventory of the hunting resource | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The preparation and implementation of management plans with an aim of establishing game stock balanced by species, age, sex and trophy structure | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The clearance of mines from hunting grounds and associated infrastructure | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Define the criteria for concessions of hunting grounds with regard to the dominant game species | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve game-keeper service to ensure the protection of game and other animals | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include hunting tourism into the offer of tourism agencies and the development of alternative offers (i.e. photo safari, etc.). | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Organise hunting tourism services in line with organised tourism | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Elaboration of cadastre of the value of hunting grounds according to criteria for sufficient infrastructure for hunting tourism | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote establishment of large and small game breeding farms | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify, evaluate and define the management principles for all non timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Undertake a national inventory of non-timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the economic utilisation of value added non-timber forest and forest land products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Evaluate and assess the potential for the development of urban forestry | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prepare a specific timber industry strategy | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support the development of institutional capacity to implement timber industry strategy | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support the establishment of monitoring timber and timber products markets | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote measures for the creation of a recognisable trademark for Croatian timber and timber products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote initiatives for the implementation of the highest quality standards | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Intensifying quality control of delivered raw materials and imported finalised products and harmonisation of legislative regulations which define the quality control issues | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote and explore measures for stimulation of maximum finalisation of raw material | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| In collaboration with the timber industry, develop a range of measures to create an enabling environment for introduction | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| of new technology and investments in final product manufacture. | | | |
| Establish a program of permanent research and development activities suited to the needs of the sector. | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Align the production and use of timber assortments with technical and market trends | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support measures for the development of permanent training and education in technology, markets and use of raw material | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop a strategy to address the inefficiencies in the timber supply chain including the optimal allocation of raw material between production location and end user location | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support and promote measures that will maximise the revenue from and the utilisation of raw materials | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Compliance with the international standards, through the adapting and aligning Croatian standards to relevant European and international standards for timber and timber products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop and elaborate an investment program for the sector with clearly identified projects | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the transition to private ownership | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote production of value added products through taxation policy | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Abolish the state control of prices for timber assortments | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Develop a timber sale system suited to free market and industry needs | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the quality of design and product development to optimise the utilisation of raw material | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Methods for promotion of export of final products | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake a review of water charges model for forests and forest land | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a new relationship and protocol between forestry and water authorities | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Harmonise forest land and water resources management plan | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Undertake a study and analysis to determine the impact of agricultural activities on forest ecosystems (land melioration, agricultural technical measures, pesticides, etc.) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Elaborate criteria for designation and management of protected areas according to international standards | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prepare guidelines for inter-sectoral co-operation in protected areas | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Design and implement mechanisms to engage local communities in the decision-making process | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Involve forestry professionals in the management of protected areas where forests are the main land use | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Undertake an inventory of biodiversity and adjust the boundaries of protected areas and zones based on inventory findings | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest fire protection, through the preparation of a National Strategy for forest fire prevention and afforestation of burnt forest areas | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduce regulations to ensure involvement of forestry professionals in the elaboration of physical plans | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Define criteria for land use changes to prevent fragmentation or permanent damage to forest ecosystems (i.e. mines, roads, canals) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Expand the scope of Law on Forests to include provision for regulating forestry matters in physical plans | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the register of land use changes (information accessibility should be improved - GIS based) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Include results of national forest and forest land inventory data into studies required for physical plans and management | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish inter-departmental body within the MAF responsible for the co-ordination of priority research needs and findings | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify and secure budget funds for co-financing participation in international projects | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase investment in scientific-research and development in line with European norms | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage the involvement of forestry institutions in multi-disciplinary projects | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Develop mechanisms that will motivate commercial sector to co-finance research (i.e. sponsorship, etc.) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve international co-operation between schools, universities and forestry institutions, through the following strategic actions | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identify opportunities for and encourage participation in international exchange programmes | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve accessibility of scientific data (i.e. journals, internet, etc.), particularly for students and pupils | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Facilitate student and pupil organisations to source funds for international co-operation | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adapt research projects to the needs of the sector and on the basis of 3-5 year planning periods | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance institutional capacity of ministries and SRI to implement commitments under international conventions and resolutions | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Evaluate the cost and secure funds for the implementation of international commitments | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Capacity building for scientists and researchers in project preparation, project management and evaluation | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Computerise and link libraries of the University, Research Institute, forestry company and other relevant institutions | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish data bases of international forestry projects and link them to the existing databases | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Carry out analysis of the staff structures within forest education and research organisations | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Equip the scientific institutions with modern research technologies and train the staff to use them | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the methods of transfer of results of scientific institutions to the end users | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Devise a system of scientific promotion (for example, evaluate papers and works presented on international conferences) | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Carry out analysis of the existing curricula at all levels and adapt them to the needs of the forestry profession and EU programmes, as well as with European Credit Transfer System | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance forest education and training through the use of invited lecturers from research institutions and other relevant organisations | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Co-ordinate the needs of the forest sector with the education sector | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the quality and scope of language courses and computer science courses | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a PR/communication plan for forest sector to meet all sector interests | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement the PR plan including program to increase public awareness | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement the training program in PR/PA and communication across the sector | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Establish continuous communication with local authorities | National Forestry Policy and Strategy (Nacionalnu šumarsku politiku i strategiju NN 120/2003) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish an average annual harvest level of 7.5 million cubic meters (Mm3) for the period 2021-2025, as projected in the Forest Reference Level (FRL) | National Accounting Plan for the Republic of Croatia | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Implement a single, additional harvest scenario prescribing an average annual harvest of 8.03 Mm3 each year during the 2021-2025 period, as outlined in the General Forest Management Plan (FMAP) 2016-2025 | National Accounting Plan for the Republic of Croatia | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| Increase the value of the total annual income of wood processing and furniture production in 35% by 2026, and a total increase of 75% by 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the value of the annual delivery and export of wood processing and furniture production in 35% by 2026, and a total increase of 75% by 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the amount of the average monthly net salary paid in the wood processing and furniture manufacturing industry in 30% by 2026, and a total increase of 70% by 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Strengthening the stability of the supply of wood resources for economic subjects of wood processing and furniture production | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring the availability of funding for activities, which will support liquidity through lending and guarantees, as well as additionally supporting the banking system with guarantees in order to create conditions and opportunities for new and better approaches to financing | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the knowledge and skills of all human resources in wood processing and production furniture and understanding and dialogue of all interested parties, while promoting formal, nonformal and informal learning. | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Increasing and strengthening the visibility of products and manufacturers of wood processing and furniture production both on the domestic and global markets | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging the application of quality standards and protection of intellectual property and the introduction of appropriate certificates for products and services in wood processing and furniture production | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging investment in the development of own new and innovative products and services with the systematic application of design in response to the demand for wood processing and furniture production products and interior decoration | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of a Technical Institute/ Center for Product Development, Design and Marketing from wood | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the total power of wood biomass cogenerations plants in 28% by 2026, and a total increase by 36% by 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the amount of the average monthly net salary paid in the wood processing and furniture manufacturing industry, in 30% by 2026, and a total increase by 70% in 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Encouraging automation, robotisation and digitisation of production and the creation of smart companies | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raising the level of energy efficiency and environmental acceptability of wood processing and furniture production | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging the use of high-efficiency energy systems and increasing the utilisation of installed capacities | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Sustainable and efficient use of the wood resource and encouraging the recovery of wood products with full application of the cascading principle of the use of wood and | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| wood products in order to contribute to increasing the CO2 sink and mitigating climate change | | | |
| Increase the gross added value of wood processing and furniture production in 15% by 2026, and a total increase by 25% in 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the labor productivity index of wood processing and furniture production in 2% by 2026; and a total increase of 3% by 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increasing added value and production productivity in wood processing and furniture production | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening investments in wood processing and furniture production | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Empowerment of green construction and equipping with green products and promotion of their use in construction and tourism | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reducing production and business costs in wood processing and furniture production | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the share of contracted quantities of economic entities in areas with development peculiarities in the total annual contracted amount of wood raw material in 2.5% (28,115 m3) by 2026, and a total increase of 5,5% (61,853 m3) by 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the share of economic entities in areas with development peculiarities in the total number of wood processors with a sales contract in 6% by 2026; and a total increase by 9.5% in 2030 | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | |
| Strengthening the contribution of the regional and local level to the development of wood processing and furniture production, through the creation of a better business environment | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Strengthening of business cooperation and synergy between economic subjects of wood processing and furniture production, as well as active cooperation with the scientific and research community | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the national system of public procurement as efficient and responsible through green and sustainable procurement of wood products | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Raising public awareness of the benefits, role and importance of wood and wood products | National Plan Development of Wood Processing and furniture production | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |
| Mandate to the government the elaboration of a Plan for Prevention and Reduction of Food Waste Generation, for the achievement of the sustainable development goal of the United Nations that food waste per capita at the retail and at the consumer level to reduce by 50% and to reduce food loss in production and supply chains by 2030 | Law on Agriculture (Zakon o poljoprivredi) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Strength of the quality system of agricultural and food products which includes protected designation of origin (hereinafter: ZOI), protected designation of geographical origin (hereinafter: ZOZP) and guaranteed traditional specialty (hereinafter: ZTS) and optional terms of quality | Law on Agriculture (Zakon o poljoprivredi) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Investments in production, technologies and innovations | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Redistribution of income support | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support for practices acceptable to the environment, climate and animal welfare | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging ecological agriculture | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improved access to environmental and agro-climatic data | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Improvement of agricultural land management | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging partnerships and helping to improve organisational capabilities in the agri-food chain | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Capacity building in the food safety and quality requirements system | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of agricultural and food logistics centers | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of administrative and regulatory burden | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improvement of scale conditions | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the use of instruments for risk management | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support for starting a business | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the connection of rural areas with the market | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development and implementation of the national bioeconomy strategy | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of agricultural-gastronomic destination tourism | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduction of skills development programs | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening ties with scientific institutions | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of the central agricultural information system | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Digitisation of information flow | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging innovation partnerships | Agriculture Strategy until 2030. (Strategija poljoprivrede do 2030) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
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| Preservation of the area of the ecological network is ensured by the implementation of the Acceptability Assessment procedure which consists of a procedure in accordance with the precautionary principle, that assesses the impact of a strategy, plan, program or intervention, alone and with other strategies, plans, programs or interventions, on conservation goals and the integrity of the area of the ecological network - It includes public hearings | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The ecological network consists of important conservation areas for birds (POP), important conservation areas for species and habitats (POVS), special conservation areas important for species and habitat types (PPOVS) and probable conservation areas important for species and habitats (vPOVS) | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A habitat type is in a favorable condition if: is its natural area of distribution and the area it covers stable or increasing | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A habitat type is in a favorable condition if: there is, and in the foreseeable future it will probably be maintained, a specific structure and functions necessary for its long-term survival, its significant species are in favorable condition | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The status of a wild species is considered favorable when: data on the population dynamics of a certain species indicate that it will be maintained in the long term as a viable component of its natural habitat | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The status of a wild species is considered favorable when: there is, and probably will continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat in which the populations of the species will be maintained in the long term | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The status of a wild species is considered favorable when: the natural range of the species is not decreasing, nor is it likely to decrease in the foreseeable future | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Public institutions responsible for the management of protected areas and the ecological network: adopt an ecological network management plan which must contain analysis of the condition of target species and habitat types in the area of the ecological network | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Public institutions responsible for the management of protected areas and the ecological network: adopt an ecological network management plan which must contain objectives of management and conservation of target species and habitat types | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| conservation measures prescribed by the ordinance from Article 55, paragraph 5 and/or the ordinance from Article 55, paragraph 6 of this Act, activities to achieve goals, indicators of plan implementation | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Nature protection areas must be categorised following a specific process and be organised and managed by competent authorities through a management plan | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For protected areas in the category of strict reserve and national park, a program of protection, care and renewal of forests is adopted, which contains measures for their protection | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For protected areas in the category of special reserve of forest vegetation and park-forests, a program of protection, care and restoration of forests is adopted, which contains measures for their protection and is an integral part of the forest management plan, and is drawn up and implemented as part of the forest management plan | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A concession system is established to give the right for economic use of natural resources, except for forests and forest land owned by the Republic of Croatia | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The Ministry, local and regional self-government units and public institutions are obliged to encourage the public to be informed about nature protection and its preservation. In | Law on the Protection of Nature (Zakon o zaštiti prirode NN 80/13 , 15/18 , 14/19 , 127/19) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| order to promote nature protection, a unique visual identity is established | | | |
| Ensure a clear, harmonised and enforceable legislative and institutional framework for the implementation of the nature conservation mechanism | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Design and establish a representative and functional network of areas important for nature conservation | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Standardise management in nature protection and establish an efficiency monitoring system | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop collaborative forms of management and strengthen communication | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure sustainable use of natural resources through sectoral planning documents | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the system of implementing the acceptance assessment for the ecological network | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure the sustainable use of native wild species whose exploitation is not regulated by special regulations | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Protect genetic diversity and sustainably use genetic resources | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| To preserve unfragmented intact natural areas and restore the most endangered degraded habitats | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a system for managing alien species and implement measures to prevent the introduction and spread and suppression of invasive alien species | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Strengthen institutional capacities in nature protection | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continue to strengthen technical knowledge and skills for effective implementation of nature protection | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the financial sustainability of the nature protection system | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase knowledge about the state of nature | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the availability of data on the state of nature | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Evaluate and map ecosystem services in order to assess their condition and improve them | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the understanding and representation of topics related to nature and its protection in the educational system and strengthen cooperation with the education sector | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage and implement informal education on nature protection | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve public information for the purpose of raising awareness about nature and nature protection | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve public participation in decision-making that is directly or indirectly related to nature protection | Strategy and action plan for nature protection of the Republic of Croatia for the period from 2017 to 2025 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Climate Change | | | |



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| Mapping of water sources outside the public water supply system | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preparation of project and planning documents for the construction, reconstruction and upgrading of water infrastructure intended for the protection against harmful effects of water (e.g. protective embankments, dikes and similar facilities and other systems), giving priority to the concept of “room for the river” and use of natural retention areas | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Construction, reconstruction and upgrading of protective embankments, dikes and similar facilities related to the protection against harmful effects of water while giving priority to the concept of “room for the river” and use of natural retention areas | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancing water status improvement measures to respond to deteriorated hydrological conditions caused by climate change | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancing measures of control and release of treated wastewater to maintain good water status in case of deteriorated hydrological conditions caused by climate change | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development and implementing of activities to increase the water absorption capacity of agricultural soil | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Design and implementation of a promotional and educational programme for popularising the implementation of activities to increase the water absorption capacity of agricultural soil among farmers | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identification of varieties, species and breeds resilient to climate change for individual agrotechnical regions | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Development and implementation of a promotional and educational programme for popularising activities of cultivating species and varieties of agricultural crops for food and other types of use and breeds of domestic animals that are more resilient to climate change among farmers and the general public | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementing activities of cultivating species and varieties of agricultural crops and breeds of domestic animals that are more resilient to climate change | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of a promotional and educational programme for popularising water saving irrigation methods and other methods of securing water for agricultural purposes (e.g. green infrastructure) among farmers. | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Analysis of the possibilities of constructing innovative irrigation systems | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Defining and implementing soil erosion prevention activities. | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of a promotional and educational programme for popularising the use of anti-erosion measures among farmers | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporating climate change adaptation measures into the Forestry Sector Strategy, the Forest Act and other legislation concerning forests and the forestry sector, including implementation indicators | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Vulnerability analysis of forest tree species and research of possible responses through the provenance of forest trees that are more adaptable to the expected climate change | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Elaboration of forest growth and dynamics models depending on climate change alongside the integration of risk assessment, and elaboration of forest management adaptation scenarios and options | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Evaluation of the existing forest ecosystem monitoring system with identification of strengths and weaknesses and development of guidelines for its improvement | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creating a register of monitoring, experiments, and research conducted by state institutions that are not part of systematic monitoring, their evaluation, and proposal for inclusion of selected items in the monitoring system | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Upgrading and integration of selected existing monitoring/experimentation/research into the forest ecosystem monitoring system and enabling the availability of results in compliance with the INSPIRE Directive | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the early warning system for forest fires | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing forest fire spread models and agricultural and forest fire prediction models entailing all elements of fire spread prediction and relevant risks | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preparing a plan and raising public awareness on the importance of implementing preventive measures to prevent agricultural and forest fires | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintenance of existing fire roads in the Mediterranean and SubMediterranean zone and construction of new ones | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of research on the impact of trees and other green areas as well as natural watercourses and water surfaces on the mitigation of climate change impacts in urban environments (reduction of heat island effects) | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Analysis of the existing network of green areas and water surfaces in urban and rural areas (forests, forest parks, parks and other urban green areas, streams, rivers and lakes) and options to improve linkages between individual elements of green and blue infrastructure of local and regional importance (e.g. linear infrastructure, watercourses, rivers and lakes) | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Strategic planting of trees and other tree species in order to achieve physical and/or functional linkages between individual elements of green infrastructure, including the establishment of park and/or forest areas along the surface flow beds, and environmental restoration and revitalisation of watercourses in urban and rural areas at both regional and local level | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening capacities of state administration bodies at all levels for the implementation of participatory planning | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| When planning new green areas, giving priority to tree species before grass that requires large amounts of water for maintenance, while trees have a better impact on reducing the heat island effect | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of research on the distribution of harmful organisms in forests | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of a plan for afforestation with suitable tree species | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Education of licensed and other forestry engineers, forestry technicians, employees of public institutions for the management of protected natural areas in the context of climate change risks | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing education and awareness-raising programmes for private forest owners on climate change and adaptation to climate change | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preparing analyses of climate change impacts on the method of agricultural land and forest management (for the needs of research and management institutions) aimed at identifying quality planning in agriculture and forestry and defining the national agriculture and forestry policy | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Developing new tools (remote research, forest growth and dynamics modelling, etc.) that enable continuous adaptation of the method of managing forests, their restoration and protection aimed at ensuring sustainable forest management | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Informing relevant stakeholders on the analyses and developed tools | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creating analytical backgrounds and defining indicators of the impact of climate parameters on the stability of populations of large wild animals in changed habitat conditions | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preparing adaptation models aimed at controlling the number, growth rate and health condition of large wild animals to ensure uniform habitat conditions | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Informing relevant stakeholders on the analyses and developed models | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing climate change risk assessment index maps for agricultural and forest communities of high economic value by applying GIS, ICT and digital technologies | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing adaptation maps for the most vulnerable agricultural and forest areas of high economic value | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assessing the vulnerability of habitats through the systematic updating of the map of terrestrial nonforest and forest habitats as well as marine habitats along with upgrading databases and monitoring systems with climate change vulnerability elements | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assessing the vulnerability of (semi-)natural ecosystems through systematic mapping along with upgrading databases and monitoring systems with climate change vulnerability elements | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Assessing the vulnerability of wild species through systematic inventory and mapping along with upgrading databases and monitoring systems with climate change vulnerability elements | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assessing the impact of invasive alien species that are particularly aggressive in the climate change process through systematic monitoring along with the development and implementation of suppression and adaptive management measures and upgrading databases and monitoring systems | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Assessing the vulnerability of underground habitats through the systematic data collection and updating of the Cadastre of Speleological Objects along with upgrading databases and monitoring systems with climate change vulnerability elements | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of a climate impact monitoring and early warning system for all protected areas and ecological network areas for the purpose of adaptive management | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preparation and inclusion of climate change adaptation measures into the adaptive management of protected areas and ecological network areas | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishment of expert monitoring of ecosystems, habitats and wild species for monitoring climate change impacts and consequences to assess the vulnerability and strengthen the resilience for the purpose of adapting to climate change | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable habitats, e.g.: revitalisation, restoration, inclusion in protected areas, maintenance by using traditional knowledge, ensuring the connectivity of habitats, removing of invasive alien species | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable species: propagation of plant species, introduction, reintroduction, translocation, provision of optimal corridors and resting areas for migratory species, genetic diversity conservation in situ and ex situ (including gene banks) | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Preserving and revitalising natural floodplains important for maintaining biodiversity by implementing protection measures against extreme climate events (e.g. flood, drought), including the use of nature-based solutions | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Defining and implementing the measures for ensuring favourable hydrological conditions to preserve and restore freshwater, stagnant water, wetland and hygrophilic ecosystems, including the use of nature-based solutions | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Preserve coastal sources and wetland habitats from salinisation and other threats by establishing dams, embankments and other measures, including the use of nature-based solutions | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Developing predictive models of change in the distribution of wild species, habitats and ecosystems to be used for sustainable spatial planning and land use and adaptive management | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporating climate change adaptation measures into the Nature Protection Strategy, laws and subordinate regulations, management and preservation documents and guidelines concerning nature protection, including implementation indicators | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Identification of traditional varieties and breeds that are environmentally and genetically best adapted to climate change impacts for the purpose of strengthening the resilience of vulnerable ecosystems, habitats and wild species | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Design and implementation of models for restoring traditional agriculture in vulnerable (semi-)natural ecosystems | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthening capacities of local communities to upgrade systems for monitoring (semi)natural ecosystems, habitats and wild species by using elements of traditional knowledge | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Establishment of systematic monitoring of (semi)natural ecosystems covered through models for restoring traditional agriculture in view of climate change adaptation | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Valorisation and promotion of traditional agricultural practices that strengthen climate resilience of ecosystems, habitats and species | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of guidelines for the preservation of ecosystems, habitats and wild species with respect to climate change adaptation based on predictive models, and align sectoral documents related to spatial use | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancing (semi-)natural and anthropogenic ecosystems to increase biodiversity for better adaptation to climate change (encouraging green architecture and green and blue infrastructure by selecting native plant species, green belts, flower strips, shelters for birds, bats, insects) | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Educating, specialising and strengthening capacities of expert teams | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring the financing of adaptation and resilience building measures for ecosystems, habitats and species and the nature protection system through structural and other EU funds, EU programmes, etc. | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Carrying out professional communication and informative educational activities (professional and scientific conferences, workshops and the like) | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establishing a wider public information and education system by developing communication and interpretation programmes | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Amendments to the legal framework to develop the implementation of climate change adaptation measures in spatial planning | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Development and strengthening of the integrated spatial planning methodology and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) with an emphasis on the implementation of climate change adaptation measures | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of programmes and guidelines for strengthening cross-sectoral coordination in the spatial planning process, with an emphasis on the planning of climate change adaptation measures by taking into account | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Renaturalisation and regeneration of the urban fabric by using nature based solutions – definition of zones and guidelines for climate-neutral and climate positive urban districts | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| integration of optimal decarbonisation, energy transition and climate change adaptation solutions to protect the health of the population and increase air quality and life quality of the population | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Analysis and elaboration of methods of monitoring and evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of spatial plans in the implementation of climate change adaptation measures | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of programmes for awareness-raising, information and education of the public, decision-makers, experts, business sector and other stakeholders on climate change impacts and adaptation options | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Defining the best dataset required for monitoring the impact of implementing the Adaptation Strategy | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of a protocol for monitoring climate change adaptation indicators | Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the period up to 2040 with a view to 2070 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Operators of facilities may perform activities that emit greenhouse gases if they obtain a permit for greenhouse gas emissions | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Creation of an emission unit system, with trading period for the distribution | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For each year in the period from 2013 to 2020, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions emitted from sectors that are not covered by the emissions trading system is limited to the amount of the national annual quota in accordance with Commission Decision 2013/162/EU, Commission Decision 2013/634/EU and Commission Decision 2017/1471/EU | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For each year in the period from 2021 to 2030, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions emitted from sectors that are not covered by the emissions trading system is limited to the amount of the national annual quota in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EU) no. 2018/842 | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For the period from 2021 to 2025 and from 2026 to 2030, the Republic of Croatia must ensure that emissions do not exceed the removals in the accounting categories of all lands together in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2018/841 | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Starting from 2021, the amount of emission units will gradually decrease at the level of the European Union with the application of a linear factor of 2.2% | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases by energy unit of the fuel or energy that it has placed on the market of the Republic of Croatia by up to 10% in relation to the level of emissions in 2010 by 31 December 2020 | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| A 6% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions per unit of energy of fuel or energy placed on the market in the Republic of Croatia by December 31, 2020 | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| An indicative additional target of a 2% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by December 31, 2020 | Law on Climate Change and Protection of the Ozone Layer NN 127/19 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, the Republic of Croatia will strive for a more ambitious reduction of emissions, with a trajectory in the area | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| between the low-carbon scenarios NU1 and NU2 (-18.5% to -21.7%): Achieve a 7% reduction in emissions in non-ETS sectors, compared to 2005 emissions. This is the minimum that must be achieved, and it is also a binding target under the European Union and the Paris Agreement, within the common EU target until 2030 | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| The goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 is reducing greenhouse gas emissions with a trajectory between the low-carbon scenarios NU1 and NU2 (-50.6 to -64.0%), with the aim of a more ambitious NU2 scenario | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| achieve a 33.5 to 36.7% reduction in emissions in 2030 compared to 1990, and in 2050 56.8 to 73.1%. The NU2 scenario is set ambitiously, with an 80% reduction in total emissions compared to 1990. The analysis showed that reducing emissions by over 73.1%, as far as the Croatian NU2 scenario is concerned, would require the implementation of very expensive technical measures or much larger emission reductions in the agricultural sector, which could have major socio-economic consequences | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| 2021 – 2030. The implementation of measures in this period should be strong. It is a period in which the Republic of Croatia is turning towards the path of Low-Carbon development | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| 2031 – 2050: This period should be observed in the possible range of action between NU1 and NU2 scenarios. The international context, economic development and technology development will determine the direction - Awareness of the need for ambitious action will be built at all levels | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The electricity and heat production sector. Compared to 1990, in this sector in the Low-Carbon scenarios NU1 and NU2, emission reductions are achieved by 49.7 to 53.3% in 2030, and by 61.0 to 93.3% in 2050 | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| In the fuel production and processing sector, in the NU1 and NU2 scenarios, the emission reduction is achieved from 55.8% to 56.0% in 2030 and from 74.7% to 75.9% in 2050, compared to 1990 | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| In the fuel production and processing sector, by 2030: Analyse the possibility of hydrogen and synthetic fuel production in the context of power system regulation and use in gas system and transport | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| In the fuel production and processing sector, by 2050: Encourage the integration of measures to reduce emissions from flares (methane regeneration, installation of flares with high efficiency and separation of produced CO ₂); Encourage measures to completely prevent deaeration. Encourage measures to minimise gas leakage during distribution | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Promoting nZEB construction and renovation standards | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Develop an Energy renovation programme for apartment buildings | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Develop an Energy renovation programme for single family houses | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Develop an Energy renovation programme for public buildings | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Energy renovation programme for buildings that have the status of cultural property | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Energy renovation programme for public lighting | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Energy management in the public sector | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the energy sector to be promoted or implemented: Energy management in the business (service and production) sector | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Informational accounts | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy efficiency information | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy efficiency education | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy efficiency of the electricity transmission network | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of losses in the distribution network and introduction of smart grids | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Increasing the efficiency of the district heating systems | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increasing the efficiency of the gas transport network | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Information, education and capacity building for RES use | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Spatial planning prerequisites for RES use | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promoting the RES use for production of electricity and heat | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of the regulatory framework for RES use | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrated planning of security of energy and energy products supply | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Construction and use of energy storage | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Development and maintenance of centralised thermal systems | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Refinery upgrade and transformation | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures to increase energy efficiency by improving processes and process units | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Methane flaring | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of the electricity transmission network | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Development of gas transmission system | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Elaboration of the regulatory framework for active participation of customers on the electricity market | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Introduction of advanced consumption metering systems and metering data management | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Adoption and implementation of the Programme for Energy Poverty Reduction | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increasing energy efficiency and the use of RES in manufacturing industries | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adoption and implementation of the Energy Poverty | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction Program, which includes the use of renewable energy sources in residential buildings in assisted areas and areas of special state concern for the period 2021-2025 | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Emission reductions from 1990 levels are not expected until after 2040 and in 2050, the decrease in the NU1 scenario will be 28.3%, and in the NU2 scenario 55.4% | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Providing information to consumers on fuel economy and CO2 emission of new passenger cars | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Special environmental fee for motor vehicles | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Special tax on motor vehicles | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Transport sector: Monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas emissions in the fuels and energy lifetime | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Legislative adjustments for cleaner transport | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Financial incentives for the purchase of energy efficient vehicles | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Development of infrastructure for alternative fuels | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Promotion of integrated freight transport | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Promotion of sustainable intermodal transport at national level | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Promotion of integrated and intelligent transport systems and development of alternative fuels infrastructure at local and regional level | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Training for drivers of road vehicles for eco-driving | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Transport sector: Promotion of boat transport using alternative fuels | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Advanced biofuel market development plan | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Transport sector: Decarbonisation of transport through the production of advanced biofuels from agricultural production residues and energy crops with integrated carbon capture, use and storage | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Compared to 1990, in the low-carbon scenarios NU1 and NU2, this sector reduces emissions by 30.2 to 34% in 2030 and by 55.3 to 73.8% in 2050. | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| In the manufacturing sector, in scenarios NU1 and NU2, compared to 1990, emission reductions are achieved by 54.1 to 57.5% in 2030 and by 64.4 to 83.0% in 2050. | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Measures in the industrial processes and use of products sector to be promoted or implemented: | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reducing the share of clinker in cement production | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Limiting fluorinated greenhouse gas emissions | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Gradual reduction of the amount of fluorocarbons that can be placed on the market | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restrictions and prohibitions on placing certain products and equipment on the market | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduction of fluorinated greenhouse gas emissions from mobile air conditioning systems | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: compared to 1990, in Low-Carbon NU1 and NU2 scenarios, emission reductions are achieved by 44.5 to 46.3% in 2030, and by 50.9 to 55.8% in 2050, respectively. | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - Change in livestock diet of and feed quality | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - Improvement of livestock facilities and manure management systems | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - modification of the livestock system | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - Anaerobic decomposition of manure and biogas production | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - Improving the breeding and selection program, animal health and welfare | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - Improvement and change of tillage system (reduced tillage) | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - expansion of crop rotation with higher share of legumes | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - intensification of crop rotation using intermediate crops | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - improving methods of applying mineral fertilisers | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture sector: Measures in the agriculture sector to be implemented - improving methods of applying organic fertilisers | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agroforestry: Hydromeliorative interventions and disaster protection systems | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agroforestry: Introduction of new cultivars, varieties and cultures | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | | |
| Change in people's diet | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Collection and processing of agricultural plantations and residues for energy purposes | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| In the waste sector, emissions in 2030 are still higher than in 1990, given that emissions will increase until 2018. Compared to 1990, this sector recorded an increase in emissions by 35% in 2030. Emission reductions are expected only in 2040 (by 7.6%). In 2050, the reduction will be 29.4% compared to the 1990 emission level. | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Measures in the waste sector to be promoted or implemented: Preventing the generation and reducing the amount of solid waste | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures in the waste sector to be promoted or implemented: Increasing the amount of separately collected and recycled solid waste | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring the system of treatment and use of landfill gas | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reducing the amount of disposed biodegradable waste | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougljičnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Use of biogas for biomethane production and electricity and heat generation | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improvement of the Land Management Strategy of the Republic of Croatia, Carbon accumulation on the surfaces of existing forests, Implementation of afforestation works and remediation works of burned areas, Production and use of wood and wood products, Cropland management, Grassland management | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementation of technical projects and scientific research in the LULUCF sector | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Within the framework of the EU climate and energy policy, a common goal is defined at the EU level by 2030 in the amount of 32% of the energy share from renewable sources in gross direct energy consumption. In accordance with the undertaken obligations, the Republic of Croatia will strive to achieve the goal of 36.6% share of energy from renewable sources in gross direct energy consumption by 2030. | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| In the period until 2040, the expected energy share from renewable sources, depending on the scenario, is from 44.1 to 45.8%, while in the period until 2050 the expected energy share from renewable sources is at the level of 53.2% to 65.6% | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| energy renewal, with a gradual increase in the renewal rate in the period 2021-2030 from 1.0% to 3.0%, and 3.5% from 2031 to 2040, 4% from 2041 to 2050, as determined by the Long-Term Strategy for the Renovation of the National Building Fund until 2050 | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| increase in share of electric and hybrid vehicles, which in road traffic, depending on the scenario NU1 and NU2, will reach from 3.5% in 2030 to 85% in 2050 | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Primary energy consumption: For the NU1 scenario, in 2030 is 344.4 PJ, in 2040 is 325.7 PJ and in 2050 is 287.4 PJ. For the NU2 scenario, in 2030 is 328.7 PJ, in 2040 is 292.2 PJ and in 2050 is 251 PJ | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Direct energy consumption: For the NU1 scenario, in 2030 is 286.9 PJ, in 2040 is 265.2 PJ and in 2050 is 225.6 PJ. For the NU2 scenario, in 2030 is 272.5 PJ, in 2040 is 238.3 PJ and in 2050 is 189.6 PJ | Low Carbon Development Strategy (strategiju Niskougličnog Razvoja Republike Hrvatske do 2030. S pogledom na 2050. Godinu | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Increase in the price of greenhouse gas emission units, up to 34.3 EUR2015/t CO2e in 2030 and 92.1 EUR2015/t CO2e in 2050, as well as strong measures to increase energy efficiency and the use of RES | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Scenario S2: 35.4% reduction by 2030 and 64.3% reduction by 2050 compared to 1990 levels | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Scenario S1: 37.5% reduction by 2030 and 74.4% reduction by 2050 compared to 1990 levels | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| the emissions reduction goals for the ETS (Emissions Trading System) sector are set at a 21% decrease compared to 2005 levels by the year 2020, and a 43% decrease by the year 2030 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| the emissions reduction goals for the non- ETS sector are set at a 11% increase compared to 2005 levels by the year 2020, and a 7% decrease by the year 2030 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| maintaining the high reliability of the transmission system and the safety of supplying customers with electricity of the prescribed quality | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| accelerated integration of variable RES into the power system and greater availability of regulatory reserves to balance their variable production | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| timely implementation of investment plans, especially capital investments that enable the integration of RES into the EES | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| supporting market transactions on the territory of the state and in its surroundings so that the transmission network is not a restriction on competition | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| revitalisation and replacement of older/worn-out network units | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| increasing the transmission power of individual lines intended for revitalisation through use HTLS conductors and reduction of losses in electricity transmission | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| application of new technologies in transmission if they are techno-economically justified | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The strategic guidelines for the development of oil pipeline-storage infrastructure, i.e. the activities of oil transportation by oil pipelines and storage of oil and oil derivatives are: optimal utilisation of the geostrategic, transit and maritime position of the Republic of Croatia, along with the expansion of the oil pipeline and storage infrastructure, provision of safe and reliable services and successful operations | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| increase in oil transportation in conditions of further diversification of routes and sources of supply refinery of South-Eastern and Central European countries | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| further optimisation of the functionality and capacity utilisation of the oil pipeline-storage system and the opening of new business opportunities with the protection and safety of the environment, people and equipment | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| natural gas and biomethane transport pipelines that are part of a network that mainly contains high-pressure gas pipelines, excluding high-pressure gas pipelines used for the production or local distribution of natural gas | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| underground gas storages | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| facilities for reception, storage and gasification or decompression of UPP and SPP/SBM | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| all equipment important for protected, safe and efficient system operation or enabling of two-way capacity, including compressor stations | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Specific sub-targets for achieve energy efficiency include: Energy renovation of the building stock at an average annual rate of 1.6% in scenario S2 or from 3% in scenario S1. | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase in the penetration of electric and hybrid vehicles with specific sub-targets: i) Reach a 3.5% share of total passenger activity in road traffic by 2030, and 65% by 2050 in scenario S2; ii) Reach a 4.5% share by 2030, and 85% by 2050 in scenario S1 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduction in primary and direct energy consumption according to the EU directive on energy efficiency: A 1% reduction by 2030 and an 18% reduction by 2050 compared to 2017 levels in scenario S2 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduction in primary and direct energy consumption according to the EU directive on energy efficiency: A 6% reduction by 2030 and a 28% reduction by 2050 in scenario S1 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Specific sub-targets for increase Renewable Energy Sources (RES) include: Achieving a 32% share of RES in gross direct | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| energy consumption by 2030, in alignment with the EU's RED II directive | | | |
| Specific sub-targets for increase Renewable Energy Sources (RES) include: A more ambitious target of reaching a 37% share of RES by 2030 in case all assumptions in the considered scenarios are realised. This would allow for the use of additional mechanisms from the EU directive, such as exporting certificates of "green" energy from RES | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| In scenario S2, the goal is to increase self-sufficiency from 47.4% in 2017 to 55.2% by 2030, followed by a decrease to 51.7% by 2050 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| In scenario S1, the target is to continually increase self-sufficiency from 47.4% in 2017 to 56.3% by 2030, and further to 62.0% by 2050 | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Specific sub-targets for achieve security of energy supply: Achieve a strong connection of all networked systems with the environment and strengthening of regional cooperation | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Specific sub-targets for achieve security of energy supply: Obtain a diversify supply routes as well as energy suppliers | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish a system of planning, measurement, and analysis of security of supply for each of the sectors and the energy system | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Continuously update the plan of measures to mitigate or reduce the negative impact on the economy and people's lives | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure the internal operational security of gas supply, as well as to consider the possibility of determining mandatory or strategic gas supplies | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The oil pipeline storage system needs to be continuously modernised and upgraded | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Establish a continuous analysis of the oil sector for timely risk assessment | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2020, create a program for the implementation of energy renovation in households aimed at areas of the Republic of Croatia where air quality limit values are exceeded | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Between 2021 and 2030, create a study of climate impact analysis change with a vulnerability analysis and a proposal for climate adaptation measures changes for the existing large hydropower systems on the rivers of the Adriatic basin, and analysis of the reduction of the negative impact of adaptation to climate change (in terms of energy production), on other water users and on the state of water (in terms of climate change) | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Continuously strengthen the resistance of the electric power | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| system to climatic conditions changes with a special emphasis on | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| energy plants for the production of | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| electricity and thermal energy and the transmission network. | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Between 2019 and 2025, create the Landscape Basis of Croatia and establish standards and criteria for carrying out typological classification and assessment of landscape character at all levels (national, regional, local) | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Between 2019 and 2022, determine the potential of forest biomass for energy use, by harmonising data from the forestry sector, LULUCF rules and data on energy consumption | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Between 2019 and 2030, it is necessary to stimulate scientifically research projects aimed at developing methods, analytical tools, algorithmic systems, databases and models for comprehensive assessments of the environmental effects of bioeconomy and circular economy. | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Between 2019 and 2030, promote the use of LCA analysis and calculation of environmental and carbon footprints of products and services, HIA approach, biomonitoring | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Between 2020 and 2030, analyse the need to introduce a legal obligation to create a Plan communication with stakeholders, for interventions that are obligations of implementing the PEA (or only for some types captures) | Energy development strategy 2030 with a view to 2050 | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| by connecting to the public water supply system in accordance with the law regulating water services | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| mobile delivery of water by tanker in accordance with the law regulating water services | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| mobile delivery of water by water transport vessel (water carrier) and/or tanker in accordance with the law regulating the way of managing the development of Croatian islands | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| on public taps that are on the public water supply system | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| on a public well, public pump and other similar buildings that are not on the public water supply system | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| prevent further deterioration, protect and improve the state of aquatic ecosystems and, with regard to water needs, terrestrial ecosystems and wetlands directly dependent on aquatic ecosystems | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| promote sustainable water use based on long-term protection of available water resources | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| better protect and improve the state of the water environment, including through specific measures for the gradual reduction of releases, emissions and spills of hazardous substances from the priority list and the interruption or gradual abolition of releases, emissions or spills of hazardous substances from the priority list | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| ensure a gradual reduction of groundwater pollution and prevent its further pollution and contribute to mitigating the consequences of floods and droughts | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Monitoring of the state of surface waters, including coastal waters, and underground waters is carried out through systematic monitoring of the state of water (hereinafter: monitoring) | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| determination of long-term changes (hereinafter: supervisory monitoring) | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| determination of changes due to the implementation of measures in areas that have been determined not to meet the conditions for good condition (hereinafter: operational monitoring) | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| determination of unknown relationships (hereinafter: research monitoring) | Water Law (Zakon o vodama NN 66/19 84/21 47/23) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| ensuring drinking water for the population in accordance with hygienic and sanitary standards, which includes increasing the level of supply of the population from public water supply systems to an average of 85-90% | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravljanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Systematically work on increasing the degree of connection of the population to public drainage systems -the planned activities related to the reduction of point sources of pollution from communal systems until 2023 will include: about 70% of systems that gravitate to the environment, spatial from 2,000 to 10,000 inhabitants, about 77% of those that gravitate to landscaping and construction, Min from 10,000 to 15,000 inhabitants, | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravljanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| 100% of the systems that gravitate to the sea, traffic and infrastructure, more than 15,000 inhabitants | | | |
| The development goals will be determined by the users themselves within their areas and will set requirements for the water economy (hydropower, irrigation; fish and shellfish farming; river navigation; sports, swimming and recreation on the water; extraction of mineral and geothermal water and others) - Water management will contribute to their development by meeting their water needs | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| achievement of the functionality of the flood protection system on waters I. and II. order to a level of about 87% by the end of 2023 and up to 100% by the end of 2038 | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| gradual implementation of works on rehabilitation and reconstruction of buildings, and the realisation of development projects. Half of the planned works will be completed in the period until 2023, and half in the period until 2038 | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Functional systems will be regularly economically and technically maintained. Maintenance of protective systems on waters I. and II. order will be carried out by the Legal entity for water management, while the maintenance of the detailed canal network for drainage and irrigation will be carried out by the counties from 2009 | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| The construction of protective systems will be carried out based on the Program for the Construction of Regulatory and Protective Water Structures, and the regular technical and economic maintenance of the system will be carried out on the basis of the Program for the Arrangement of Watercourses and Other Waters | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| improving the ecological functions of water and coastal waters (seas) where water quality is impaired, and achieving the prescribed quality of water for certain purposes where it does not work, by participating in the planning and gradual | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| implementation of comprehensive protection measures, and by systematic monitoring of the effect of implemented measures on the watershed and coastal waters (sea) | | | |
| reducing the amount of hazardous substances at the source of pollution by implementing water protection measures, and controlling the operation of constructed facilities and waste water treatment devices | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| contribution to sustainable development by rational use of water resources | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Mainly, the construction of II is planned. Communal treatment units, except in coastal is planned. This will increase the connection to the public drainage system to about 60% of the total number of inhabitants (that is, 2,660,000 inhabitants). Level I is foreseen for smaller agglomerations, except in coastal areas and regions of local and regional sensitivity where waste water treatment at level I is less appropriate. | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Systematically work to encourage Min. protection of activities related to the reduction of the release of hazardous substances from landscaping and industrial production into water for construction. Aim for a minimum of 50% reduction, in accordance with national and international labor and economic entrepreneurship regulations by 2010 | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| protection of surface and underground water as drinking water reserves (existing and planned) | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| protection of surface and underground waters, coastal waters (sea), protected areas - areas of special water protection, in order to preserve human health and preserve aquatic and water-dependent ecosystems, and preserve biological | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| diversity within the framework of integral water management | Strategy on Water Management (Strategiju Upravlkanja Vodoma Uvod) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |

**APPENDIX VII List of identified Spanish policy targets by sector**

| Target | Policy Document (Shortened) | Degree of compulsion | Target type (qualitative/quantitative) |
|---|---|----------------------|--|
| Forestry | | | |
| Art 30. Designates the Spanish Forestry Strategy (EFE) as the reference document for establishing Spanish forestry policy, containing a diagnosis of the situation of the Spanish forests and forecasts for the future, adapting to Spain's international commitments; and the Spanish Forestry Plan (PFE) will serve as a long-term planning instrument for Spanish forestry policy, developing the Spanish Forestry Strategy | Forest Law No. 43/2003 (Ley 43/2003) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Therefore, specific targets are outlined in the EFE and PFE | Forest Law No. 43/2003 (Ley 43/2003) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase the forested area through reforestation, regardless of its purpose, by at least 0.6 million hectares, in line with the reforestation target set by the National Long-term Decarbonisation Strategy 2050, which sets it at 20,000 hectares per year | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the area of managed forests as a guarantee of the promotion of forest management. Achieve a substantial increase in forest planning in private forests, so that at least 50% of these have an approved forest management plan in force | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the carbon sink capacity of forest stands. Reach at least the level of the climate neutrality scenario foreseen for 2050 in the ELP: an increase of 7.04 MtCO ₂ eq of net removals compared to the baseline scenario through the creation of wooded forest areas, 4.34 MtCO ₂ eq through the promotion of forest management and 0.54 MtCO ₂ eq through the promotion of agroforestry systems and the regeneration of grasslands | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Increase the percentage of forest habitat areas of community interest in good conservation status | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve at least 35% of forest habitats in good condition (compared to 5% in the 2013-2018 period), 40% of heathlands and shrublands (compared to 20% in the 2013-2018 period), and 30% of sclerophyllous shrubs (compared to 16% in the 2013-2018 period), with no community forest habitat in an unknown conservation status | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Limit annual forest area affected by fires to 0.2% of the total forested area based on a moving average of the previous 10 years | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Promote fire prevention through forest management. For this purpose, the investment in forest fire extinction should not exceed 15% of the total forest investment in 2050 | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| To increase, in an orderly manner, the use of forests. To achieve a rate of extraction with respect to annual growth, of no less than 50%, approaching the European average (currently 37% in Spain) | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase the contribution of the forest sector (silviculture, wood industry, cork and other products, and paper industry) to the national economy, reaching at least 1% of GDP by 2050 | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase forestry investment. To exceed €100 per hectare of forest per year, integrating all public and private investments made to achieve the objectives of this strategy | Spanish Forestry Strategy (Estrategia Forestal Española Horizonte 2050) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Timber trade (Industry) | | | |
| A total of 324 annual inspections are planned for agents and merchants with their registered/business address in the national territory - Given the unique characteristics of the territory, as well as the relative importance and the degree of trust of each type of agent, it is estimated that approximately 10% of the controls should be carried out on agents 1 and 2, and 90% on agents 3 and 4. | National Plan for the Control on Legally Traded Timber (Plan Nacional de Control de la Legalidad de la Madera Comercializada) | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |



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| A minimum of one inspection per type of agent, both domestic and importer, per autonomous community. In the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla, a minimum of one biennial inspection per city is set, focusing only on agents of type 3 or 4 | National Plan for the Control on Legally Traded Timber (Plan Nacional de Control de la Legalidad de la Madera Comercializada) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Each community and autonomous city will develop a Regional Control Program (PRC) that will be the instrument used as a basis to organise and plan the controls that must be carried out annually by each autonomous community | National Plan for the Control on Legally Traded Timber (Plan Nacional de Control de la Legalidad de la Madera Comercializada) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| All agents trading timber or timber products in Spain that are included in the annex of the EUTR Regulation must have a due diligence system in place, whose maintenance and periodic evaluation will be carried out by the agent themselves or through one of the supervisory entities duly recognised by the European Commission. Exempt from this obligation are timber and timber products covered by an appropriately validated FLEGT license | Law to ensure the legality of the marketing of timber and timber products No. 1088/2015 (Real Decreto 1088/2015 para asegurar la legalidad de la comercialización de madera y productos de la madera) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A National Plan for controlling the legality of the marketed timber will be established | Law to ensure the legality of the marketing of timber and timber products No. 1088/2015 (Real Decreto 1088/2015 para asegurar la legalidad de la comercialización de madera y productos de la madera) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Agriculture & rural development | | | |
| Enhance outcomes through knowledge and innovation. Number of people benefiting from advice, training, and knowledge exchange or participating in operational groups of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) funded by the CAP with the aim to sustainably improve economic, social, environmental, climate, and resource-efficient outcomes: 1.237.720,00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Link advisory and knowledge systems. Number of advisors receiving support for their integration into the agricultural knowledge and innovation systems (AKIS): 6.637,00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Digitisation of agriculture. Percentage of farms benefiting from support for digital agriculture technology through the CAP: 2,47 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Link income support to standards and good practices. Percentage of agricultural area used (UAA) benefiting from income support and subject to conditionality: 86,44 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Risk management. Percentage of farms supported by CAP risk management tools: 4,23 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Redistribution for smaller farms. Percentage of additional direct payments per hectare for eligible farms smaller than the average farm size (compared to the average): 150,00 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Increase support for farms in areas with specific needs. Percentage of additional aid per hectare in areas with higher needs (compared to the average): 101,00 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Focus on farms from specific sectors: Percentage of farms benefiting from associated income support to improve competitiveness, sustainability, or quality: 33,76 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Farm modernisation: Percentage of farmers receiving investment support for restructuring and modernisation, especially to improve resource efficiency: 7,52 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Better supply chain organisation. Percentage of farms participating in producer groups, producer organisations, local markets, short supply circuits, and quality schemes subsidised by the CAP: 13,10 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Fruits and vegetables - Supply concentration. Percentage of the value of production marketed by sectoral producer organisations or sectoral producer groupings with operational programs in certain sectors: 71,35 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Climate change adaptation: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) under financed commitments to improve adaptation to climate change: 0.41% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reducing emissions in the livestock sector: Percentage of livestock units under aid commitments to reduce greenhouse gas or ammonia emissions, including manure management: 0.12% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Carbon storage in soils and biomass: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) under subsidised commitments to reduce emissions, or to maintain and improve carbon storage (including permanent pastures, permanent crops with permanent vegetation cover, and agricultural lands in wetlands and peatlands): 32.11% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Green energy from agriculture, forestry, and other renewable sources. Subsidised investments in renewable energy production capacity, including bio-based ones (in MW): 190,86 MW | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Climate-related investments: Percentage of farms benefiting from CAP investment aid that also contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as to the production of renewable energies or biomaterials: 7.01% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Forested lands: Subsidised area for afforestation, agroforestry restoration, including breakdowns: 34,812.00 ha | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Investment aid in the forestry sector: Total investment to improve forestry sector performance: 1,139,092,930.00 EUR | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Soil improvement and protection: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) under subsidised commitments beneficial for soil management aimed at improving soil quality and biota (such as reduced tillage, soil coverage with crops, and crop rotation, including with legumes): 43.23% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Air quality improvement. Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) subject to subsidised commitments to reduce ammonia emissions: 0.69% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Water quality protection: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) under subsidised commitments related to waterbody quality: 4.80% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Sustainable nutrient management. Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) subject to subsidised commitments related to improving nutrient management: 5.61% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Sustainable and reduced use of pesticides: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) under specific financed commitments leading to sustainable pesticide use to reduce the risks and impacts of their use, such as leakage: 5.61% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Environmental behavior in the livestock sector. Percentage of livestock units subject to financed commitments to improve environmental sustainability: 2.13% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Investments related to natural resources. Percentage of farms benefiting from CAP productive and non-productive investment support related to natural resource care: 2,77 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Environmental or climate-related outcomes due to investments in rural areas. Number of operations contributing to environmental sustainability objectives and achievement of climate change mitigation and adaptation in rural areas: 36.090,00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Environmental and climate outcomes through knowledge and innovation. Number of people benefiting from advice, training, and knowledge exchange or participating in operational groups of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) funded by the CAP and related to environmental and climate outcomes: 244.036,00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Development of organic farming: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) funded by the CAP for organic farming distinguishing between maintenance and conversion: 5.26% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Support for sustainable forest management: Percentage of forest land under commitments to support forest protection and ecosystem service management: 1.84% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Preservation of habitats and species: Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) under aid commitments promoting biodiversity conservation or recovery, including high nature value farming practices: 16.00% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Biodiversity-related investments: Percentage of farms benefiting from CAP investment aid that contributes to biodiversity: 0.21% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Improved management of Natura 2000: Percentage of the total area of Natura 2000 sites under financed commitments: 13.16% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Preservation of landscape elements. Percentage of utilised agricultural area (UAA) subject to subsidised commitments for the management of landscape elements, including hedges and trees: 0.25% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Beehive conservation. Percentage of beehives subsidised by the CAP: 79,94 % | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Generational renewal. Number of young farmers benefiting from setting up with CAP assistance, broken down by gender: 16.528,00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Growth and employment in rural areas. New jobs subsidised in CAP projects: 17,347.00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| LEADER Coverage. Percentage of the rural population covered by local development strategies: 56.79% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Development of the rural economy. Number of rural businesses, including bioeconomy ones, developed with CAP support: 41.865,00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Smart transition of the rural economy. Number of subsidised "smart villages" strategies: 16.00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Connecting Rural Europe. Percentage of the rural population benefiting from improved access to services and infrastructure thanks to CAP support: 3.14% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Promote social inclusion. Number of people covered by financed social inclusion projects: 0.00 | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Limit the use of antimicrobials. Percentage of livestock units affected by financed actions to limit the use of antimicrobials (prevention/reduction): 5.33% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Improving animal welfare: Percentage of livestock units covered by financed actions to improve animal welfare: 5.59% | CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 (La política agrícola común 2023-2027 y el Plan Estratégico) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| A Sustainable Rural Development Program will be established for the planning of the action of the General State Administration in relation to the rural environment; it will be developed in coordination with the Autonomous Communities | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| For the implementation of the Sustainable Rural Development Program, the Autonomous Communities will carry out the delineation and classification of the rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| A Plan will be developed for each rural area, which must be approved by the Autonomous Communities, detailing the actions that the competent Administrations in each case must undertake in that area | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The National Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity and Geodiversity will be established, which will include action forecasts on soil and aquifer protection, | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| landscape projection, combating desertification, reforestation, hydrological-forest restoration, natural risk prevention, fire prevention, and vegetation cover recovery, with special emphasis on protecting rural population centers and protected natural areas from fires | desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | | |
| Public Administrations, within the scope of their respective competencies, will promote the maintenance and improvement of sufficient agricultural, livestock, and forestry activity compatible with the sustainable development of the rural environment, particularly in priority rural areas or those classified as mountain agriculture, through: priority attention will be given to agricultural professionals, especially those who own territorial farms | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Measures from community regulations related to rural development aid will prioritise agricultural professionals with territorial farms | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of economic activity in the rural environment, through the following measures | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The national system of Regional Economic Incentives will prioritise projects that meet current regulations and are developed in priority rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| National business promotion plans will have a special focus on priority rural areas and initiatives led by women, youth, self-employed workers, small and medium-sized enterprises, or cooperatives | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Incentivise the economic diversity in the rural development, the Program might include measures with the objective to | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote new high value-added activities and vertical integration processes in the food chain to ensure the consolidation of the agri-food, forestry, hunting, and fishing sectors in rural areas, and apply product identification measures linking agri-food products with various rural regions | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen food safety by reinforcing control and monitoring systems across the various sectors of the agro-industrial system, and enhance private food traceability tools by introducing territorial origin references | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish specific operational programs in the scheduling of actions co-financed by funds from the European Union, with a primary focus on priority rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support the commerce sector in rural environments and modernise public commercial facilities, paying special attention to priority rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage rural tourism, especially through appropriate supply management and demand improvement, with a special emphasis on promoting sustainable tourism in priority rural areas, and agritourism or tourism linked to farming activities | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Set up specific support programs for local rural development initiatives based on the European Union's LEADER approach, for all rural areas and especially for priority rural zones, | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| considering as primary beneficiaries women, young people, individuals with disabilities, agricultural professionals, cooperatives, and agricultural associative entities | desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | | |
| Propose geological resources existing in the rural setting that can be used for sustainable development, prioritising the conservation of the environment, landscape, and natural and cultural heritage | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the offer of public transport services in rural areas to allow rural populations equal access to basic services and to facilitate access to these services for social groups who need them due to age, disability, or physical conditions | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensuring the connectivity of rural population centers with each other and with urban areas, through the coordination of their respective transport infrastructure planning and provisions, and the improvement of the rural road network, in order to guarantee adequate usage and safety conditions while respecting the integrity and quality of the rural landscape and avoiding territorial fragmentation | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promoting a sustainable, stable, and high-quality energy supply in rural areas, encouraging public administrations and private companies to develop extension programs for a low environmental impact renewable energy network and specific action plans aimed at improving energy efficiency, energy savings, and enhancing the electric service to the user - likewise, regarding existing infrastructures, appropriate corrections will be made to reduce effects on wildlife | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implementing joint or regional selective waste collection services, and their environmental management, focusing especially and in this order on their reduction, reuse, and recycling, in order to improve the protection of human health and minimise their environmental impact | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Supporting the provision of mandatory public services in the urban centers of rural areas, their maintenance, and improvement, especially in priority rural areas, within the framework of the local administration regulatory standards - specific emphasis will be placed on the coordinated provision of public services between neighboring municipalities | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy production from biomass and biofuels, incentivising energy agricultural crops that meet sustainability criteria and prevention, reuse, and recycling, in that order of priority, of waste, promoting energy recovery for those that cannot be reused or recycled | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy utilisation of agricultural, livestock, and forestry waste in rural areas, enhancing the regeneration and cleaning of forests, as well as the activity of grazing, in those areas with a higher degree of abandonment or risk of fires | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy production from biomass, particularly from fire prevention operations and sustainable forest management plans, and from forestry, agricultural, and livestock waste | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy production from biofuels, provided they are energy agricultural crops adapted to local circumstances and compatible with biodiversity conservation | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Energy production from wind and solar sources, in particular, and technological systems or projects for the implementation of renewable energies for collective or individual thermal or electrical use and the reduction of non-renewable energy usage | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Substitution of public and private consumption of non-renewable energies, maintenance and increase of the | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| performance of the plant cover as a CO2 sink, reduction of carbon dioxide emissions and other greenhouse gases, and the adaptation of activities and uses by rural inhabitants to the new environmental conditions resulting from climate change | environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | | |
| The implementation and execution of comprehensive water resource management plans for rural areas or associations of municipalities, which consider the joint management of the entire water cycle, the necessary measures for drought and water shortage situations, and actions to protect against potential floods: these plans will set a limit for urbanisation actions in rural areas and should be taken into account in irrigation improvement and modernisation programs | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The effective and efficient use of water for irrigation, giving priority to modernisation actions linked to water saving, energy use efficiency, and the use of renewable energies | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The use of regenerated water for irrigation and the use of water from the desalination of brackish and sea waters | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The adaptation of water supply and sanitation infrastructures to the needs existing in rural areas and, in particular, in areas integrated into the Natura 2000 Network | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| The reduction and prevention of diffuse pollution of groundwater and surface water | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| The protection and recovery of the public hydraulic domain | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Hydrological-forest restoration | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Compliance with ecological flows and recovery of overexploited aquifers | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Fulfillment of the water status objectives set by the Basin Plans of the Water Framework Directive | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Establish financial aid for the withdrawal of irrigated lands or the reduction of irrigation allocation in areas with water scarcity and environmental values associated with dryland crops | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improving the extension and quality of telecommunications coverage in rural areas, particularly regarding access to new information and communication technologies, in automatic mobile telephony, broadband technologies, and terrestrial digital television, among other means, promoting action agreements with private companies providing these services | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Promoting training and use of information and communication technologies by the rural population, especially the elderly, women, and people with disabilities | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encouraging training, research, and technological innovation in various economic activity sectors in rural areas, and the creation of innovation networks in rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote concerted action plans to ensure the free exercise of rights and freedoms and citizen security specifically related to the rural environment, facilitating the cooperation of the Civil Guard with Local Police Forces, and between them | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the presence of the Security Forces to maintain an adequate level of safety for the population in rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Execute a comprehensive plan aimed at the construction, rehabilitation, and expansion of Civil Guard barracks, taking into account the population they serve in the rural environment | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhance the information and communication systems of the Civil Guard aimed at operational management, in order to improve the level of services provided to citizens in rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase actions to protect the rural environment, reinforcing the interventions of the Civil Guard's Nature Protection | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Service and promoting collaboration tools among the various competent Public Administrations | desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | | |
| Promote the development of prevention and protection plans against gender violence and abuse towards women in rural areas | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| To enhance the provision of quality public education, the Program may include measures aimed at: Promoting sports practice, improving sports infrastructure, especially in priority rural areas, organising spaces for sports activities in the natural environment, and promoting the integration of these activities with rural tourism | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| To promote the creation and maintenance of employment in rural areas, especially for women, young people, and people with disabilities, and preferably in priority rural areas, the Program may consider measures for | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Supporting business creation, self-employment, and employment in cooperatives, particularly in economic sectors related to the use of new technologies and innovative environmental practices | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintaining jobs in particularly significant productive sectors in rural areas and creating jobs in emerging sectors | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promoting active policies to reduce job seasonality in rural areas: rural area territorial contracts will specify improvement plans regarding working conditions, job stability, and occupational risk prevention | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | | |
| Implementing vocational training programs for the unemployed and combined employment and training programs, especially in proximity services and care for dependent individuals | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Vocational training for employed workers, training in business and managerial skills, as well as training in new activities and technologies | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Designing activities to inform and train rural inhabitants about the potential use of their Natural and Cultural Heritage. Proposing initiatives that facilitate their involvement in geological, ecological, mining tourism, and other cultural uses | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create networks of cultural spaces that, by reusing existing architectural heritage, ensure the infrastructure for their development with the greatest versatility possible, the appropriate size to guarantee their sustainability, and accessibility | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote plans for cultural activities by rural area, encouraging the participation and initiative of all kinds of private entities | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Provide rural municipalities with public libraries | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Protect the historical-artistic heritage located in rural municipalities and promote its appropriate maintenance and restoration | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| To promote stability in rural areas, the Program may establish, through administrative, professional, or economic incentives, specific support measures for public employees who carry out their professional activity and reside in rural areas, especially in priority rural zones. These measures will be applied preferentially to public teaching and health employees | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| To improve the social protection of citizens residing in rural areas, the Program may contain measures aimed at: ensuring access to social benefits and services under equitable conditions, especially for beneficiaries of the System for Autonomy and Care for Dependence, in accordance with the particular conditions of the rural environment | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promoting the integration of immigrants who legally reside in rural areas, providing labor information, establishing temporary reception facilities, facilitating access to housing, healthcare, and education, especially concerning learning the official language or languages, schooling, and vocational training | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Supporting and advising rural women, and the youth, and facilitating their labor insertion | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Enhancing the development of social service programs by various supra-municipal entities | Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural) | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| <p>Improving working conditions, especially in relation to occupational risk prevention</p> | <p>Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural)</p> | <p>Legally binding</p> | <p>Quantitative</p> |
| <p>To preserve and improve the rural environmental quality, the Red Natura 2000, natural protected spaces, habitats, threaten species, the Program might include measures with the objective to: (i)the conservation and restoration of habitats and threatened and priority species naturally present in priority rural areas; (ii)sustainable management of natural resources, especially water, soil, forests, natural spaces, game wildlife, and inland fishing resources; (iii)support for public use programs of protected natural areas and the Natura 2000 Network; and, (iv)environmental education and public awareness of the natural values of designated rural areas</p> | <p>Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural)</p> | <p>Legally binding</p> | <p>Qualitative</p> |
| <p>To pursue urban development in rural areas adapted to its needs, the Program may consider measures aimed at: (i)ensuring that urban development is compatible with environmental preservation, limiting urban growth to the availability of water for supply and to prior territorial planning, paying special attention to municipalities located within the area defined by the Natura 2000 Network and, in general, to small rural municipalities; (ii) facilitating access to housing for citizens in rural areas, adapting public protection schemes to the unique characteristics of this environment, and giving specific attention to young people, women, and persons with disabilities; (iii)promoting the reuse of existing homes, the rehabilitation of houses and buildings, the preservation of traditional rural architecture, and the declaration of rehabilitation areas in rural municipalities, for the purposes of public aids that are determined, in order to recover and conserve rural architectural heritage; and,</p> | <p>Law 45/2007 for the sustainable development of the rural environment (Ley 45/2007 para el desarrollo sostenible del medio rural)</p> | <p>Legally binding</p> | <p>Qualitative</p> |



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| (iv) Discouraging scattered urbanism, particularly in peri-urban rural areas | | | |
| Nature conservation / environment | | | |
| Elaboration and approval of the State Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity, which includes the specific measures and measurable targets to be applied. | Law 33/2015 on Natural Heritage and Biodiversity (Ley 33/2015 del Patrimonio Natural y de la Biodiversidad) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| No species or habitat type of interest with an unknown conservation status by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| No wetlands from Red Natura 2000, Ramsar, Protected Natural Area inventory or National Wetland Inventory with an unknown conservation status by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| No deterioration in the trends and conservation status of any of the protected species and habitats | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| At least 30 % of species and habitats with currently unfavourable status achieve favourable status or show a strong positive trend | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| To recover part of the biodiversity lost in the past, by 2030 at least 40 % of the species identified in the list of extinct species throughout the Spanish natural environment (63) will have been reintroduced into the wild | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| New marine protected areas will be designated to reach 30% protection of the marine area by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Protection of at least 18 % of Spanish marine waters by 2024 through Red Natura 2000 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Designate new protection areas to contribute to the objective of strict protection of 10% of the EU's land and marine area by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| By 2023 the process of declaring terrestrial Special Conservation Areas (ZECs) is fully completed and that by 2028 the objectives and measures for 100% of these areas have been reviewed | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 75% of Red Natura 2000 protected sites will regularly assess the effectiveness of the measures adopted by 2025 (and 100% by 2030) | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| 15% of degraded ecosystems will be restored by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieving a 50% reduction in the risk and use of chemical pesticides, a 50% decrease in the use of the most hazardous pesticides, a 25% increase in organic farming area, and a 20% reduction in fertiliser use, while also improving nutrient management to decrease nutrient pollution by 50%, by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| An overall reduction of nitrogen fertilisation and excess nutrients, of the use and risk of pesticides, reduction of antibiotic use, and of non-productive areas for biodiversity | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| By 2030, create 200,000 hectares of new forests, including the densification of degraded forests, entailing the planting of at least 120 million trees | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Restoration of 100,000 hectares of existing forests by 2025, and 200,000 hectares of existing forests by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030 no protected wetlands (RN2000/Ramsar/ENP) have worsened in conservation status, and at least 50% have improved or at least show a strong positive trend | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| By 2030, ensure no deterioration in the conservation status of wetland and water-related species and habitats of interest; with wetlands contributing positively to achieving a favorable conservation status for at least 30% of species and habitat types of interest that currently lack such status | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| See a general improvement in groundwater status | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Increase knowledge of the ecological status of all water bodies by 2027 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| See that 3,000 km of river corridors are restored by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Have a network of more than 3,500 km of river nature reserves by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve by 2030 the recovery of a further 20,000 hectares of wetlands, which will complement the 18,000hc already rehabilitated in recent decades, as well as the partial restoration of three of the largest Spanish wetlands lost in the past: Laguna de la Janda, Laguna Antela and Mar de Campos | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Identify all infrastructure sections with the greatest conflicts (e.g. wildlife mortality due to roadkill) with the conservation of species and habitat types by 2024 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Complete, by 2026, the ecological restoration of at least 30 closed mining facilities that may pose a serious threat to health and the environment | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Complete the environmental restoration through reforestation and revegetation processes of at least 2,000 hc of land degraded by coal mining or the decommissioning of thermal power plants, by the second quarter of 2026 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve by 2030 a measurable and quantifiable improvement in the conservation status of native species threatened (IUCN Red List) by the presence and spread of invasive alien species, with a 50% reduction of IAS-threatened species on the IUCN Red List to be achieved by 2030 | Royal Decree Strategic Plan for Natural Heritage and Biodiversity to 2030 | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Climate Change | | | |



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| Assess the ecological, social and economic impacts and risks derived from the effects of climate change on water resources and associated aquatic ecosystems | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Deepen the integration of climate change into hydrological planning and integrated water cycle management | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promoting sustainable adaptation practices | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Update studies on the expected effects of climate change on flora, fauna and geological heritage | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support policies and measures aimed at reducing the levels of stress on species and ecosystem | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the introduction of climate change adaptation criteria in the planning and management of protected areas | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the adaptive capacity of green infrastructure and ecological connectivity, including the conservation and expansion of ecological corridors | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote NbS | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prevent and address the risks associated with the proliferation of invasive species | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Deepen knowledge on the impact of climate change on forest resources, including both timber and non-timber products | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Integrate climate change adaptation into forest planning and management | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Integrate climate change adaptation into forest planning and management | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Prevent desertification and land degradation and promote adaptive restoration of degraded land | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote action against forest wildfires, through integrated wildfire prevention and wildfire-fighting plans | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce climate change risks to food security | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Update or expand knowledge on the assessment of the risks (hazards, exposure, vulnerability) and impacts of climate change on the main types of crops, livestock and fish species | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the development of adaptation interventions through Spain's Strategic Plan for the CAP post-2020 | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote healthy diets compatible with a sustainable and territorially-integrated food production and the reduction of food waste | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the sustainability of the food system and adaptation to climate change in rural areas | National Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2021-2030(Plan Nacional para la Adaptación al Cambio Climático) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| (Bio-) Energy | | | |
| Development of new power generation facilities with renewables of 59GW | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | |
| Adapt the power grid to integrate renewables | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop self-consumption with renewables | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Incorporate renewables in the industrial sector | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Technology renewal plan for existing renewable energy power generation projects | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote mainly biogas, biomethane and hydrogen from 100% renewable sources, for electricity generation and thermal uses | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | |
| Promote advanced biofuels in the transport sector | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote biomass energy with sustainability criteria: Regulatory development throughout the biomass value chain | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strategy for the energy use of prunings in the agricultural sector | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Adaptation to the obligations linked to air quality in both new and existing biomass installations | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of certification and the principle of proximity of origin in the use of biomass | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Dissemination and promotion of high efficiency and low emission local heating equipment | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Specific training for installers and other professionals in the biomass sector | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce GHG emissions in the agricultural and livestock sector: promote rainfed arable crop rotation, adjust nitrogen supply to crop needs, frequent slurry disposal in pig houses, covering slurry ponds, solid-liquid separation of slurry, production of compost from the solid fraction of slurry | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce GHG emissions in waste management | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use of pruning residues from woody crops as biomass Forest sink | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Forest sink: regeneration of grassland systems | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Promotion of poplar trees and native species to replace agricultural crops in flood-prone areas | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of wooded forested areas | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Execution of silvicultural work to prevent forest fires | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Controlled grazing in strategic areas to prevent forest fires | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of sustainable forest management in conifers, application of thinning regime to increase carbon sequestration | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Hydrological-forestry restoration in areas with a high risk of erosion | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve agricultural sinks | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote conservation agriculture | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Maintenance of ground cover and incorporation of pruning residues into the soil in woody crops | National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reduce greenhouse gas emissions of the Spanish economy as a whole by at least 23% in 2030 compared to 1990 | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve at least 42% of renewable energies in final energy consumption by the year 2030 | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Achieve an electricity system with at least 74 % of generation from renewable energies by the year 2030 | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Quantitative |



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| Improve energy efficiency by decreasing at least 39,5% of primary energy | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Quantitative |
| Include the digital technology in the energy sector | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Inform new proposals for the GHG reduction from the digital economy and new business models | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Use the potential of AI for a green economy transition | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Support digital competences in the labour force | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promotion of reversible hydroelectric power plants. (provided that they comply with the environmental objectives of the bodies of water and the ecological flow regimes established in the river basin hydrological plans and are compatible with the rights granted to third parties, with the efficient management of the resource and its environmental protection) | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Building materials used in both the construction and renovation of buildings should have the smallest possible carbon footprint | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| promote renewable gases, including biogas, biomethane, hydrogen and other fuels whose manufacture exclusively uses raw materials and energy of renewable origin or allows the | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| reuse of organic waste or by-products of animal or vegetable origin | cambio climático y transición energética) | | |
| The PNACC defines the objectives, criteria, areas of application and actions to promote resilience and adaptation to climate change and will include adaptation to impacts in Spain arising from climate change that take place beyond national borders | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Elaborate and publish reports on the evolution of climate change impacts and risks and about policies to increase resilience and decrease vulnerability to climate change | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Water Planning and management shall include climate change risks based on available information, taking into account: Risks arising from foreseeable impacts on hydrological flow regimes, available aquifer resources, related in turn to changes in factors such as temperatures, precipitation, snow accumulation or risks arising from foreseeable changes in the vegetation of the basin | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Risks derived from changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme phenomena in relation to floods and droughts | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Risks associated with the increase in water temperature and its impact on the hydrological regime and the water requirements of economic activities | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Risks arising from the possible impacts of sea level rise on groundwater bodies, wetlands and coastal systems | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create a specific strategy for the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and species particularly sensitive to the effects of climate change | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de | Legally binding | Qualitative |



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| | cambio climático y transición energética) | | |
| Include in the CAP and the Spanish Forestry Plan measures to reduce vulnerability to climate change of agricultural soils, forests and forest soils and at facilitating their preservation | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Elaboration of a vulnerability map, as well as the assessment and promotion of sustainable agricultural systems and forest management practices to increase their resilience to climate change | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote the identification, classification, mapping, enhancement and improvement of carbon sinks | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage the participation of public and private owners and managers, especially those in the agricultural and forestry sector | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Tenders for the drafting of projects or works concessions may include, as technical requirements: that the wood used in the constructions comes from forests managed in a sustainable manner and in accordance with their ecological footprint | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reforestation actions with autochthonous species, as a compensatory measure to mitigate the carbon footprint resulting from the execution of the work or service subject to tender | Law 7/2021 on Climate Change and Energy Transition (Ley 7/2021 de cambio climático y transición energética) | Legally binding | Qualitative |
| Water and Soil | | | |
| Make land use compatible with flood zones | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reorder flood-prone areas | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restore riverbanks and meanders | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Implement NbS | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Restore 20000h of wetlands by 2030 | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Quantitative |
| Reduce groundwater abstraction through reuse and desalination of water | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Launch actions for the recovery of aquifers through the extraction reduction of groundwater by substituting such asset with alternative resources, mainly from reuse and desalination | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Develop an integrated water system which consider conventional sources (surface and groundwater) and conventional sources (reuse and desalination) by basin organisation | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Foster the expansion of the capacity of existing desalination plants | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate circularity actions in the water cycle | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage the use of renewable energies for water production and storage | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Implement practices of sustainable use of phytosanitary products | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote integrated pest management | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Promote alternative techniques to phytosanitary products | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Propose adaptation measures in watersheds, such as natural retention and green infrastructures as NbS | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Upgrade the hydrological information systems | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Refine the indicator systems for prolonged drought. Develop forecast models for these indicators in the short and medium terms | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Allocate 10,000mill euros in 6 years to water management | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Make land use compatible with flood zones | Strategic orientations on water and climate change | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Incorporate into the reformed Water Law clear principles on the definition of ecological flows, their distinction with minimum flows, their form of establishment and their operability | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Guarantee the functionality of hydrological planning regarding climate change | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Broadening the participation of social organisations, different types of users and expertise in the planning, management, and governance bodies | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Modify the financial regime to provide resources for a water policy that can no longer depend almost exclusively on public investments | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Reform the concessional regime | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve management in public administration | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the legal framework of ecological flows | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Ensure that public control over water rights exchanges is maintained | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernanza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |



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| Ensure the existence of cooperation forums at different scales, where political decision-makers are represented and supported by technical-administrative working groups | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Strengthen the role of user communities as public law corporations responsible for the management and protection of the public water domain | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage citizen co-responsibility in water management | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Encourage business co-responsibility and corporate social responsibility | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve compilation and management of water use information and concessions | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Creation of an infrastructure to enable modelling of water management | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Improve the available hydrogeological information with monitoring networks with the necessary density, periodicity and continuity | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |
| Create a publicly accessible groundwater information system | Green Book on Water Governance (Libro Verde de la Gobernza del Agua en España) | Non-legally binding | Qualitative |

