



EU for Green Recovery East

Overview of the future regional programme

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Summary

- Support the partner countries' recovery by promoting green, circular economy and pollution reduction with a focus on measures necessary for the Economic and Investment Plan (EIP) to deliver
- EUR 20 million for work in five areas:
 - (i) circular economy promotion;
 - (ii) pollution reduction with a focus on water as a critical resource for the economy;
 - (iii) legislative alignment with the European Green Deal, including, where relevant, with Chapter 27 of enlargement negotiations and facilitation of the accession process;
 - (iv) institutional integration into EU-wide cooperation, and
 - (v) promotion of compliance with international commitments relevant for the Global Gateway Strategy

Outcome 1: Circular economy promotion

- Decision-making tools, including digital ones, in support of green recovery and circular economy are identified and promoted at sectoral and enterprise level;
- Knowledge and good practice transfer related to the EU Circular Economy Action Plan enabled, companies empowered to make their production greener, and the net of green SMEs clubs is extended;
- Policy dialogue and business-to-business links in priority green economy sectors are enhanced.

Outcome 2: Pollution reduction with a focus on water as a critical resource for the economy

- 2.1 Additional River Basin Management Plans are prepared, adopted, and their implementation is strengthened, including by using nature-based solutions;
- 2.2 Additional river basin councils are established and supported to be fully operational;
- 2.3 Measures for ensuring climate neutrality of wastewater treatment are identified;
- 2.4 Economic aspects of water management are further addressed;
- 2.5 Measures for addressing pollution from priority sectors/sources are identified;
- 2.6 Water monitoring is expanded and a wastewater-based epidemiological surveillance system is established, including further capacity building for COVID-19 monitoring.

Outcome 3: Alignment with the European Green Deal/Chapter 27 and EU accession process facilitation:

- 3.1 Officials and other stakeholders are acquainted with the European Green Deal/chapter 27;
- 3.2 Compliance checks of draft legal acts is performed and their feasibility and enforceability is assessed;
- 3.3 Implementation plans are defined and compliance and enforcement mechanisms are promoted.
- 3.4 Cooperation under the regional Team Europe Initiative is facilitated.

Outcome 4: Institutional integration in EU-wide environmental cooperation:

- 4.1 Regular participation of at least 3 partner countries in Eionet is ensured;
- 4.2 Portals ensuring the transparency of data and decision-making are fully operational;
- 4.3 Relevant environmental data are regularly submitted to European Environment Agency and Eurostat by at least 3 countries;
- 4.4 Regular use of the European Air Quality Index and comparable platforms is facilitated.

Outcome 5: Promotion of compliance with international commitments relevant for the Global Gateway

- 5.1 The establishment/functioning of 2-3 international river basin commissions is facilitated;
- 5.2 Governments and communities are assisted to address the water, climate, and security nexus;
- 5.3 Compliance with UNECE conventions relevant for the Global Gateway is monitored and enabled, also in line with the European Green Deal.

Questions for discussion

- What are your priority sectors for speeding up the transition to a circular economy and what digital tools could be developed or further developed to facilitate this transition?
- How can we best support legal approximation and alignment with the European Green Deal and the enforcement of legal requirements? In what areas the legal gaps are the most pressing?
- How can we best ensure synergies between regional and country-level work and stakeholder involvement?

Thank you



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