

15 May 2024 EMA/83225/2024 Executive Director

# **Environmental Policy**

POLICY/no 0078 Status: Public

Effective date: 15 May 2024 Review date: 15 May 2027

Supersedes: EMA/229034/2020, effective 14 January 2021

#### 1. Introduction and purpose

As a European Union (EU) body the European Medicines Agency (EMA) acknowledges its institutional responsibility to safeguard the environment for present and future generations.

Recognising that social and civil responsibilities of the Agency's activities have the potential to affect the environment, the Agency considers that a long-term sustainable approach and proactive environmental management generates environmental, social and economic value for the community in which we operate. EMA strives to meet and exceed the expectations of our stakeholders for the prevention of pollution, the sustainable use of resources and the minimisation of waste and emissions.

## 2. Scope

This environmental policy covers the Agency's operations and staff, also when on missions and travelling to and from work. The policy also applies to other persons such as interims, trainees, seconded national experts, delegates, contractors and visitors working within the premises of the Agency without exception.

## 3. Policy statement

#### Improving Environmental Performance

EMA's vision is to be a climate friendly and resource efficient organisation and in that context in order to fulfil these commitments, the Agency's leadership will provide strategic direction and promote the continual improvement of environmental management at every level.

The Agency is committed to:

- Ensure compliance with local, national and EU environmental legislation, as well as regulatory and voluntary obligations within the remits of existing regulations;
- Maintain an open dialogue to promote and share environmental knowledge and best practice with all stakeholders, including but not limited to other EU Institutions and EU Agencies through the



Groupe Interinstitutionnel de Management Environnemental (GIME) network and the Greening Network of the EU Agency Network;

- Maintain staff's awareness and understanding of environmental issues by setting up a network of staff environmental ambassadors, organised as the Green Group, to promote good environmental practices throughout the Agency;
- Ensure EMA staff, contractors and delegates at all levels are aware of their environmental responsibilities and empower them to participate in efforts to improve the Agency's environmental performance;
- Set targets and objectives for continuous improvements, implement measures to achieve these and put in place systems to monitor their progress;
- Encourage suppliers by application of voluntary EU Green Public Procurement Criteria and Requirements in the Agency's procurement procedures;
- Prepare for implementation of a carbon removal regime of the environmental impact in line with other EU Agency's and Institutions under existing and future regulations.

In order to support minimisation of our environmental impacts and continually improve our performance towards carbon neutrality EMA has a target to register to the European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) and to each year publish a statement of its environmental performance.

#### 4. Related documents

EMS Manual – EMA/367726/2020

### 5. Changes since last revision

The policy was updated with minor language improvements and to reflect the outcome of the Agency's Internal Environmental Audit performed in 2023 which confirmed compliance of the policy with EMAS requirements, as well as developments applicable to EU agencies and institutions in pursuit of registration to EMAS.

Amsterdam, 15 May 2024

Emer Cooke

**Executive Director**