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European Report of A1 ACTIVITY



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EcoMinds “EcoMinds: Enhancing Climate Change Awareness and Solutions among Youth”

Duration: 01/05/2025 - 30/04/2026

Erasmus+ KA210-YOU - Small-scale partnerships in youth

Project code: 2024-3-TR01-KA210-YOU-000285858



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European Union

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The project

Aims and objectives of the Project

The project aims to encourage young people to develop greener and more sustainable alternatives that promote active citizenship and social entrepreneurship among youth.

The project also contributes to the objectives of the Erasmus+ Programme by promoting socially inclusive and digitally prepared societies, while supporting the EU's sustainable growth objectives and its goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2050.

Target groups

The project has identified three direct target groups that are involved in the planned activities:

- Young people aged 16–30, including immigrants and young people with fewer opportunities
- Youth workers, teachers, educators, and adult trainers – professionals engaged in youth development, education, and training
- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs), educational institutions, local authorities, government bodies, and policymakers

Activity 1

Desk research was conducted to examine new policies, legislation, and actions introduced or planned by the European Union, EU Member States, and candidate countries, aimed at combating climate change and promoting adaptation and mitigation. Special attention was given to initiatives that have an impact, or the potential to have an impact, on the professional lives of young people. The research identified and documented good practices for more sustainable business operations and professional activities, including measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and waste, conserve energy and resources, and reduce water, land, and air pollution.

Following the research, a web-based survey was carried out. The survey aimed to assess young people's awareness and understanding of climate change in the partner countries, as well as their attitudes and expectations regarding the impact of climate-related changes on their personal and professional lives.

A comprehensive report summarizing the findings and conclusions was compiled.





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Research Methodology

The research conducted within Activity 1 of the EcoMinds project combined **desk research and a web-based survey** in order to develop a broader understanding of climate change policies, environmental challenges, sustainable practices, and young people's awareness and attitudes towards the green transition in the project partner countries.

Desk Research Methodology

The desk research was conducted at country level in **Italy, Türkiye, and Greece**. It focused on identifying and examining relevant European, national, regional, and local policies, legislation, strategies, and initiatives related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental protection, sustainable development, renewable energy, resource efficiency, and the green transition.

Particular attention was given to policies and initiatives that may affect the personal and professional lives of young people, including developments related to green skills, sustainable employment, entrepreneurship, and emerging opportunities associated with the transition towards a climate-neutral economy.

The research also included the identification of good practices illustrating practical approaches to sustainability, environmental awareness, green skills development, sustainable mobility, energy efficiency, and youth participation. The information collected by the project partners was organised according to common thematic areas in order to facilitate its presentation and comparison within this European report.

Survey Methodology

The desk research was complemented by a **survey** conducted in the project partner countries. The survey was designed to explore participants' awareness and understanding of climate change and environmental issues, their attitudes towards environmental protection, their familiarity with European environmental policies, and their perceptions of individual and collective responsibility for addressing environmental challenges.

The questionnaire included questions concerning environmentally responsible behaviour, sustainable consumption, access to environmental information, perceptions of EU environmental policy, and knowledge of the **European Green Deal and its climate-neutrality objective**.

Survey results were collected and analysed at national level. Because the number and characteristics of respondents differed between participating countries, national findings should be interpreted within the context of each country sample. Where cross-country comparisons are made in this report, percentages are used alongside response counts, where data are available, to facilitate comparison between samples of different sizes.

Methodological Limitations

The research provides an indicative overview of the issues examined within the EcoMinds project and should not be considered representative of the entire youth population of the participating countries. The survey samples differ in size and participant composition across countries, which limits direct statistical comparison between national results.



Furthermore, the survey findings are based on participants' self-reported knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours. They should therefore be interpreted as an indication of the perceptions and experiences of the respondents rather than as nationally representative statistical findings. The combination of desk research and survey findings nevertheless provides a useful evidence base for identifying key environmental knowledge gaps, attitudes, concerns, and learning needs relevant to the development of the **EcoMinds educational activities and game content**.



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DESK RESEARCH

The following section presents the findings of the desk research conducted in the partner countries. The analysis focuses on relevant European, national and regional policies and legislation, environmental and climate-related challenges, and initiatives supporting sustainable development and the green transition.

Desk research in Italy

Analysis of the local and national context	1. European and National Framework Italy aligns with the European Green Deal, aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. Nationally, the strategy is deployed through instruments like the PNRR (Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza) and participation in international initiatives such as the Under2 MOU, which foster sub-national cooperation to reduce emissions and promote renewable energy. https://www.consilium.europa.eu/it/policies/european-green-deal/ 2. Commitments and Actions in Basilicata 2.1 International Initiative Participation Basilicata is part of the Under2 MOU, committing to an 80–95 % cut in greenhouse-gas emissions by 2050 with targeted interventions in energy, transport, waste, agriculture, research, and monitoring. 2.2 Regional Legislation The region passed the “Basilicata carbon-free” law (2018), providing incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency to achieve energy self-sufficiency. Wind power surged from 262 GWh to 2,124 GWh between 2007 and 2018. 2.3 EU & EIB Funding In 2023, the EIB allocated €50 million for renewable projects in Basilicata (particularly solar and wind), along with other southern regions, totaling 238 MWp capacity (~460 GWh/year), to be operational by 2027.
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	3. Climatic and Environmental Challenges 3.1 Drought & Water Crisis Basilicata faced severe drought in late 2024: the Camastra reservoir emptied, affecting 29 municipalities and prompting a state of emergency declaration https://www.regione.basilicata.it/bardi-crisi-idrica-e-contromisure-attivate/ . Water loss from the network exceeds 65–70 % in some areas (Potenza reaching up to 70 %) due to aging infrastructure 3.2 Extreme Events & Hydrogeological Risk Nearly 50 % of Basilicata municipalities are vulnerable to landslides and floods, particularly in hilly and coastal zones mdpi.com. Climate change brings hotter temperatures, more erratic rainfall, and rising wildfire risks. 4. Local Initiatives and Projects 4.1 Energy Communities The Moliterno Renewable Energy Community (“Energia Dal Sole”) produces and self-consumes solar power locally, enhancing energy autonomy and reducing emissions. 4.2 Biomass & District Heating Studies by Politecnico di Milano and CREA examine using forest biomass in district heating networks in rural mountainous areas, analyzing economic viability and environmental impact. 4.3 Smart Water Infrastructure Post-crisis plans involve enlarging reservoir capacities, linking between basins, and replacing old pipelines—utilizing EU/PRR funds to reduce leaks (currently ~53 % overall) blue-community.net. 5. Strengths and Weaknesses Strengths • Significant renewable energy mix (~50 %) .
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	- Legislative frameworks and international commitments. - Active local innovation—energy communities, biomass networks, and water infrastructure initiatives. Weaknesses - Severe water leakage and crisis (~65–70 %) - High exposure to hydrogeological hazards (~50 % municipalities) mdpi.com. - Fragmented governance and underinvestment in structural interventions. 6. Opportunities and Recommendations Water infrastructure rehabilitation – replace aging pipes, improve reservoir connections, and use digital monitoring to cut leaks. Expand energy communities, inspired by Moliterno's model, to boost local clean energy use. Advance biomass district heating, especially in rural and mountainous municipalities. Tap EU/PRR funding for agricultural resilience, water management, and forest fire mitigation. Enhance coordinated governance across local, regional, and national levels to integrate adaptation/mitigation strategies. Sources - Politico & Brussels Reporter on drought, leakage, and crisis https://www.politico.eu/article/europe-is-flushing-its-water-down-the-drain/ - Regione Basilicata https://www.regione.basilicata.it/bardi-crisi-idrica-e-contromisure-attivate/
Legislations/Policy n.1	
Policies or legislation developed	1. Basilicata Regional Law No. 4/2019 – Regulation of Renewable Energy Installations Level: Regional (Basilicata) Description: This law regulates the installation and



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	authorization procedures of renewable energy systems (mainly wind and photovoltaic) within the Basilicata region. It aimed to balance clean energy production with environmental and territorial protection. • Key Measures: Set limits on installed power, mandatory distances from protected areas, and timeframes for administrative procedures. • Status: Partially declared unconstitutional in 2020 for exceeding regional competencies. 2. Basilicata Regional Law “Basilicata Carbon-Free” (2018) • Level: Regional (Basilicata) • Description: This law outlines the region’s commitment to decarbonisation and renewable energy development with the goal of energy self-sufficiency and reducing emissions. • Key Measures: Provides financial support for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean mobility projects. Encourages green public procurement and sustainable urban planning. • Status: Ongoing; led to a significant increase in wind and solar power generation between 2007 and 2018. 3. Legislative Decree No. 152/2006 – Environmental Code (Italy) • Level: National • Description: This is Italy’s comprehensive environmental legislation, covering waste, water, soil, air, and biodiversity protection. It incorporates many EU directives. • Key Measures: Regulates environmental impact assessments (EIA), integrated pollution prevention, water resource management, and sustainable waste treatment. • Status: Constantly updated; it provides the legal basis for most national and regional environmental regulations. 4. Decree-Law No. 115/2022 – “Salvamare” and Water Emergency Measures • Level: National
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	• Description: Addresses water crises and promotes marine and inland water protection. Supports actions against drought and for circular economy in marine waste management. • Key Measures: Appoints special commissioners for managing water emergencies; funds interventions to prevent desertification and modernize irrigation. • Status: Active; applied in Basilicata during recent drought emergencies. 5. EU “Fit for 55” Package (2021) – Part of the European Green Deal • Level: European Union • Description: A broad legislative package aiming to reduce EU greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels). • Key Measures: Revisions of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), Energy Efficiency Directive, Renewable Energy Directive, and introduction of the Social Climate Fund. • Status: Being transposed into national laws; Italy must adapt its PNIEC (National Energy and Climate Plan) accordingly.
Reference Link	1. Basilicata Regional Law No.4/2019 – Renewable Energy Installations Regulation • Reference Link: https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/atto/regioni/caricaDettaglioAtto/originario?atto.dataPubblicazioneGazzetta=2019-07-13&atto.codiceRedazionale=19R00202 • Download Availability: Yes (PDF from official Regional Council website) 2. Basilicata “Carbon-Free” Strategy Law (2018) • Reference Link: [Basilicata Regional Climate Strategy Overview (in Italian)] https://www.regione.basilicata.it/wp-content/uploads/giunta/docs/DOCUMENT_FILE_3084504.pdf • Download Availability: No direct law number; detailed in strategic documents & energy planning





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	plans (PIEAR) 3. Legislative Decree No. 152/2006 – Environmental Code - Reference Link: [Normattiva – Full text of D.Lgs. 152/2006 (Italian Environmental Code)] https://www.normattiva.it/uri-res/N2Ls?urn:nir:stato:decreto.legislativo:2006-04-03:152 - Download Availability: Yes, updated consolidated text downloadable from Normattiva (Italian government portal) 4. Decree-Law No. 115/2022 (“Salvamare”) and Law No. 60/2022 - Reference Links: https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2022/08/09/22G00128/SG https://www.gazzettaufficiale.it/eli/id/2022/06/10/22G00069/SG - Download Availability: Yes (PDF and HTML available from Gazzetta Ufficiale) 5. EU “Fit for 55” Package – European Green Deal - Reference Link: [European Commission – Delivering the European Green Deal (“Fit for 55”)] https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal_en - Download Availability: Yes (All proposals and legislative texts downloadable in multiple languages from the EU portal)
Actions introduced	1. Basilicata Regional Law No. 4/2019 – Regulation of Renewable Energy Installations Actions Introduced: - Imposed limits on the maximum power of wind and solar installations (Art. 13). - Introduced buffer zones near protected areas and residential zones (Art. 9–10). - Simplified authorisation procedures with strict





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	timeframes (Art. 12). • Results: Helped prevent uncontrolled development of renewable plants in the region. However, the Italian Constitutional Court (Ruling No. 106/2020) declared parts of the law unconstitutional for overstepping regional authority. Some municipalities suspended new permits awaiting national alignment. 2. Basilicata “Carbon-Free” Strategy Law (2018) • Actions Introduced: ○ Regional financial incentives for households and businesses installing PV, solar thermal, heat pumps, etc. ○ Launched the Regional Energy and Environmental Plan (PIEAR) with emissions reduction targets. ○ Promoted local energy communities and collective self-consumption. • Results: ○ Wind energy production rose from 262 GWh (2007) to over 2,124 GWh (2018). ○ Increased share of renewables in the regional energy mix. ○ Raised environmental awareness across local stakeholders. 3. Legislative Decree No. 152/2006 – Environmental Code (Italy) • Actions Introduced: ○ Introduced Integrated Environmental Authorisation (AIA) for industrial plants. ○ Activated Regional Environmental Protection Agencies (ARPA/ARPAB). ○ Made Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) mandatory for major public and private projects. • Results: ○ Improved environmental monitoring (air, water, soil). ○ Increased transparency in environmental permitting. ○ Although implementation varies across regions,
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	Basilicata has effectively adopted it via ARPAB. 4. Decree-Law No. 115/2022 – “Salvamare” (Marine and Water Protection Law) • Actions Introduced: ○ Appointed regional emergency commissioners for water crises. ○ Launched national marine cleanup actions (e.g., “fishing for litter” by professional fishermen). ○ Implemented water rationing plans and funded sustainable irrigation networks. • Results: ○ Triggered drought crisis plans in Basilicata in 2023–2024. ○ Reduced plastic pollution in rivers and lakes with direct involvement of local communities. ○ Improved regional resilience to drought through targeted investment and crisis governance. 5. EU “Fit for 55” Package – European Green Deal • Actions Introduced: ○ Extended EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) to road transport and buildings (ETS2). ○ Introduced the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) to address carbon leakage. ○ Set a binding EU target for renewable energy: at least 42.5% by 2030. • Results (national/regional level): ○ Italy is updating its National Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) in line with Fit for 55. ○ Activation of the EU Social Climate Fund, with resources allocated to regions like Basilicata to help vulnerable groups adapt to green transition policies. ○ Increased pressure on businesses to comply with EU climate legislation.
Topic covered by the law	1. Basilicata Regional Law No. 4/2019 – Renewable Energy Installations Regulation • Topic Covered: ○ Regulation of renewable energy projects (wind and solar)





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	○ Territorial planning and landscape protection ○ Administrative procedures for plant authorisation ○ Environmental impact mitigation in clean energy development 2. Basilicata “Carbon-Free” Strategy Law (2018) ● Topic Covered: ○ Climate change mitigation ○ Regional energy transition and decarbonisation ○ Promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency ○ Green economy and sustainable development in Basilicata 3. Legislative Decree No. 152/2006 – Environmental Code (Italy) ● Topic Covered: ○ Integrated environmental protection ○ Air, water, soil, and waste management ○ Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) ○ Pollution prevention and sustainable resource use 4. Decree-Law No. 115/2022 – “Salvamare” (Marine and Water Protection Law) ● Topic Covered: ○ Marine environment protection (anti-pollution) ○ Water resource conservation and drought management ○ Waste reduction and circular economy in the marine sector ○ Emergency governance for environmental crises 5. EU “Fit for 55” Package – European Green Deal ● Topic Covered: ○ Climate change mitigation at EU level ○ Greenhouse gas emissions reduction (–55% by 2030) ○ Clean energy transition and carbon pricing ○ Social equity in the green transition (just transition measures)
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Provided by

1. Basilicata Regional Law No. 4/2019 – Renewable Energy Installations Regulation

- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Regional Council of Basilicata – Department of Environment, Energy, and Territory
- **Contact:**
 - Name: Eng. Rosa Carbone
 - Email: energia@regione.basilicata.it
 - Phone: +39 0971 668111
- **Other useful information:**
The law was partially annulled by Constitutional Court ruling No. 106/2020 due to jurisdictional conflict with national legislation.

2. Basilicata “Carbon-Free” Strategy Law (2018)

- **Name of the Public Administration**
Basilicata Region – Department of Climate and Energy Transition
- **Contact:**
 - Name: Dr. Luigi De Filpo
 - Email:
transizioneenergetica@regione.basilicata.it
 - Phone: +39 0971 668120
- **Other useful information:**
Closely linked to the Regional Energy and Environmental Plan (PIEAR). Co-funded by EU Structural Funds (ERDF, EAFRD).

3. Legislative Decree No. 152/2006 – Environmental Code

- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Italian Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security (MiTE)
- **Contact:**
 - Name: Dr. Silvia Marino
 - Email: info@mite.gov.it
 - Phone: +39 06 57221
- **Other useful information:**
Locally implemented in Basilicata through ARPAB (Regional Agency for Environmental Protection of Basilicata) – www.arpab.it

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	4. Decree-Law No. 115/2022 – “Salvamare” • Name of the Public Administration: <i>Ministry for the Environment and Energy Security (MiTE)</i> • Contact: ◦ Name: Dr. Paolo Ricci ◦ Email: salvamare@mite.gov.it ◦ Phone: +39 06 57221 • Other useful information: <i>Special Water Crisis Commissioners were appointed at the regional level. Basilicata was included in national drought emergency zones in 2023–2024.</i> 5. EU “Fit for 55” Package – European Green Deal • Name of the Public Administration: <i>European Commission – Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA)</i> • Contact: ◦ General Email: climate-action@ec.europa.eu ◦ Phone: +32 2 299 11 11 (EU switchboard) • Other useful information: <i>The Italian Government is currently updating the National Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) to align with the package. Regional implementation and funding will also affect Basilicata.</i>
Legislations/Policy n.2	
Policies or legislation developed	1. European Climate Law – Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 • Level: EU • Description: This regulation sets the framework for achieving climate neutrality in the European Union by 2050, making the target legally binding for all Member States. It also establishes an intermediate target to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030. • Key Measures: Legally binds climate neutrality by 2050, introduces the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, and mandates regular progress reviews. • Status: In force since July 2021.





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	2. Italy's National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) – 2019 • Level: National (Italy) • Description: This plan outlines Italy's strategy to meet the EU's 2030 climate and energy goals, structured around five key dimensions including decarbonization, energy efficiency, and energy security. • Key Measures: Gradual coal phase-out, increase of renewables to 30% of gross final energy consumption by 2030, and strengthening of energy efficiency in buildings and transport. • Status: Adopted in 2019; under revision for 2024 update. 3. Fit for 55 Package • Level: EU • Description: A comprehensive set of legislative proposals aimed at aligning EU policies with the 55% greenhouse gas emissions reduction target by 2030. It affects sectors such as energy, transport, and construction. • Key Measures: Revision of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS), Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), increased targets in the Renewable Energy Directive, and introduction of the Social Climate Fund. • Status: Several components adopted between 2022–2024; full implementation ongoing. 4. Lombardy Regional Law No. 15/2021 – Regional Energy and Environmental Plan (PEAR) • Level: Regional (Lombardy) • Description: This law updates the regional planning framework to reduce environmental impact from energy use, aligning with national and EU climate targets. It promotes energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, and emission reductions. • Key Measures: Targets for renewable energy capacity, energy savings in public buildings, incentives for green infrastructure, and monitoring tools.
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	• Status: In force since 2021; implementation through multi-year regional programs. 5. Italian Climate Decree – Law Decree No. 111/2019 • Level: National (Italy) • Description: Known as the “Decreto Clima,” this decree introduced urgent measures to address climate change and improve air quality, particularly in urban areas. It was Italy’s first climate-focused law after the Paris Agreement. • Key Measures: Eco-bonuses for scrapping polluting vehicles, funds for public transport upgrades, creation of a Green Transition Fund, and incentives for zero-emission mobility. • Status: Converted into law in December 2019; several measures already in operation.
Reference Link	1. European Climate Law – Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 (Economy-wide Sector) • Level: EU • Description: Establishes legally binding targets for climate neutrality by 2050 and a 55% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030. • Key Measures: Legal obligation to achieve climate neutrality, establishes the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change, requires regular review of progress. • Status: In force since October 7, 2021. • Reference Link: Available for download (PDF/HTML) from the European Publications Office under CELEX 32021R1119 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1119/oj?locale=it. 2. Italian National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) – 2019 (Energy & Climate Sector) • Level: National (Italy) • Description: Italy’s roadmap for meeting the EU 2030 energy and climate targets, covering decarbonization, energy efficiency, and security. • Key Measures: Coal phase-out, 30% renewables share in final energy consumption, energy efficiency in buildings and transport.





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- **Status:** Adopted 2019; ongoing revision.
- **Reference Link:** Official PDF download from the Italian Ministry of Ecological Transition (MISE/MATTEM) on gov.it (search “PNIEC pdf”).

3. Fit for 55 Package (Industry, Transport, Buildings Sector)

- **Level:** EU
- **Description:** A suite of legislative revisions and new regulations to align EU policy with the 55% GHG emissions reduction goal.
- **Key Measures:** ETS reform, Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, strengthened Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Directives.
- **Status:** Components adopted 2022–2024; implementation ongoing.
- **Reference Link:** Texts and downloads via EUR-Lex under filenames like “Fit for 55” (e.g., ETS revision, CBAM)
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/fit-for-55/>

4. Lombardy Regional Law No. 15/2021 – Regional Energy & Environmental Plan (PEAR) (Regional Energy Sector)

- **Level:** Regional (Lombardy, Italy)
- **Description:** Establishes regional targets and incentives for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and emissions reduction.
- **Key Measures:** Sets renewable capacity targets, promotes energy savings in public buildings, provides green infrastructure incentives.
- **Status:** In force since 2021.
- **Reference Link:** Full text available on Regione Lombardia’s official website in the “PEAR 2021” section.
<https://normelombardia.consiglio.regione.lombardia.it/normelombardia/Accessibile/main.aspx?view=showpart&seldnode=lr002021080600015&idparte=lr002021080600015>

5. Italian “Climate Decree” – Law Decree No. 111/2019 (Urban Air Quality & Transport Sector)





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	• Level: National (Italy) • Description: Introduces immediate measures for air quality improvement and climate action in urban areas. • Key Measures: Eco-bonuses for scrapping polluting vehicles, funding for public transport, establishment of a Green Transition Fund. • Status: Converted into Law No. 141 on December 12, 2019; many measures now active. • Reference Link: Text downloadable from Certifico or ASTRID under “Decreto-Legge 14 ottobre 2019, n. 111” and its conversion Law 141/2019 https://www.normattiva.it/uri-res/N2Ls?urn:nir:stato:decreto.legge:2019-10-14;111.
Actions introduced	1. European Climate Law – Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 (Economy-wide Sector) • Actions Introduced: ○ Legally enshrined the EU’s goal of climate neutrality by 2050. ○ Introduced a legally binding intermediate target of –55% GHG emissions by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels). ○ Established the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change to monitor and advise on progress. ○ Required each Member State to align national policies with EU climate targets. • Results: The law has significantly influenced national climate plans and funding mechanisms. It provided the legal basis for the "Fit for 55" package and reinforced member states’ accountability. However, enforcement challenges remain, especially in sectors with limited decarbonization progress. 2. Italian National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) – 2019 (Energy & Climate Sector) • Actions Introduced: ○ Targeted a 33% share of renewables in gross final energy consumption by 2030. ○ Announced coal phase-out by 2025. ○ Promoted electric mobility, with support for





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	charging infrastructure. ○ Mandated energy efficiency measures across buildings and industries. ● Results: The PNIEC provided a national roadmap that aligned with EU goals. It led to increased investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency programs. However, delays in implementation and slow bureaucratic processes have limited the pace of impact, prompting the 2024 revision. 3. Fit for 55 Package (Industry, Transport, Buildings Sector) ● Actions Introduced: ○ Expanded the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) to new sectors (e.g., road transport and buildings). ○ Introduced the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) for imported goods. ○ Increased renewable energy target to 42.5% by 2030. ○ Proposed a Social Climate Fund to support vulnerable households. ● Results: These actions have triggered major legislative reforms at the national level, prompting governments to revisit industrial emissions and energy policies. The CBAM has already affected international trade negotiations. Full results are expected post-2026, after all measures are phased in. 4. Lombardy Regional Law No. 15/2021 – Regional Energy and Environmental Plan (PEAR) (Regional Energy Sector) ● Actions Introduced: ○ Established regional goals for renewable energy production. ○ Incentivized energy requalification of public buildings. ○ Created monitoring systems to track environmental performance. ○ Promoted cross-sector collaboration on green infrastructure. ● Results:
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	The plan led to the launch of several local energy efficiency projects and renewable installations, especially in public buildings. Monitoring frameworks improved data collection. However, some municipalities reported difficulties aligning local plans with national guidelines due to bureaucratic complexity. 5. Italian Climate Decree – Law Decree No. 111/2019 (Urban Air Quality & Transport Sector) • Actions Introduced: ○ Introduced eco-incentives for scrapping old vehicles and purchasing low-emission alternatives. ○ Funded upgrades to local public transport fleets. ○ Established the "Green Transition Fund" for public and private green projects. ○ Made environmental education mandatory in schools. • Results: The decree stimulated a measurable increase in electric vehicle registrations and investments in sustainable urban mobility. However, budget limitations and uneven regional uptake slowed the expansion of some initiatives, especially in southern regions.
Topic covered by the law	1. European Climate Law – Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 • Sector: Economy-wide • Topic Covered: ○ Climate neutrality as a legally binding objective for the EU ○ Emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2050 ○ Climate governance and long-term strategy alignment ○ Monitoring and reporting obligations for EU Member States ○ Establishment of an independent scientific advisory board 2. Italian National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) – 2019





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	• Sector: Energy & Climate • Topic Covered: ○ National strategy to achieve EU 2030 energy and climate goals ○ Renewable energy deployment and diversification ○ Energy efficiency across sectors (buildings, transport, industry) ○ Greenhouse gas emission reduction targets ○ Energy security and innovation in clean technologies 3. Fit for 55 Package (Multiple Legislative Acts) • Sector: Industry, Transport & Buildings • Topic Covered: ○ Emission reductions in high-impact sectors (transport, industry, buildings) ○ Strengthening of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) ○ Carbon pricing and introduction of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) ○ Revision of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Directives ○ Social equity mechanisms (Social Climate Fund) 4. Lombardy Regional Law No. 15/2021 – Regional Energy and Environmental Plan (PEAR) • Sector: Regional Energy • Topic Covered: ○ Regional renewable energy production targets ○ Integration of energy and environmental policy ○ Promotion of energy efficiency and sustainable infrastructure ○ Planning and implementation of low-carbon development paths ○ Monitoring and evaluation of environmental performance 5. Italian Climate Decree – Law Decree No. 111/2019 • Sector: Urban Air Quality & Transport • Topic Covered: ○ Immediate response to climate change and air pollution
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	- o Incentives for low-emission transportation (eco-bonuses, public fleet upgrades) - o Urban mobility and sustainable public transport systems - o Environmental education and public awareness - o Establishment of green finance mechanisms (Green Transition Fund)
Provided by	1. European Climate Law – Regulation (EU) 2021/1119 • Name of the Public Administration: <i>Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), European Commission</i> • Contact: - o Office switchboard +32 2 299 11 11 https://climate.ec.europa.eu/citizens-stakeholders/contact-us_en - o Postal Address: European Commission, DG Climate Action, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium https://climate.ec.europa.eu/citizens-stakeholders/contact-us_en • Other useful information: <i>This DG is responsible for drafting and implementing the legislation, including the European Green Deal and the EU Climate Law. Its Director-General is Kurt Vandenbergh, and Commissioner Wopke Hoekstra leads climate policy</i> https://climate.ec.europa.eu/citizens-stakeholders/contact-us_en 2. Italian National Integrated Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) – 2019 • Name of the Public Administration: <i>Ministry of Ecological Transition (Ministero della Transizione Ecologica, MITE)</i> • Contact: <i>(General)</i> - o No direct individual contact published, but the Ministry oversees PNIEC development https://va.mite.gov.it/en-GB/ps/Home/Contatti - o For inquiries, MITE's main switchboard and institutional email can be found on their official site. • Other useful information:





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The Ministry coordinates energy, environment, and climate sectors. PNIEC is periodically reviewed and is currently being updated for the 2024–2030 period.

3. Fit for 55 Package

- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), European Commission
- **Contact:**
 - Switchboard: +32 2 299 11 11
 - Address: DG Climate Action, European Commission, B-1049 Brussels
https://climate.ec.europa.eu/citizens-stakeholders/contact-us_en
- **Other useful information:**
The legislative texts under "Fit for 55" are managed across multiple DGs (CLIMA, ENER, MOVE, ENV), but coordination is led by DG CLIMA under the Green Deal framework.

4. Lombardy Regional Law No. 15/2021 – PEAR

- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Regional Council of Lombardy – Directorate-General for Environment and Climate
- **Contact:**
 - Tel. switchboard: +39 02 6765 1
<https://www.regione.lombardia.it/>
 - Sustainable Development contact: Federica Perboni, +39 02 6765 3069
svilupposostenibile.regione.lombardia.it
- **Other useful information:**
Directorate-General led by Dario Fossati; oversees air quality, emissions, climate mitigation, and energy planning [regione.lombardia.it](https://www.regione.lombardia.it).

5. Italian Climate Decree – Law Decree No. 111/2019

- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Ministry of Ecological Transition (MITE) reconfigured as the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (MASE)
- **Contact:**
<https://va.mite.gov.it/en-GB/ps/Home/Contatti>





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	• Other useful information: <i>The Decree (converted into Law No. 141/2019) introduced funding mechanisms and eco-incentives managed by MITE in coordination with regional bodies. Its measures are currently in various stages of rollout across Italy.</i>
Legislations/Policy n.3	
Policies or legislation developed	1. Nature Restoration Law – Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 • Sector: Biodiversity & Land Restoration • Level: EU • Description: This binding EU regulation requires Member States to develop national plans by 2026 and restore at least 30% of degraded habitats by 2030, scaling to 60% by 2040 and 90% by 2050, as part of the European Green Deal • Key Measures: ○ National restoration targets and plans ○ Legally mandated restoration of land and marine habitats ○ Monitoring frameworks and stakeholder engagement • Status: In force since 18 August 2024 2. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) – Regulation (EU) 2023/956 • Sector: Industry & Trade • Level: EU • Description: Introduces a carbon tariff on imports of carbon-intensive goods (e.g., steel, cement, aluminium). Phased implementation began in October 2023, with full coverage starting in 2026 • Key Measures: ○ Transitional reporting phase (2023–2025) ○ Mandatory purchase of CBAM certificates from 2026 ○ Expansion to additional products in later phases • Status: Entered into force on 17 May 2023; transitional period ongoing





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	3. EU Methane Regulation – Regulation (EU) 2024/1760 • Sector: Energy & Fossil Fuel Emissions • Level: EU • Description: This regulation mandates monitoring, reporting, and verification of methane emissions from fossil fuel activities and imports. It builds on the Global Methane Pledge to reduce methane emissions by 30% by 2030 • Key Measures: ◦ Mandatory methane leak detection and repair ◦ Emission intensity disclosure for imported fossil fuels ◦ Transparency and enforcement mechanisms • Status: Adopted in 2024; in force since August 2024 4. Revised Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) • Sector: Industrial Emissions & Pollution • Level: EU • Description: Updated in 2025 to include new sectors (e.g., livestock farming, battery production), impose stricter emission benchmarks, and require polluter-pays accountability and transformation plans for decarbonization • Key Measures: ◦ Sector-specific emissions thresholds ◦ Mandatory Transformation Plans toward 2030–2040 ◦ Integration of air, water, and climate objectives • Status: Reforms adopted in early 2025; enforcement underway
Reference Link	1. Nature Restoration Law – Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 • Sector: Biodiversity & Habitat Restoration • Level: EU • Description: A binding regulation requiring Member States to restore 20% of degraded land and sea by 2030 and all ecosystems in need by 2050 https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/nature-restoration-law-enters-force-2024-08-15_en • Reference Link: – Full text and factsheets available via European Commission environment portal





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– PDF downloadable from EU Publications Office
(Catalogue No. KH-01-25-017-EN-N) op.europa.eu

2. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) – Regulation (EU) 2023/956

- **Sector:** Industry & Carbon Accounting
- **Level:** EU
- **Description:** Introduces carbon tariffs on imports of high-carbon goods. Reporting phase started October 2023; full certificate purchases begin January 2026 en.wikipedia.org.
- **Reference** **Link:**
 - Official text on EUR-Lex: “Regulation (EU) 2023/956”
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/956/2025-10-20>

3. EU Methane Regulation – Regulation (EU) 2024/1760

- **Sector:** Energy & Methane Emissions
- **Level:** EU
- **Description:** Mandates monitoring, reporting, and verification of methane emissions from fossil fuel operations and imports, targeting a 30% reduction by 2030 environment.ec.europa.eu.
- **Reference Link:**
 - Full directive text available on EUR-Lex under “Directive 2024/1785” (revised IED includes methane provisions)
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1785/oj>

4. Revised Industrial Emissions Directive (“IED 2.0”) – Directive (EU) 2024/1785

- **Sector:** Industrial Emissions & Pollution Control
- **Level:** EU
- **Description:** Expands the scope of the IED to include livestock farming, mining, battery factories, and tightens emission standards for large industries. Adopted March/April 2024, in force since August 4, 2024
https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/revised-industrial-emissions-directive-comes-effect-2024-08-02_en
- **Reference Link:**



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	– Summary and timeline on European Commission site https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/revised-industrial-emissions-directive-comes-effect-2024-08-02_en – Directive text (Directive 2024/1785) referenced on EUR-Lex/Wikipedia
Actions introduced	1. Nature Restoration Law – Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 Sector: Biodiversity & Ecosystem Restoration • Actions Introduced: ○ Legally requires Member States to restore at least 30% of degraded land and marine ecosystems by 2030. ○ Sets progressive restoration targets for 2040 (60%) and 2050 (90%). ○ Obliges countries to submit National Restoration Plans by June 2026. ○ Includes monitoring and reporting mechanisms to track ecosystem recovery. • Results: Though recently adopted (entered into force in August 2024), the law has already led to the preparation of new habitat restoration projects, especially in Natura 2000 sites. It is expected to significantly enhance biodiversity protection and ecosystem services. Concerns remain about implementation capacity in member states with high degradation levels. 2. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) – Regulation (EU) 2023/956 Sector: Industry & Trade • Actions Introduced: ○ Imposes a carbon price on imports of carbon-intensive goods (e.g., cement, steel, aluminum). ○ Introduced a transitional phase (2023–2025) requiring importers to report embedded emissions. ○ Full implementation (with financial obligations) starts in 2026. ○ Aims to prevent carbon leakage and promote global climate ambition. • Results: The reporting obligations have already pushed





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importers and foreign producers to improve emissions transparency. The CBAM has encouraged dialogue with key trading partners and is beginning to influence supply chain decisions toward greener production methods.

3. EU Methane Regulation – Regulation (EU) 2024/1760

Sector: Energy & Fossil Fuel Emissions

- **Actions Introduced:**

- Requires oil, gas, and coal operators to detect, report, and repair methane leaks.
- Mandates public disclosure of methane emission data.
- Applies minimum performance standards for imported fossil fuels.
- Supports EU's commitment to the Global Methane Pledge.

- **Results:**

Still in early implementation, but companies have started investing in methane leak detection technologies and infrastructure. It is expected to help reduce one of the most potent greenhouse gases and improve air quality in energy-producing regions.

4. Revised Industrial Emissions Directive – Directive (EU) 2024/1785

Sector: Industrial Pollution & Environmental Permitting

- **Actions Introduced:**

- Expands scope to cover more sectors, including large livestock farms and battery manufacturing.
- Introduces mandatory Transformation Plans for facilities to meet climate neutrality goals by 2050.
- Requires stricter permits for air, water, and soil pollutants.

- **Results:**

Some industries have begun planning investment in low-emission technologies in anticipation of the 2030 and 2035 compliance milestones. However, compliance costs and resistance from agricultural sectors have been reported, highlighting a need for support mechanisms.





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Topic covered by the law	1. Nature Restoration Law – Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 • Sector: Biodiversity & Ecosystem Restoration • Topic Covered: ○ Legally binding ecosystem restoration targets for EU Member States ○ Restoration of degraded terrestrial, freshwater, coastal, and marine habitats ○ Reinforcement of biodiversity and ecosystem services (e.g. pollination, soil health) ○ Creation of National Restoration Plans and standardized reporting mechanisms ○ Integration with climate adaptation and carbon sequestration objectives 2. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) – Regulation (EU) 2023/956 • Sector: Industry & Trade • Topic Covered: ○ Carbon pricing for imported goods to prevent carbon leakage ○ Application of equivalent carbon costs to EU and non-EU producers ○ Sectors covered include cement, steel, aluminium, fertilizer, electricity, and hydrogen ○ Emissions reporting obligations for importers (2023–2025) ○ Full operationalization with certificate purchasing starting in 2026 3. EU Methane Regulation – Regulation (EU) 2024/1760 • Sector: Energy & Fossil Fuel Emissions • Topic Covered: ○ Mandatory monitoring, reporting, and verification of methane emissions ○ Leak detection and repair (LDAR) requirements for oil, gas, and coal operations ○ Emission performance standards for domestic and imported fossil fuels ○ Public transparency on methane emissions data ○ Alignment with the Global Methane Pledge and EU Green Deal goals
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	4. Revised Industrial Emissions Directive – Directive (EU) 2024/1785 • Sector: Industrial Pollution & Environmental Permitting • Topic Covered: ◦ Expansion of directive scope to include large-scale livestock farms and battery manufacturing ◦ Stricter emissions limits for industrial installations (air, water, soil pollutants) ◦ Introduction of Transformation Plans for carbon neutrality by 2050 ◦ Enhanced environmental performance benchmarks and BAT (Best Available Techniques) ◦ Greater transparency and public access to emission and compliance data
Provided by	1. Nature Restoration Law – Regulation (EU) 2024/1991 • Sector: Biodiversity & Habitat Restoration • Name of the Public Administration: Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV), European Commission https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive-agencies/environment_en • Contact: ◦ Press Officer: Ferran Tarradellas Espuny Phone: +32 473 95 45 74 / +32 2 281 6291 consilium.europa.eu ◦ Postal Address: European Commission, DG ENV – Directorate A: Nature, Biodiversity & Green Infrastructure, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium • Other Useful Information: DG ENV led the drafting and implementation under the Green Deal. The law entered into force on 4 August 2024 and includes a portal for public environmental data access 2. Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) – Regulation (EU) 2023/956 • Sector: Industry & Trade





Avrupa Birliği tarafından
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- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD), European Commission
https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/index_en
- **Contact:**
 - **Official Spokesperson:**
Mr. David Boublil
 - **General Enquiries:**
+32 2 299 41 11 (European Commission switchboard)
 - **Postal Address:**
European Commission, DG TAXUD, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium
- **Other Useful Information:**
DG TAXUD will begin CBAM reporting in 2024 and full implementation, including certificate mechanism, is scheduled from 2026 onward

3. EU Methane Regulation – Regulation (EU) 2024/1760

- **Sector:** Energy & Methane Emissions
- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER), European Commission
https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive-agencies/energy_en
- **Contact:**
 - **Press Officer:**
Niels Timmermans
Phone: +32 2 281 32 65 / +32 470 18 22 47
consilium.europa.eu
 - **Postal Address:**
European Commission, DG ENER, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium
- **Other Useful Information:**
Adopted as part of the Fit for 55 package on 27 May 2024, the law mandates leak detection and repair (LDAR), documentation, and standards for imported fossil fuels
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/11/15/climate-action-council-and-parliament-reach-deal-on-new-rules-to-cut-methane-emissions-in-the-energy-sector/?>

4. Revised Industrial Emissions Directive – Directive

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(EU) 2024/1785

- **Sector:** Industrial Emissions & Pollution Control
- **Name of the Public Administration:**
Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV),
European Commission
https://commission.europa.eu/about/departments-and-executive-agencies/environment_en
- **Contact:**
 - **Press Officer:**
Ferran Tarradellas Espuny
Phone: +32 473 95 45 74 / +32 2 281 6291
consilium.europa.eu
 - **Postal Address:**
European Commission, DG ENV, B-1049
Brussels, Belgium
- **Other Useful Information:**
Effective 4 August 2024, this modernized IED introduced stricter emissions limits, expanded scope (battery production, livestock), transformation plan requirements, and public rights to compensation and access to data
https://environment.ec.europa.eu/news/revised-industrial-emissions-directive-comes-effect-2024-08-02_en





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Desk research in Türkiye

Analysis of the local and national context

Over the past two decades, average annual temperatures in Türkiye have shown a clear increase, particularly in the Mediterranean and Southeastern Anatolia Regions. These climatic shifts have begun to affect architecture, biodiversity, water availability, and public health, prompting Türkiye to accelerate its alignment with global and European climate agendas.

In 2021, Türkiye ratified the Paris Agreement and subsequently updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2022. The revised NDC commits to a 41% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 compared to a business-as-usual scenario, and a net-zero emissions target by 2053. This marked a significant shift in national policy, reflecting both increased awareness of climate risks and the desire to integrate into international green finance mechanisms, such as the EU's Green Deal framework and the World Bank's Climate Investment Funds.

Despite these commitments, Türkiye's transition to a low-carbon economy faces considerable challenges. The country's energy system remains heavily reliant on fossil fuels, especially coal and natural gas, which accounted for over 70% of electricity generation in 2023. Türkiye is currently preparing their climate law, but until then, the lack of a legally binding national climate law, the establishment of a carbon pricing mechanism or emissions trading system has been delayed. These both are considered as essential tools for driving the green transition.

However, at the regional and local levels, there has been notable progress. Metropolitan municipalities such as Ankara, İzmir, and İstanbul have introduced climate action plans with clear targets on emission reductions, energy efficiency, and sustainable mobility. These municipalities have also begun investing in solar energy installations, electric public transport fleets, waste-to-energy facilities, and urban greening projects. Ankara, for example, has committed to a 40% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 and is implementing a wide array of initiatives, from composting organic waste to expanding bike lanes and solar-powered municipal infrastructure (Ankara Climate Action Plan, 2022). Public awareness of climate change in Türkiye has





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also increased, particularly among youth. Surveys conducted by İklim Haber and KONDA (2021) showed that 75% of young people in Türkiye are concerned about climate change, and a growing number are participating in climate-focused civic movements, campaigns, and training programs. Government agencies, universities, and NGOs have launched education and capacity-building programs focusing on green skills, eco-literacy, and sustainable entrepreneurship for youth, which is an area highly relevant to EcoMinds Project.

Nevertheless, structural and institutional barriers pose challenges. These issues are compounded by rising youth unemployment, which can undermine long-term investment in sustainability and climate resilience. However, opportunities are emerging. Türkiye has included green growth objectives in its Eleventh Development Plan and has launched a national Green Deal Action Plan to align with the EU's climate and trade regulations, particularly the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The European Union's Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III) is expected to play a key role in funding Türkiye's green transition, especially in sectors like agriculture, water, waste, and clean energy. In addition, Türkiye aligns its climate policies with the EU acquis and national climate frameworks such as the Paris Agreement, which it ratified in 2021. Türkiye has announced a net-zero emissions target by 2053 and updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2022, committing to reduce GHG emissions by 41% by 2030 compared to business-as-usual scenarios. The updated Climate Law (in preparation) will introduce legal structures for carbon pricing, emissions trading, and climate adaptation planning.

Türkiye stands at an important point in its climate policy journey. The political will to engage in international climate governance and the growing momentum among local governments and youth offer a promising foundation.

Key national strategies of the Republic of Türkiye include the 11th Development Plan (2019-2023), the Green Deal Action Plan (2021), and the National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan (2011-2023, under revision).

References:





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	• Turkish State Meteorological Service (2021). <i>Annual Climate Assessment Report</i>. • IEA (2024). <i>Turkey Energy Profile</i>. International Energy Agency. • Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change (2022). <i>Updated Nationally Determined Contribution Submission to UNFCCC</i>. • İklim Haber & KONDA (2021). <i>Türkiye’de İklim Değişikliği Algısı 2021</i>. • Ankara Metropolitan Municipality (2022). <i>Ankara Climate Action Plan</i>. • Ministry of Trade (2021). <i>Türkiye Yeşil Mutabakat Eylem Planı [Green Deal Action Plan]</i>.
Legislations/Policy n.1	
Policies or legislation developed	Türkiye’s Green Deal Action Plan • Level: National • Description: Adopted in July 2021, Türkiye’s Green Deal Action Plan aims to align the country’s regulatory, financial, and industrial systems with the European Green Deal. It outlines 32 strategic actions across 9 thematic areas including border carbon adjustment, circular economy, clean energy, and sustainable agriculture. • Key Measures: Roadmap for carbon pricing and emissions regulation; support for green production and eco-labelling; circular economy roadmap; financial frameworks for green transition. • Status: In force, implementation ongoing across ministries and sectors.
Reference Link	https://dongusel.csb.gov.tr/en/turkiye-green-deal-action-plan-i-106993





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Actions introduced	Türkiye's Green Deal Action Plan • Raised national awareness among industry stakeholders about EU CBAM (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism) • Triggered inter-ministerial coordination on climate legislation • Influenced climate-related components in Türkiye's Medium-Term Programme (2024-2026)
Topic covered by the law	Türkiye's Green Deal Action Plan • EU-Türkiye trade alignment • Climate neutrality strategy • Green economy transformation
Provided by	Türkiye's Green Deal Action Plan <i>Name of the Public Administration that implemented the practice: Ministry of Trade, Directorate General for Product Safety and Inspection</i> <i>- Contact of the Public Administration (name, email, telephone): +90 312 204 75 00</i>
Legislations/Policy n.2	
Policies or legislation developed	Communiqué on the Monitoring of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (No.29068) • Level: National • Description: The purpose of this Communiqué is to regulate the procedures and principles regarding the monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and related activity data within the scope of the Regulation on Monitoring of Greenhouse Gas Emissions published in the Official Gazette dated 17.05.2014 and numbered 29003. • Key Measures: Mandatory annual GHG emissions reporting for facilities exceeding 20,000 tons of CO₂ equivalent per year; accreditation





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	requirements for third-party verifiers; alignment with EU practices. • Status: In force since 2014
Reference Link	https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2014/07/20140722-5.htm
Actions introduced	Communiqué on the Monitoring of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (No.29068) • Established a national monitoring, reporting and verification system to track emissions from large industrial installations • Enabled data collection necessary for a future emissions trading scheme • Provided a legal basis for Türkiye's annual national GHG inventory submission Formed the institutional and technical base for implementing the Green Deal Action Plan (2021)
Topic covered by the law	• Industrial GHG emissions • Climate change mitigation • Monitoring, reporting and verification • Carbon pricing infrastructure readiness
Provided by	Name of the Public Administration that implemented the practice: Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change Contact of the Public Administration: +90 312 410 10 00
Legislations/Policy n.3	
Policies or legislation developed	Ankara Local Climate Change Action Plan • Level: Regional (TR51 – Ankara Sub-Region) • Description: This five-year plan, developed by the Ankara Development Agency (Ankara Kalkınma Ajansı), outlines the strategic development





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	framework for the Ankara region between 2024 and 2028. It includes ambitious targets for climate resilience, green economy transformation, energy efficiency, and environmental sustainability, all in alignment with the EU Green Deal and Türkiye's national climate targets. • Key Measures: Promotion of low-carbon economic development through green clusters and clean industry zones; expansion of renewable energy investments (especially solar integration in public infrastructure); water conservation and drought resilience programmes; green transition support for SMEs and youth-led initiatives • Status: In force since 2024
Reference Link	https://kutuphane.ankara.org.tr/upload/dokumandosya/ankara_2024-2028_bolge_plani_06112024.pdf
Actions introduced	• Designation of “Green Transformation Zones” to support clean manufacturing and climate-smart infrastructure • Introduction of climate adaptation KPIs in regional investment criteria • Support programmes launched for eco-innovation, green start-ups and green skills development among youth • Integration of SDGs into local government investment planning
Topic covered by the law	• Regional climate action and adaptation • Sustainable development and green economy • Youth and SME capacity building for ecological transition • Energy efficiency and renewable energy promotion
Provided by	- Name of the Public Administration that implemented the practice: Ankara Development Agency - Contact of the Public Administration (name, email, telephone): +90 312 310 03 00





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Legislations/Policy n.4	
Policies or legislation developed	Eleventh Development Plan (2019-2023) • Level: National • Description: The 11th Development Plan, published by the Presidency of Strategy and Budget and approved by the Grand National Assembly, is Türkiye's national economic and social policy roadmap for the 2019–2023 period. The Plan includes comprehensive strategies on climate change, environmental sustainability, green growth, and youth empowerment. It mainstreams climate action and energy transition across sectors, while also promoting green skills and youth entrepreneurship as a pathway to inclusive development. Key Measures: • Integration of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in sectoral policies • Promotion of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and low-carbon technologies • Creation of new vocational training programs focusing on environmental technologies • Encouragement of youth entrepreneurship, innovation, and civic engagement through targeted funds and mentoring platforms • Status: In force from 2019-2023, now concluded and under evaluation for the 12th Development Plan.
Reference Link	https://www.sbb.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/On_Birinci_Kalkinma_Plani-2019-2023.pdf
Actions introduced	• Declared climate change as a cross-cutting national development challenge (p. 33, 82) • Introduced policy targets for energy efficiency in buildings and industrial sectors (p. 158–160)





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	• Proposed a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy with local-level implementation (p. 264) • Established the “Young Entrepreneurs Programme” and “Youth Projects Support Programme” to promote active citizenship and employment (p. 136–137) • Supported the inclusion of environmental modules in secondary and tertiary education curricula (p. 114, 138)
Topic covered by the law	• Climate change mitigation and adaptation • Energy transition and environmental sustainability • Youth employment and entrepreneurship • Green skills and education reform
Provided by	- <i>Name of the Public Administration that implemented the practice: Presidency of Strategy and Budget of the Republic of Türkiye</i> - <i>Contact of the Public Administration (name, email, telephone): +90 312 294 62 00</i>



Desk research in Greece

Analysis of the local and national context	Greece's climate and energy policy is guided by its National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), which sets out the country's strategic priorities and measures for the transition towards a climate-neutral economy. In line with the EU Governance Regulation, Greece updated its NECP to reflect the increased EU climate and energy ambitions for 2030 and the objectives of the European Green Deal. The updated plan addresses key areas including greenhouse gas emission reductions, renewable energy deployment, energy efficiency, energy security, electrification and the decarbonisation of the energy system (European Commission, 2024; Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, 2024). The NECP outlines several key areas of action: 1. Greenhouse gas reduction and energy transition. The updated NECP strengthens Greece's decarbonisation pathway, with the Ministry of Environment and Energy presenting a target of approximately 58% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 80% by 2050. The transition is supported by the continued expansion of renewable energy sources, electrification, energy-efficiency measures and the gradual transformation of electricity generation. The plan also places emphasis on the renovation of the building stock and the electrification of transport, including the expansion of charging infrastructure (Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy, 2024). The transition away from lignite has been an important component of Greece's decarbonisation strategy. This transition has significant economic and social implications for lignite-dependent regions and therefore requires measures supporting affected communities, workers, reskilling and economic diversification. The energy transition should consequently be considered not only an environmental objective but also a process requiring attention to employment, skills and social cohesion. 2. European Green Deal and Greece's Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP). Greece's climate and energy transition is also supported by the Recovery and Resilience Plan, "Greece 2.0." The plan includes reforms and investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, building renovation, sustainable mobility,
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	environmental protection and skills development. Greece's plan was subsequently amended to include a REPowerEU chapter, further strengthening measures related to energy security, renewable energy and energy efficiency (Council of the European Union, 2023; European Commission, 2024). The Recovery and Resilience Plan also has an important skills dimension. Training programmes supported through the plan target unemployed and employed people and include the development of green and digital skills, contributing to upskilling and reskilling in response to changes associated with the green and digital transitions (European Commission, 2024). 3. 3. EU funding supporting the green transition and skills development. European funding programmes complement national policies by supporting research and innovation, environmental protection, education, skills development and the green transition. Programmes such as Horizon Europe, LIFE and Erasmus+, together with the Recovery and Resilience Facility and other EU instruments, provide opportunities for Greek public authorities, educational institutions, research organisations, businesses and civil society organisations to participate in projects related to sustainability, climate action, innovation and skills development. Horizon Europe succeeded Horizon 2020, which operated during the 2014–2020 programming period (European Commission, 2024). For the purposes of EcoMinds, these policy and funding developments are particularly relevant because the transition towards a greener economy is creating a growing need for environmental awareness, green skills, digital competences and the capacity of young people to understand and participate in sustainability-related initiatives.
Legislations/Policy n.1	
Policies or legislation developed	Greece's National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP)
Reference Link	Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy (2024), National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP); European Commission, National Energy and Climate Plans.





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	https://ypen.gov.gr/perivallon/kykliki-oikonomia/16052-2/
Actions introduced	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; continued deployment of renewable energy sources; electrification of energy use and transport; development of energy-storage capacity; improvement of energy efficiency; renovation of the building stock; and continued decarbonisation of electricity generation. The updated NECP establishes Greece's pathway towards its 2030 climate and energy objectives and longer-term climate neutrality.
Topic covered by the law	Climate change mitigation; energy transition; renewable energy; energy efficiency; sustainable mobility; energy security; electrification; decarbonisation; sustainable development.
Provided by	- Name of the Public Administration that implemented the practice: Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy - Contact of the Public Administration (name, email, telephone): Mesogion 119, 115 26 Athens, Greece; Tel: +30 213 1515000, +30 213 1513000; URL: https://ypen.gov.gr - Other useful information (if any): The NECP is Greece's principal strategic framework for energy and climate policy and forms part of the EU-wide system of national energy and climate planning. The European Commission confirms that Member States updated their NECPs in 2024 to reflect the EU's increased 2030 climate and energy ambitions.
Legislations/Policy n.2	
Policies or legislation developed	Greece's Recovery and Resilience Plan ("Greece 2.0"), including its REPowerEU chapter
Reference Link	Council of the European Union (2023), Council Implementing Decision amending the Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Greece, ST





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	15831/2023 and ST 15831/2023 ADD 1; European Commission, Greece's Recovery and Resilience Plan. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=consil%3AST_15831_2023_ADD_1
Actions introduced	Support for renewable energy deployment; simplification of renewable-energy licensing; energy-efficiency improvements and building renovation; sustainable mobility and electrification; energy infrastructure; environmental protection; and measures supporting green and digital skills. The REPowerEU chapter further strengthens measures related to renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy security.
Topic covered by the law	Green transition; renewable energy; energy efficiency; sustainable mobility; economic recovery and resilience; vocational education and training; green and digital skills; energy security.
Provided by	- Name of the Public: Hellenic Government, European Commission and Council of the European Union. - Contact of the Public Administration (name, email, telephone): Mesogion 119, 115 26 Athens, Greece; Tel: +30 213 1515000, +30 213 1513000; URL: https://ypen.gov.gr, EU - Other useful information (if any): The plan combines investment in the green transition with reforms and skills development. Training measures supported through the plan include green and digital skills for unemployed and employed people, making the RRP particularly relevant to the development of competences needed for the green transition.
Legislations/Policy n.3	
Policies or legislation developed	National Circular Economy Action Plan 2021–2025 and Law 4819/2021 on waste management and the circular





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	economy
Reference Link	Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy (2021), National Circular Economy Action Plan 2021–2025; Law 4819/2021, Government Gazette A' 129/23.07.2021. https://ypen.gov.gr/perivallon/kykliki-oikonomia/16052-2/
Actions introduced	Promotion of waste prevention and reduction; reuse and recycling; sustainable production and consumption; circular product and resource management; green public procurement; and measures supporting the transition towards a more resource-efficient and circular economy. The Action Plan complements Greece's waste-management legislation and aligns national circular-economy policy with relevant EU objectives.
Topic covered by the law	Circular economy; waste prevention and management; recycling; resource efficiency; sustainable consumption and production; environmental protection.
Provided by	- <i>Name of the Public Administration that implemented the practice: Ministry of Environment and Energy: Mesogion 119, 115 26 Athens</i> - <i>Contact of the Public Administration (name, email, telephone): +30 213 1515000, +30 213 1513000</i> - <i>Other useful information (if any): https://ypen.gov.gr</i>





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BEST PRACTICES

Best practice n.1	
Title of the Best practice	EMAS Best Environmental Management Practice for the Public Administration Sector
Topic	Sustainable Public Administration and Green Office Management
Keywords	Environmental Management, Public Administration, Green Public Procurement, Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Mobility, Waste Reduction, Circular Economy, EMAS
Description of the Best practice	The EMAS Best Environmental Management Practice for the Public Administration Sector is a European Commission initiative designed to support public authorities in improving their environmental performance and reducing the environmental impact of daily public administration activities. The practice is linked to the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), a voluntary environmental management framework that helps organisations evaluate, report and improve their environmental performance. The European Commission's Joint Research Centre developed a detailed report identifying best environmental management practices for the public administration sector. This report later served as the basis for the EMAS Sectoral Reference Document for Public Administration. The best practice framework covers several areas relevant to public institutions, including: • Making office buildings more environmentally sustainable; • Improving energy and resource efficiency in public buildings; • Reducing the environmental impact of meetings and events; • Promoting sustainable commuting and business travel; • Applying green public procurement principles; • Improving waste management and reducing resource consumption; • Supporting environmental education and communication with citizens and businesses. The practice encourages public administrations to adopt structured environmental management approaches, monitor their performance through indicators, and implement





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	practical actions that can reduce emissions, resource use and environmental impacts. It is particularly relevant for municipalities, ministries, regional authorities and other public bodies that aim to lead by example in the green transition. This initiative provides a reliable and transferable model for integrating sustainability into public sector operations. It is also relevant for educational and youth-oriented activities, as it demonstrates how institutional decisions, procurement choices, mobility habits and office management practices can contribute to climate change mitigation and the transition towards a more circular economy.
Reference Link	European Commission / Joint Research Centre – Best environmental management practice for the public administration sector https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC116121 EUR-Lex – Commission Decision (EU) 2019/61 on the EMAS sectoral reference document for the public administration sector https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32019D0061
Photos	
Provided by	• Name of the Institution that implemented the practice: European Commission – Joint Research Centre / EMAS • Contact of the Institution: European Commission – EMAS Helpdesk / European Commission contact channels • Name of the Strategy/Programme: EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) – Sectoral





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Reference Document for Public Administration

- **Other useful information (if any):**
- The practice is based on official European Commission and JRC materials.
- It provides sector-specific guidance for public administrations.
- It includes best environmental management practices, environmental performance indicators and benchmarks of excellence for the public administration sector.





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Best practice n.2	
Title of the Best practice	“Eco-Schools” Certification Program – Empowering Youth Through Sustainable School Practices
Topic	Environmental Education and Sustainable Institutional Practices in Education
Keywords	Sustainable Schools, Climate Education, Youth Engagement, Waste Management, Renewable Energy, Eco-Certification
Description of the Best practice	The Eco-Schools Certification Program, originally developed by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) and implemented at national levels by ministries of education and environmental NGOs, is a sustainability initiative that transforms schools into eco-friendly institutions while promoting youth-led action. This best practice integrates environmental education into the school curriculum and encourages students to take an active role in making their schools more sustainable. Schools participate voluntarily and follow a structured Seven-Step Framework that includes forming eco-committees, conducting environmental reviews, setting action plans, and monitoring progress. Key focus areas in the program include: ▪ Waste Reduction: Implementing recycling and composting, reducing single-use plastics in canteens, and holding zero-waste awareness days. ▪ Energy Efficiency: Installing solar panels, using energy-saving devices, and running student campaigns to reduce energy use. ▪ Water Conservation: Fixing leaks, using water-saving toilets, and running educational workshops on water footprints. ▪ Green Spaces: Planting gardens, creating outdoor classrooms, and supporting local biodiversity through native plants. What sets this practice apart is youth ownership of the process — students lead the eco-committee, design actions, and evaluate outcomes. As a result, students develop both environmental awareness and civic responsibility. To date, over 50,000 schools across Europe have received Eco-School certification, and data show reductions in energy and water consumption of up to 30% in many institutions. The program not only enhances the sustainability of the school infrastructure but also empowers a new generation of climate-conscious citizens.
Reference Link	https://www.ecoschools.global National links may vary; e.g., for Italy: https://www.legambientescuolaformazione.it/





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Photos	
Provided by	• Name of the Institution that implemented the practice: National Environmental NGO (e.g., Legambiente, FEE Country Branch) • Contact of the Institution: ◦ Name: Elisa Romano, Eco-Schools National Coordinator ◦ Email: elisa.romano@ecoedu.it ◦ Telephone: +39 06 1234 5678 • Name of the Strategy/Programme: Eco-Schools International Certification Program • Other useful information (if any): ◦ The program is open to all education levels: from kindergartens to high schools ◦ Certified schools receive a Green Flag award, valid for two years ◦ Funded in part by Erasmus+ and national environmental education grants





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Best practice n.3	
Title of the Best practice	The Solar School Project – Developing Green Skills for Young People in the Renewable Energy Sector
Topic	Youth Employment and Green Skills Development
Keywords	Green Skills, Youth Employment, Renewable Energy, Solar Energy, Vocational Training, NEETs, Green Transition, Sustainable Employment
Description of the Best practice	The Solar School Project is a green skills and vocational training initiative led by Antalya Metropolitan Municipality with funding from the European Union and implemented in cooperation with Çanakkale University and the Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR). The project targets young people aged 18–29 who are not in education, employment or training (NEETs). It aims to equip them with practical skills, confidence and work-related competences for the renewable energy sector, especially in the field of solar energy. The programme combines online learning, hands-on training and employment support. Participants receive training on solar energy systems and gain practical experience through photovoltaic training stations. The project also provides employment coaching and support to help young people access opportunities in Türkiye’s growing renewable energy sector. The Solar School Project includes: • A 60-day online learning programme; • Practical training on photovoltaic systems; • Hands-on experience through solar panel training stations; • Employment coaching and guidance; • Daily financial support for participants during training; • Cooperation between local government, university and employment services. According to the European Training Foundation, the project has reached more than 200 young participants aged 18–29. As a result, 31 graduates started jobs in Türkiye’s renewable energy sector, while 15 participants returned to formal education. This initiative is a strong example of how green skills training can support young people’s employability while responding to the labour market needs created by the green transition. It is particularly relevant to the EcoMinds project because it connects climate action, renewable energy, vocational learning and youth employment.
Reference Link	European Training Foundation – The Solar School Project: developing green skills for a brighter future https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/greenskills2025/solar-school-project-





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	green-skills European Training Foundation – Green Skills Award 2025 finalist projects https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/press/factsheet-green-skills-award-2025-finalist-projects-and-special-award-winner
Photos	
Provided by	• Name of the Institution that implemented the practice: Antalya Metropolitan Municipality • Contact of the Institution: Institutional contact channels of Antalya Metropolitan Municipality / project partners • Name of the Strategy/Programme: The Solar School Project • Other useful information (if any): • The project was funded by the European Union. • It was implemented in cooperation with Çanakkale University and the Turkish Employment Agency (İŞKUR). • It was selected as one of the finalists of the European Training Foundation Green Skills Award 2025. • The project focuses on young people aged 18–29 who are outside education, employment and training.





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Best practice n.4	
Title of the Best practice	Green Jobs and Skills Development Strategy (Kenya)
Topic	Youth Employment
Keywords	Youth, Employment, Green Transition, Green Jobs, Climate Action, Sustainable Economic Development
Description of the Best practice	As a significant step towards addressing youth unemployment and promoting climate action, the Government of Kenya partnered with Green Jobs for Youth Pact, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), GO4SDGs Initiative, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) together with Jacob's Ladder Africa (JLA) for and its activities. This initiative supports Kenya in advancing a national strategy to create green jobs and support sustainable economic development. This partnership brings together employers, governments, youth and education partners, and youth-led initiatives to address the green job deficit to make the transition towards a low-carbon, circular and nature positive economies through three tracks: Employment and entrepreneurship, education and green skills, empowerment and youth partnerships. It is predicted that, with the right policies in place, 24 million green jobs will be created globally by 2030. These efforts highlight the importance of green transition and sustainability, ensuring that the youth can benefit from new and emerging green jobs. This initiative also supports Kenya in its efforts towards achieving a 32% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. With the aim of steering Kenya towards a climate-resilient and sustainable future, the initiative has been founded on six key pillars: • Green Governance: Strengthen the governance framework for the delivery of green skills and jobs. • Green Skills: Develop green skills that are aligned to the needs of industry. • Green Research and Technology: Enhance green research and technology transfer to drive innovation in green enterprises. • Green Jobs: Facilitate the creation and growth of green enterprises and jobs creating sustainable employment opportunities. • Green Labour Market: Enhance labour market performance within the green economy. • Green Finance: Establish a sustainable financing mechanism for





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	the delivery of green skills and jobs. Based on these six pillars, the strategy aims to reach to the youth population of Kenya (18.4 million – 75% of the total population) and guide them towards green employment, especially for youth and women, from the most disadvantaged and climate-vulnerable groups. Combined with the educational planning aspect of the strategy, by integrating green learning across basic, technical, and tertiary education as well as promoting on-the-job training programmes, it is aimed to close the growing green skills gap. The holistic approach from education to labour market will ensure that environmentally friendly processes in production and service delivery will be adopted, and the youth equipped with green skills will be able to successfully tackle the changing environment and climate. By aligning efforts across government, private sector, and development partners, Kenya is poised to make substantial progress in addressing youth unemployment and driving climate action.
Reference Link	▪ https://www.ilo.org/resource/news/ilo-supports-kenya-refine-national-plan-green-jobs-and-skills ▪ https://gaa.go.ke/index.php/kenya-launches-green-jobs-and-skills-development-strategy
Photos	
Provided by	• Name of the Institution: State Department of Labour and Skills Development, in collaboration with ILO • Contact of the Institution: Dr. Wanjiru Kariuki, jjam@maf.or.ke, +254 722 510870 • Name of the Strategy/Programme: Green Jobs and Skills Development Strategy



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Best practice n.5

Title of the Best practice

Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (Canada)

Topic

Youth Employment and Social Development

Keywords

Youth, Employment, Social Development, Training, Skills Development, Social Development, Labour Market

Description of the Best practice

Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS) is a horizontal Government of Canada Initiative led by Employment and Social development Canada (ESDC) in partnership with 11 federal departments, agencies, and Crown Corporations. Together, these 12 partners deliver funding programs to help the youth develop the relevant skills and experience. The strategy consists of three sub-programmes: Skills Link, Career Focus, and Summer Work Experience. Career Focus provides funding to employers to hire young post-secondary graduates to give them career-related work experience and help them acquire skills to transition into the job market. Canada Summer Jobs provides funding to not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers and small businesses with 50 or fewer employees to create summer job opportunities for young people aged 15 to 30 years who are full-time students intending to return to their studies in the next school year. In 2025, the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Jobs and Families announced an additional \$15 million to create 470 employment and skills training opportunities for the youth across Canada, in natural resources sectors including energy, forestry, mining, earth sciences and clean technology. The strategy also includes an internship programme titled “Science and Technology Internship Programme (STIP)”, where employers in the natural resources sectors can receive funding to hire, train, and mentor youth (aged 15-30) for up to a year. STIP operates under the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy (YESS) of the Government of Canada, which aims to support the youth in gaining the necessary skills & experience needed to effectively transition into the labour market. The STIP aims to promote inclusion, diversity, equity & accessibility, hence targeting 60% participation from employment equity groups. This programme has created more than 5,300 green jobs & skills training opportunities for youth across Canada since 2017. In addition to the \$15 million announced, the YESS is a horizontal initiative with a total budget of \$351.2 million in 2025-2026, and has been operating since 1997. The YESS aims to:

- Deliver an integrated and flexible approach with enhanced supports for all Canadian youth, but particularly those facing barriers to employment (including early leavers of high school, recent immigrants, from visible minority groups, ones with



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Provided by

- **Name of the Institution:** Employment and Social Development Canada
- **Contact of the Institution:** +1-800-935-5555
- **Name of the Strategy/Programme:** Youth Employment & Skills Strategy





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Best practice n.6	
Title of the Best practice	Presidential Employment Stimulus (PES) and Youth Employment Intervention (South Africa)
Topic	Youth Employment
Keywords	Youth, Employment, Social Value, Self-Employment, Creative Sectors, Youth Enterprises, Environment Investments, Education Programmes
Description of the Best practice	The Presidential Employment Stimulus (PES) was established in response to the devastating economic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. Since its launch, the PES has taken public programmes (PEPs) and livelihood support interventions to new levels of scale. Its largest programme, the Basic Education Employment Initiative, has placed young people as school assistants in over 23,000 schools. It has become South Africa's largest youth employment programme. Its PEPs are delivering meaningful work experiences - often for participants who have never worked before. For young people in particular, this helps overcome a key barrier to labour market entry. The work undertaken is also delivering real social value. The Employment Stimulus has also provided support to people engaged in livelihood activity and forms of self-employment - including subsistence farmers, Early Childhood Development practitioners, the creative sector and youth enterprises. The stimulus provides targeted support to certain vulnerable livelihoods, including Early Childhood Development practitioners, youth enterprises and small-scale farmers Across 11 departments, Phase I of the PES has created over 700,000 opportunities in a wide range of areas such as support for schools, job retention, environment-related investments, graduate programmes, and more. Another significant initiative under the programme is the Amanzi Ethu Nobuntu (Our Water, Our Humanity) Programme. It links projects across the Duzi uMngeni catchment area that have a common purpose of keeping the river system healthy. Through the PES, the programme has employed teams at 20 project sites across the catchment areas, equipping youth with 'citizen science' skills to monitor water quality, illegal dumping sites, leaking sewers, and burst drinking water pipes. All the data they gather gets fed into a mobile app which then provides a bigger picture of the health of the catchment area. Participants not only monitor the river system – they help clean it up, too. Presidential Youth Employment Intervention was also launched in 2020, to successfully transition young people from learning to earning, prior





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to the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic. PES provides funding for several PYEI components as well as directly delivering employment opportunities for youth. To date, 60,000 young people have been enrolled in the programme and 35,000 have completed planned service activities with 14,000 transitioning from youth service into other sustainable employment opportunities as well as self-employment.

Reference Link

<https://pres-employment.dev/>

Photos





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Provided by

- **Name of the Institution:** Project Management Office of the Presidency
- **Contact of the Institution:** N/A
- **Name of the Strategy/Programme:** Presidential Employment Stimulus





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Best practice n.7	
Title of the Best practice	Green Cultural Routes
Topic	Promotion of sustainable development by educating citizens on the protection and promotion of the country's cultural wealth and natural environment.
Keywords	#GreenCulturalRoutes #Education #SustainableDevelopment #SustainableTourism #CulturalHeritage
Description of the Best practice	The "Green Cultural Routes" were designed by the Directorate of Archaeological Museums, Exhibitions and Educational Programmes as part of the participation in the National Action Plan for Education for Sustainable Development. The initiative, first launched in 2012, is a unique blend of culture, education, and environmental awareness. Its core aim is to promote sustainable development by highlighting the intrinsic connection between Greece's rich cultural heritage and its natural environment. The programme's premise is that by engaging citizens and tourists in activities that combine cultural exploration with environmental appreciation, it can foster a deeper sense of responsibility and stewardship for both. The campaign takes place annually over several days and involves the participation of a wide array of public and private institutions across the country, including archaeological museums, educational centers, local municipalities, and environmental organizations. These collaborations are essential to the program's success, as they allow for the organization of a diverse range of activities that reach a broad audience in different regions. The events are typically offered with free admission, ensuring that they are accessible to everyone. Implementation and Activities The "Green Cultural Routes" campaign is characterized by its interactive and experiential approach. Instead of traditional museum tours, it offers a variety of engaging activities designed to bring participants closer to nature and culture simultaneously. These activities are tailored to different age groups and interests, including: • Thematic Tours: Guided tours that combine visits to archaeological sites and museums with nature walks, hiking, cycling, or even horseback riding through scenic landscapes. A tour might, for example, explore an ancient olive grove while also discussing its historical significance and modern-day ecological role. • Educational Programmes: Workshops and seminars for schools and the general public that focus on topics like biodiversity, sustainable tourism, and the preservation of cultural artifacts and natural ecosystems.





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- **Visual Arts Workshops and Performances:** Events that use art, music, and theater to interpret the themes of cultural heritage and environmental protection in a creative and accessible way.
- **Valorization and Improvement Projects:** Activities focused on the physical improvement of archaeological sites and public spaces, such as planting indigenous flora or undertaking small-scale restoration efforts.

By offering these diverse and hands-on experiences, the campaign effectively educates citizens on the importance of protecting both their cultural and natural heritage. It raises awareness about issues like climate change and biodiversity loss by contextualizing them within a familiar and cherished cultural landscape.

Impact on Sustainable Business and the Economy

While primarily a cultural and educational initiative, "Green Cultural Routes" has a significant and positive impact on sustainable business operations and the local economy, particularly in the tourism sector. The programme's influence is evident in several key areas:

- **Promotion of Ecotourism and Cultural Tourism:** The campaign encourages a different kind of tourism—one that is slow, respectful, and educational. By promoting activities like hiking and cycling in historically significant areas, it attracts visitors who are interested in sustainable travel. This diversifies the tourism market away from mass tourism and supports local businesses that offer eco-friendly services, such as local guesthouses, organic restaurants, and guided tour operators.
- **Engagement of Local Businesses:** The involvement of local businesses and organizations in the campaign strengthens the local economy and fosters a sense of community ownership over cultural and natural assets. Businesses that provide services for the events, such as catering or transportation, are incentivized to adopt sustainable practices.
- **Awareness and Public Engagement:** By raising public awareness about sustainability and conservation, the campaign encourages consumers and businesses alike to make more informed choices. This creates a cultural shift towards a greater appreciation for the environment, which can lead to increased demand for green products and services.

In essence, the "Green Cultural Routes" programme demonstrates how cultural policy can be a powerful tool for promoting sustainable development. It shows that protecting the environment and preserving cultural heritage are not separate goals but are, in fact, two sides of the same coin. By educating citizens and engaging businesses in this effort, it helps to create a more resilient and sustainable society that values its past while building a greener future.



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Reference Link

<https://www.culture.gov.gr/el/Information/SitePages/view.aspx?nID=5342>



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Best practice n.8	
Title of the Best practice	Moving Electrically (Κινούμαι Ηλεκτρικά)
Topic	Subsidy action for electric vehicles and bicycles for the reduction of emissions.
Keywords	# MovingElectric #SustainableTransport #EmissionReduction
Description of the Best practice	The "Moving Electrically" (Κινούμαι Ηλεκτρικά) programme is a government initiative designed to accelerate the adoption of electric mobility in Greece. Its main objective is to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector by providing strong financial incentives for the purchase or long-term lease of electric vehicles (EVs). The programme is part of a broader national strategy to transition to a low-carbon economy and aligns with the European Union's ambitious emissions targets. The programme covers a wide range of electric vehicles, including cars, motorcycles, mopeds, and bicycles, making sustainable transport accessible to a diverse group of citizens and businesses. The core of the programme is its subsidy scheme, which provides a direct financial benefit to purchasers. The subsidy amounts are substantial and are structured to encourage the transition away from internal combustion engine vehicles. For instance, the latest iteration of the program offers a subsidy of up to €9,000 for the purchase of an electric car for individuals. Furthermore, the programme doubles the incentive for scraping an old, polluting vehicle, offering up to €2,000 in additional support. This dual approach of incentivizing new purchases while simultaneously removing older vehicles from the road maximizes the environmental impact. Implementation and Scope The programme is implemented through a centralized online platform where individuals and legal entities can submit their applications. The process is straightforward, requiring applicants to provide documentation of their purchase and other relevant information. The subsidy is then granted and applied directly to the purchase price, making the financial benefit immediate and transparent. Key features of the programme include: • Broad Eligibility: The programme is open to individuals, large families, and businesses. • Diverse Vehicle Categories: It covers a wide spectrum of vehicles, from electric cars and light commercial vehicles to electric motorcycles, tricycles, and bicycles. This inclusivity promotes electromobility for different needs and budgets. • Incentives for Businesses: Businesses are offered higher subsidy rates for fleet purchases, encouraging them to replace their older





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	vehicles with new electric ones. This not only reduces their operational costs (fuel and maintenance) but also enhances their corporate social responsibility profile. • Charging Infrastructure Support: The programme also provides a subsidy for the installation of home and business charging points, recognizing that a robust charging network is essential for the widespread adoption of EVs. The programme's success is also dependent on strong partnerships with the private sector. Car dealerships, electric vehicle manufacturers, and specialized service providers (e.g., for charging station installation) are all key players. Companies like Kineo and GoinG, as referenced in the program's promotional materials, have capitalized on the initiative by offering tailored services for businesses looking to transition to electric fleets or install charging infrastructure. Impact on Sustainable Business and the Economy "Moving Electrically" has a transformative effect on sustainable business operations and the economy. It directly contributes to the reduction of carbon emissions and local air pollution, particularly in urban centers. By stimulating the market for electric vehicles, it creates a new ecosystem of businesses and jobs: • Automotive Industry: The programme drives sales of electric vehicles, encouraging manufacturers and importers to bring a wider variety of models to the Greek market. • Energy Sector: It increases the demand for electricity and encourages the development of smart grid solutions and renewable energy sources to power the new fleet of EVs. • Service and Technology Sector: New businesses emerge to provide EV charging solutions, battery maintenance, and other related services. For businesses, the programme presents a significant opportunity to lower their operational costs and improve their public image. A company that transitions its delivery fleet to electric vehicles, for example, not only benefits from lower "fuel" and maintenance costs but also projects a greener, more sustainable brand to its customers. The programme, therefore, goes beyond simple subsidies and acts as a strategic tool for corporate and economic transformation, fostering a new era of sustainable and environmentally conscious business practices in Greece.
Reference Link	https://kinoumeilektrika3.gov.gr/





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Photos	
Provided by	Ministry of Environment and Energy





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Best practice n.9	
Title of the Best practice	Energy Efficiency Programme 2025
Topic	Energy upgrade of residential buildings.
Keywords	#REPowerEU #buildings #ResilienceFund
Description of the Best practice	The Energy Efficiency Programme 2025 is a flagship government initiative designed to address the energy performance of residential buildings in Greece. The programme, with a total budget of €434 million, is a key component of the country's Recovery and Resilience Fund (RRF) projects, specifically through the REPowerEU chapter. Its primary objective is to significantly improve the energy efficiency of residential homes, directly contributing to Greece's and the European Union's broader climate and energy goals. The programme builds upon previous successful "Exikonomo" (Save) initiatives, but with a renewed focus on more ambitious targets and wider citizen participation. The programme's central aim is to achieve primary energy savings of more than 30% for each dwelling that participates. This is accomplished by upgrading the building's energy class by at least three categories. The initiative targets a wide range of properties, including detached houses and apartment buildings, and provides substantial financial incentives to homeowners. These incentives cover a significant portion of the cost of energy-saving interventions, making it financially viable for citizens to undertake major upgrades that would otherwise be prohibitively expensive. Implementation and Scope The implementation of the programme involves a multi-faceted approach. Homeowners apply through a digital platform, providing details about their property and the proposed upgrades. A certified energy inspector assesses the building's current energy status and proposes a package of eligible interventions. The programme's funding covers a wide array of measures, including: • Thermal Insulation: Upgrading the thermal insulation of external walls, roofs, and pilots to reduce heat loss in winter and heat gain in summer. • Window and Door Replacement: Replacing old, inefficient windows and doors with new, energy-efficient ones (e.g., double-glazed windows with low-E coatings). • Heating/Cooling System Upgrades: Installing modern, high-efficiency heating and cooling systems, such as heat pumps, that consume significantly less energy than conventional boilers and air conditioners.





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- **Hot Water Systems:** Installing solar water heaters to reduce reliance on electricity or gas for hot water production.
- **Smart Home Systems:** Integrating smart energy management systems to optimize energy consumption.

The programme is designed to be streamlined and user-friendly. Applicants receive a grant that is proportionally linked to their income, with higher subsidies for lower-income households and families. This ensures social equity and broad participation. Furthermore, a portion of the funding is offered as an interest-free loan, allowing homeowners to cover any remaining costs without financial burden. The programme also provides support for the fees of the energy inspector and the project engineer, reducing the upfront costs for citizens.

Impact on Sustainable Business and the Economy

The Energy Efficiency Programme 2025 has a profound impact on sustainable business operations and the broader economy. It acts as a powerful catalyst for the construction and services sectors, creating significant demand for:

- **Construction Companies:** Businesses specializing in thermal insulation, window installation, and building renovations experience a boom in projects.
- **Energy Professionals:** The demand for certified energy inspectors, mechanical engineers, and electrical engineers increases, leading to job creation and specialization in the green economy.
- **Manufacturers and Suppliers:** The market for energy-efficient materials and technologies—such as insulated window frames, heat pumps, and solar panels—is stimulated, encouraging innovation and local production.

By subsidizing these upgrades, the government effectively channels public and EU funds into projects with tangible environmental and economic returns. The programme not only reduces the carbon footprint of the residential building stock but also lowers household energy bills, thereby increasing citizens' disposable income and enhancing their quality of life. The long-term effect is the creation of a more resilient, low-carbon building sector, which is better equipped to withstand future energy shocks and contribute to a sustainable, circular economy.

Reference Link (if any)

<https://ypen.gov.gr/programmata-energeiakis-anavathmisis-chrisimes-plirofories-ypourgeiou-perivallontos-kai-energeias/>





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SURVEY

Survey Methodology

As part of Activity 1, a survey was conducted in the project partner countries to explore young people's awareness, knowledge, attitudes and perceptions regarding climate change, environmental protection and the green transition. The questionnaire also examined participants' environmentally responsible behaviours, their familiarity with relevant European environmental policies and initiatives, and their perceptions of individual and collective responsibility for addressing environmental challenges.

The survey targeted young people within the target age group of the EcoMinds project. Participants were recruited in the participating countries through the project partners' networks and relevant youth and educational networks, and participation was voluntary. The survey was administered online using Google Forms during the implementation of Activity 1. Before completing the questionnaire, participants were provided with information about the purpose of the survey, its connection to the EcoMinds project, and how their responses would be used for the purposes of the research. No personally identifiable information was collected through the questionnaire, and responses were analysed and reported in aggregated form.

A total of **119 respondents** participated in the survey: **30 respondents from Italy, 54 from Türkiye, and 35 from Greece**. Because the national samples differ in size, percentages are used alongside absolute response counts where appropriate to facilitate cross-country comparison.

The survey data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including response frequencies and percentages for each question. Results were initially examined at country level and were subsequently compared across the three participating countries for questions and response categories that were directly comparable. The comparative analysis focuses on identifying common patterns, differences in environmental awareness and attitudes, and potential knowledge or behavioural gaps relevant to the objectives of the EcoMinds project.

The survey was designed to provide an indicative picture of the participating young people's knowledge, attitudes and perceptions rather than nationally representative estimates. Differences in sample size and participant composition between the three countries should therefore be considered when interpreting the results. Cross-country differences identified in the survey should not be generalised to the entire youth populations of Italy, Türkiye or Greece.

In addition, some national samples included respondents outside the project's principal youth age range of 16–30, including youth workers and other relevant stakeholders. This variation in participant profiles should also be considered when interpreting and comparing the national findings.

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Survey results in Italy

Results of the survey done online on the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1u1ioJOqKyVm1C7HiLb32WydRZ4L5XNhsT25Sx8iQ8W0/edit>

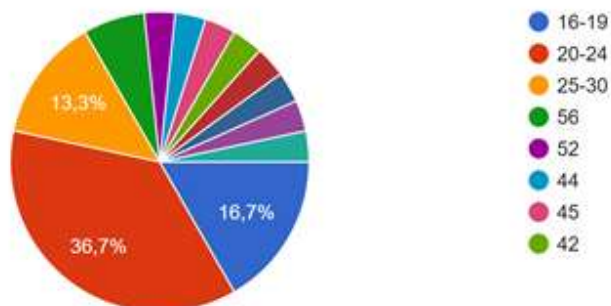
Please report here the results with graphics of the answers obtained in your own national survey

1. How old are you?

- ☐ 16-19
- ☐ 20-24
- ☐ 25-30
- ☐

1. Quanti anni hai?

30 risposte



Interpretation: The largest group of respondents was aged 20–24 (**36.7%**), followed by those aged 16–19 (**16.7%**) and 25–30 (**13.3%**). The remaining **33.3%** reported ages outside the predefined 16–30 categories. This should be taken into account when interpreting the Italian results, particularly when comparing them with the other national samples.

2. Do you think you can help limit the damage caused by humans in the environmental field?

- ☐ Yes, by implementing simple behavioural and civil rules
- ☐ I try to do what I can even if I think I can't make a difference alone
- ☐ No, even if I were more attentive to the changes, they are independent of my actions
- ☐



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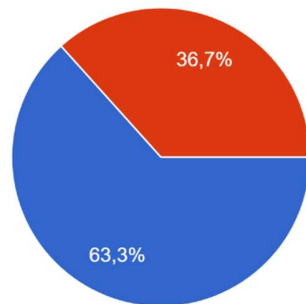


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2. Pensi di poter contribuire a limitare i danni causati dall'uomo in campo ambientale?

30 risposte



- Sì, implementando semplici regole comportamentali e civili
- Cerco di fare il possibile anche se penso di non poter fare la differenza da solo
- No, anche se fossi più attento ai cambiamenti, questi sono indipendenti dalle mie azioni

Interpretation: Respondents expressed a strongly positive view of individual environmental responsibility. Almost two-thirds (**63.3%**) believed that they can contribute to reducing environmental damage by adopting simple behavioural and civic practices, while **36.7%** reported trying to do what they can despite feeling that individual action alone may have limited impact. No respondents stated that environmental changes are completely independent of their individual actions. Overall, the findings indicate a strong sense of personal responsibility towards environmental protection.

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3. In the last few months have you taken any action to help protect the environment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ I'm working hard
- ☐ No, but I encourage others to do so
- ☐



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3. Negli ultimi mesi hai intrapreso qualche azione per contribuire alla tutela dell'ambiente?

30 risposte



Interpretation: More than half of respondents (53.3%) reported having taken action to protect the environment in recent months, while a further 20.0% stated that they are actively making an effort. Another 20.0% reported encouraging others to take action. The remaining responses accounted for only a small proportion of the sample. Overall, the findings indicate a generally high level of self-reported environmental engagement among Italian respondents.

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4. Which of the following activities are suitable for you?

- ☐ Try to reduce waste and regularly separate it for recycling
- ☐ If possible, try to reduce the consumption of disposable items, such as plastic bags from the supermarket, excessive packaging
- ☐ When buying a new appliance, such as a washing machine, a refrigerator or a TV, low consumption is an important factor in choosing
- ☐



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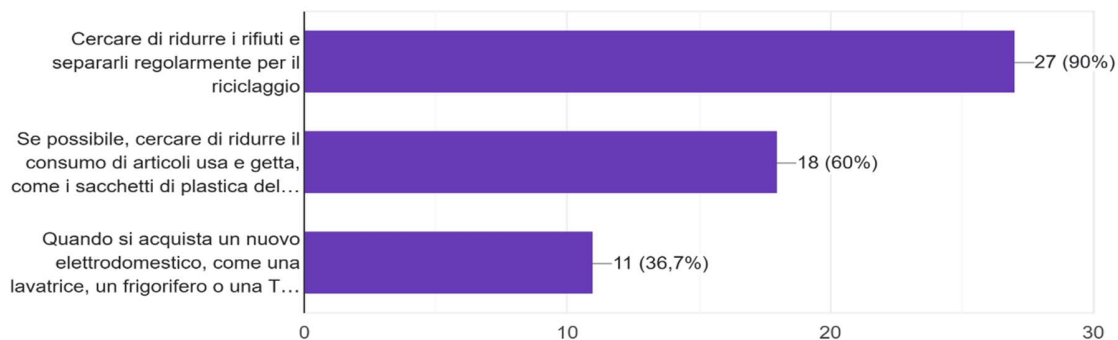


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4. Quale delle seguenti attività è adatta a te?

30 risposte



Interpretation: Waste reduction and recycling emerged as the most widespread environmentally responsible practice, reported by **90.0%** of respondents. Reducing the consumption of disposable and single-use products was also common (**60.0%**), while **36.7%** reported considering low energy consumption when purchasing new electrical appliances. The results indicate particularly strong engagement with waste management and recycling, alongside substantial efforts to reduce single-use consumption.

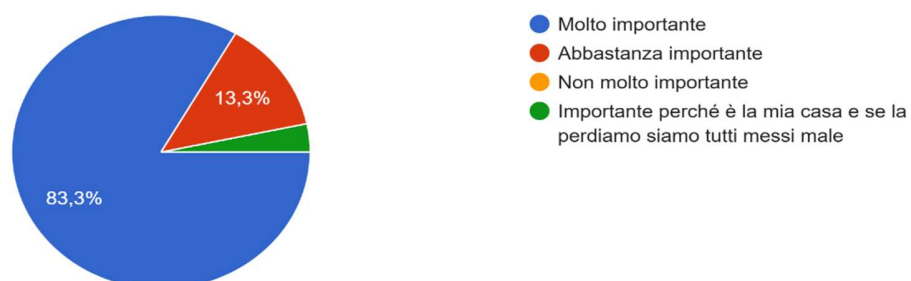
78

5. How important is protecting the environment to you personally?

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not very important
- ☐

5. Quanto è importante per te personalmente la tutela dell'ambiente?

30 risposte



Interpretation: Environmental protection was considered highly important by the Italian



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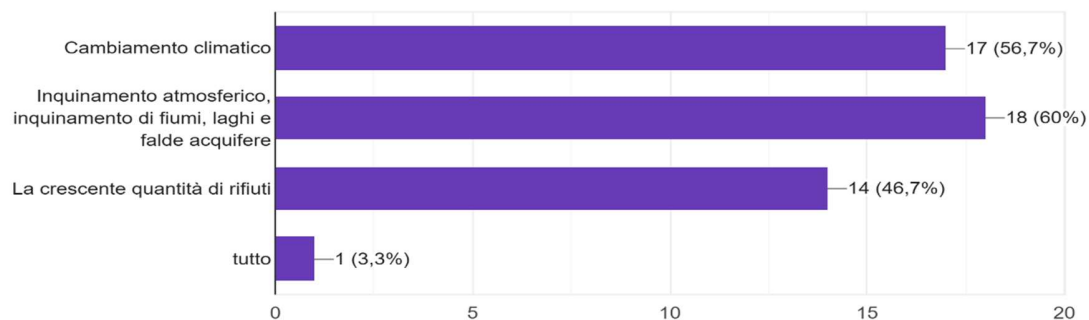
respondents. A substantial majority (**83.3%**) described it as “Very important”, while a further **13.3%** considered it “Somewhat important”. The results therefore indicate a very high level of environmental concern within the Italian sample.

6. Which of the following environmental issues do you think are most important?

- ☐ Climate change
- ☐ Air pollution, Pollution of rivers, lakes and groundwater
- ☐ The increasing amount of waste
- ☐

6. Quale tra i seguenti problemi ambientali ritieni sia il più importante?

30 risposte



Interpretation: Air pollution and the pollution of rivers, lakes and groundwater emerged as the most frequently identified environmental concern (**60.0%**), closely followed by climate change (**56.7%**). The increasing amount of waste was also considered an important environmental issue by **46.7%** of respondents. Overall, the results indicate concern across several interconnected environmental challenges rather than a focus on a single environmental issue.

Note: Multiple responses were permitted; therefore, percentages do not sum to 100%.

7. Which of the following would be the best ways to address environmental problems?

- ☐ Changing the way we consume
- ☐ Providing more information and education, e.g. on waste sorting, energy consumption
- ☐ Introduce stricter environmental laws
- ☐



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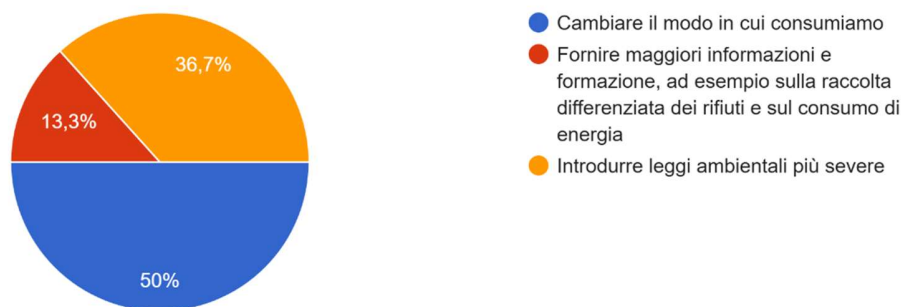


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7. Quale tra i seguenti sarebbe il modo migliore per affrontare i problemi ambientali?

30 risposte



Interpretation: Changing consumption patterns was identified as the most effective way to address environmental problems by **50.0%** of respondents. Stricter environmental legislation was selected by **36.7%**, while **13.3%** prioritised greater environmental information and education. These findings suggest that Italian respondents place particular emphasis on changes in individual consumption behaviour, while also recognising the importance of regulatory measures.

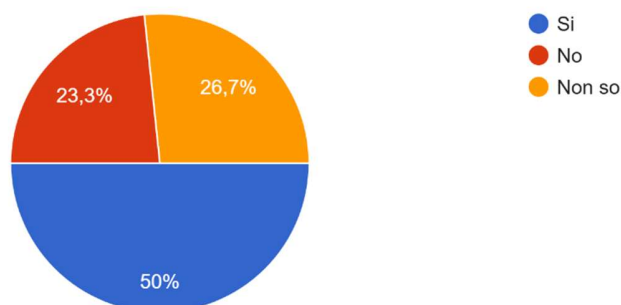
80

8. Do you think that information on the environment is easily accessible and clear?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not so
- ☐

8. Pensi che le informazioni sull'ambiente siano facilmente accessibili e chiare?

30 risposte



Interpretation: Half of the respondents (**50.0%**) considered environmental information to be easily accessible and clear. However, **23.3%** disagreed and **26.7%** were uncertain. Although the



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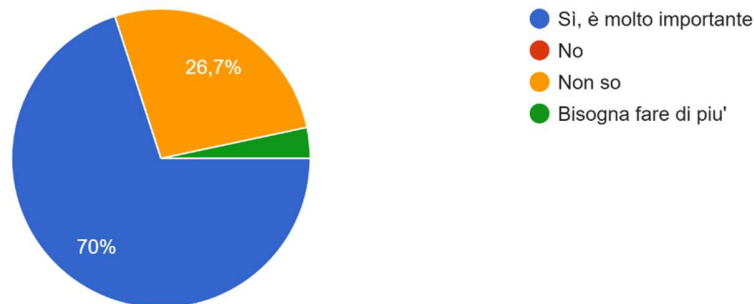
results indicate a generally more positive perception of access to environmental information, the combined **50.0%** who responded negatively or expressed uncertainty suggests that there remains scope to improve the accessibility and clarity of environmental communication.

9. Do you think that European Union policy is useful in the environmental field?

- ☐ Yes. It is very important
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not so
- ☐

9. Ritieni che la politica dell'Unione Europea sia utile in campo ambientale?

30 risposte



Interpretation: Italian respondents expressed a predominantly positive view of EU environmental policy, with **70.0%** considering it very important in the environmental field. A further **26.7%** were uncertain, while **3.3%** indicated that more needs to be done. No respondents selected the direct negative response. Overall, the findings indicate relatively strong confidence in the relevance of EU environmental action, although a notable proportion of respondents remain uncertain about its usefulness.

10. What is the overall objective of the European Green Deal?

- ☐ Reducing early school leaving rates to below 10%, increasing the 30-34 age group with a tertiary education to 40%
- ☐ Achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050
- ☐ Increasing investment in research and development to 3% of EU GDP
- ☐



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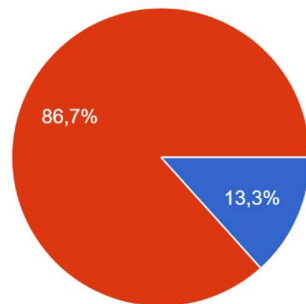


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10. Qual è l'obiettivo generale del Green Deal europeo?

30 risposte



- Ridurre i tassi di abbandono scolastico precoce al di sotto del 10%, aumentando la fascia di età 30-34 anni con un'istruzione terziaria al 40%
- Raggiungere la neutralità climatica in Europa entro il 2050
- Aumentare gli investimenti in ricerca e sviluppo al 3% del PIL dell'UE

Interpretation: A substantial majority of respondents (**86.7%**) correctly identified achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050 as the overall objective of the European Green Deal. Only **13.3%** selected an incorrect response. The results therefore indicate a high level of awareness of the Green Deal's headline climate objective among the Italian respondents.

82

11. What are the reasons that led to the creation of the European Green Deal?

- ☐ They are about EU law and rulings, the application of EU law, public consultations, data protection, infringements, fraud and serious crime
- ☐ They are about fighting poverty and marginalisation: at least 20 million fewer people at risk of or in poverty and marginalisation
- ☐ They are about environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, ozone depletion, water pollution, urban stress, waste generation and more. And to try to give a direction to companies
- ☐



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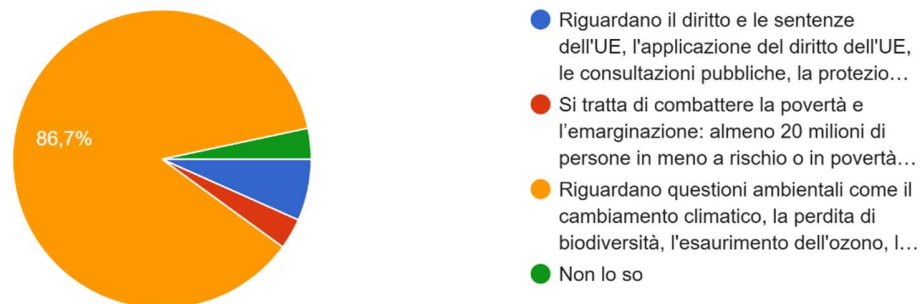


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11. Quali sono le ragioni che hanno portato alla creazione del Green Deal europeo?

30 risposte



Interpretation: A substantial majority of respondents (86.7%) correctly associated the creation of the European Green Deal with major environmental challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and waste generation. Only a small proportion selected responses relating to other EU policy areas or indicated uncertainty. The findings therefore suggest a high level of understanding of the broader environmental rationale underpinning the European Green Deal among the Italian respondents.

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FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Italian survey results indicate a high level of environmental concern, a strong sense of individual responsibility and substantial self-reported engagement in sustainable practices. Respondents demonstrated particularly strong engagement with waste reduction and recycling and generally recognised the importance of changing consumption patterns. Awareness of the European Green Deal was also high, both in relation to its climate-neutrality objective and the environmental challenges underlying its development. Nevertheless, the results indicate some scope for improving the accessibility and clarity of environmental information, as half of the respondents either did not consider such information easily accessible and clear or expressed uncertainty.



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Survey results in Türkiye

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<https://forms.gle/LKfsSgJKVmmz4BBE7>

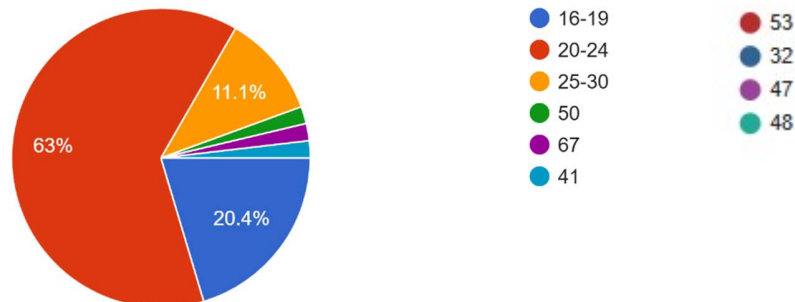
Please report here the results with graphics of the answers obtained in your own national survey

1. How old are you?

- ☐ 16-19
- ☐ 20-24
- ☐ 25-30
- ☐

Kaç yaşındasınız?

54 responses



Interpretation: The Turkish sample was predominantly composed of young adults aged 20–24, who represented **63.0%** of respondents. Participants aged 16–19 accounted for **20.4%**, while **11.1%** were aged 25–30. The remaining **5.6%** reported ages outside the predefined 16–30 categories (41, 50 and 67). Overall, **94.4%** of respondents were within the 16–30 age range targeted by the survey.

2. Do you think you can help limit the damage caused by humans in the environmental field?

- ☐ Yes, by implementing simple behavioural and civil rules
- ☐ I try to do what I can even if I think I can't make a difference alone
- ☐ No, even if I were more attentive to the changes, they are independent of my actions
- ☐



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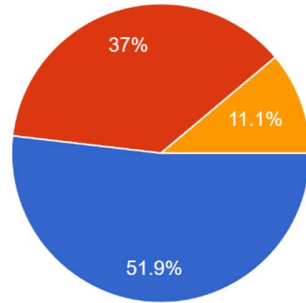


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İnsanların çevreye verdiği zararı azaltmaya yardımcı olabileceğinizi düşünüyor musunuz?

54 responses



- Evet, basit davranışsal ve medeni kuralları uygulayarak
- Tek başıma bir fark yaratamayacağımı düşünsem bile elimden geleni yapmaya çalışıyorum
- Hayır, iklim değişikliğine dikkat etsem de, bunun benim eylemlerimden bağımsız bir süreç olduğunu düşünüyorum

Interpretation: Respondents generally expressed a positive view of individual environmental responsibility. More than half (**51.9%**) believed that they can contribute to reducing environmental damage by adopting simple behavioural and civic practices, while **37.0%** reported trying to do what they can despite feeling that individual action alone may have limited impact. Only **11.1%** considered environmental changes to be largely independent of their own actions. Overall, the findings indicate a strong willingness to contribute to environmental protection, although some respondents remain uncertain about the effectiveness of individual action.

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3. In the last few months have you taken any action to help protect the environment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ I'm working hard
- ☐ No, but I encourage others to do so
- ☐



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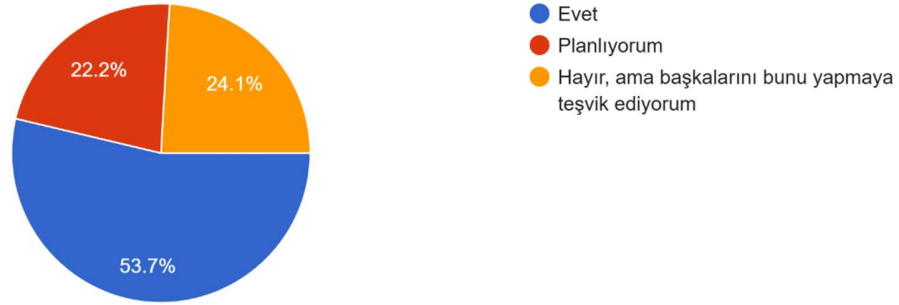


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Son birkaç ayda çevreyi korumaya yönelik herhangi bir adım attınız mı?

54 responses



Interpretation: More than half of respondents (53.7%) reported having taken action to protect the environment in recent months, while 22.2% stated that they are actively making an effort. A further 24.1% reported that they had not personally taken action but encouraged others to do so. The findings therefore indicate a generally positive level of self-reported environmental engagement, although almost one quarter of respondents reported encouragement of others rather than direct personal action.

86

4. Which of the following activities are suitable for you?

- ☐ Try to reduce waste and regularly separate it for recycling
- ☐ If possible, try to reduce the consumption of disposable items, such as plastic bags from the supermarket, excessive packaging
- ☐ When buying a new appliance, such as a washing machine, a refrigerator or a TV, low consumption is an important factor in choosing
- ☐



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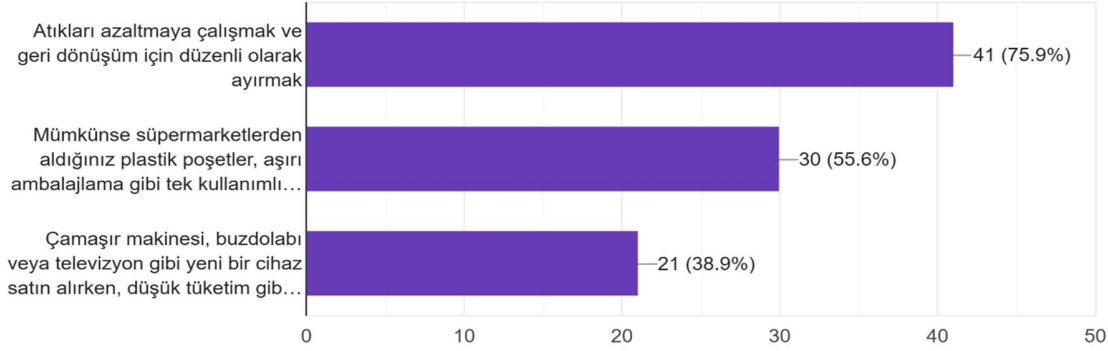


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Aşağıdaki faaliyetlerden hangileri sizin için uygun?

54 responses



Interpretation: Waste reduction and regular separation of waste for recycling was the most commonly reported sustainable practice, selected by **75.9%** of respondents. Reducing the consumption of disposable and single-use products was also widespread (**55.6%**), while **38.9%** reported considering low energy consumption when purchasing new electrical appliances. Overall, the results indicate particularly strong engagement with waste reduction and recycling, alongside substantial efforts to reduce single-use consumption.

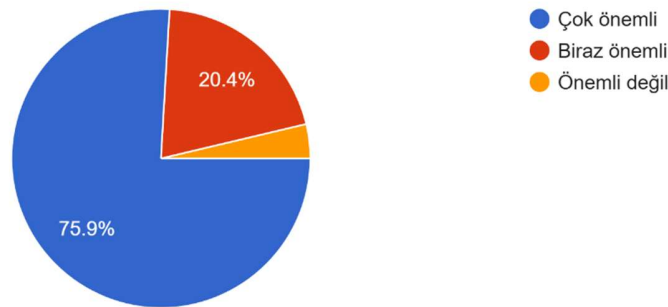
87

5. How important is protecting the environment to you personally?

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not very important
- ☐

Çevreyi korumak sizin için kişisel olarak ne kadar önemli?

54 responses



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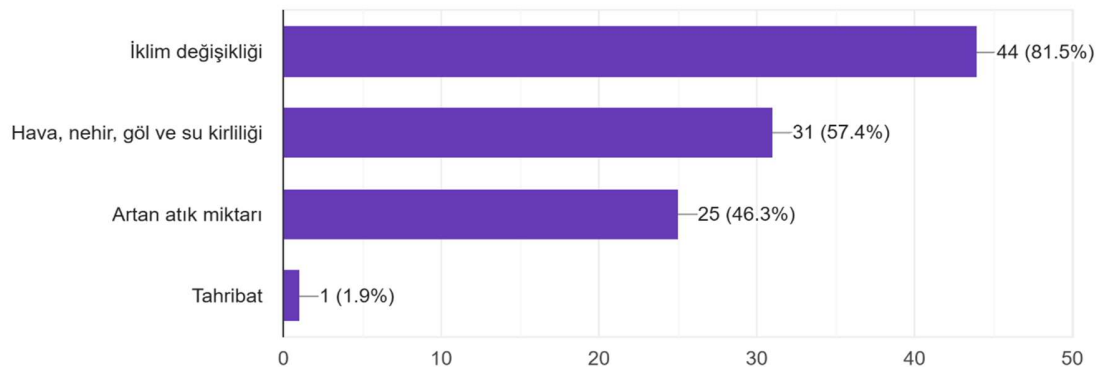
Interpretation: Environmental protection was considered personally important by the overwhelming majority of respondents. More than three-quarters (**75.9%**) considered it “Very important”, while a further **20.4%** considered it “Somewhat important”. Only **3.7%** indicated that environmental protection was not important to them. Overall, **96.3%** attributed at least some personal importance to environmental protection, indicating a high level of environmental concern within the Turkish sample.

6. Which of the following environmental issues do you think are most important?

- ☐ Climate change
- ☐ Air pollution, Pollution of rivers, lakes and groundwater
- ☐ The increasing amount of waste
- ☐

Aşağıdaki çevre sorunlarından hangisinin en önemli olduğunu düşünüyorsunuz?

54 responses



88

Interpretation: Climate change emerged as the most frequently identified environmental concern, selected by **81.5%** of respondents. Air pollution and the pollution of rivers, lakes and water resources were also considered major concerns (**57.4%**), followed by the increasing amount of waste (**46.3%**). One respondent (**1.9%**) additionally identified environmental destruction as a concern. Overall, the results indicate particularly strong concern about climate change, while pollution and waste generation are also perceived as significant environmental challenges.

7. Which of the following would be the best ways to address environmental problems?

- ☐ Changing the way we consume
- ☐ Providing more information and education, e.g. on waste sorting, energy consumption
- ☐ Introduce stricter environmental laws
- ☐



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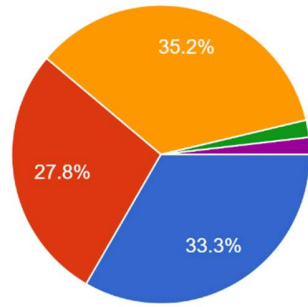


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Aşağıdakilerden hangisi çevre sorunlarına çözüm bulmanın en iyi yollarından biridir?

54 responses



- Tüketim alışkanlıklarımızı değiştirmek
- Atık ayırma, enerji tüketimi gibi konularda daha fazla bilgi ve eğitim sağlanması
- Çevreye ilişkin kanun ve yönetmeliklerin artırılması
- Ağır cezalar getirilmesi
- fabrikalar gelmesi geerek regülasyonlar ve bunun uygulanması bknz. çinin devasa kömür santralleri

Interpretation: Respondents expressed relatively balanced preferences regarding the best approaches to addressing environmental problems. Stricter environmental laws and regulations were selected most frequently (**35.2%**), closely followed by changing consumption habits (**33.3%**) and providing more environmental information and education (**27.8%**). The remaining responses represented only a small proportion of the sample. Overall, the findings suggest that Turkish respondents recognise the need for a combination of regulatory measures, behavioural change and environmental education rather than relying predominantly on a single approach.

89

8. Do you think that information on the environment is easily accessible and clear?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not so
- ☐



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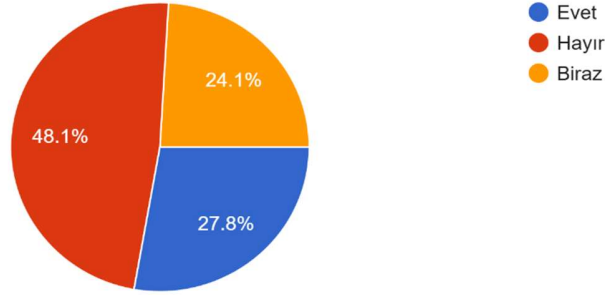


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Çevreyle ilgili bilgilerin kolay erişilebilir ve anlaşılır olduğunu düşünüyor musunuz?

54 responses



Interpretation: Almost half of respondents (48.1%) stated that environmental information is not easily accessible and understandable, while 24.1% considered it only somewhat accessible or understandable. Only 27.8% gave a clearly positive response. Overall, 72.2% of respondents did not consider environmental information fully accessible and clear, highlighting a need for simpler, clearer and more accessible environmental communication.

90

9. Do you think that European Union policy is useful in the environmental field?

- ☐ Yes. It is very important
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not so
- ☐

Avrupa Birliği politikalarının çevre alanında yararlı olduğunu düşünüyor musunuz?

54 responses



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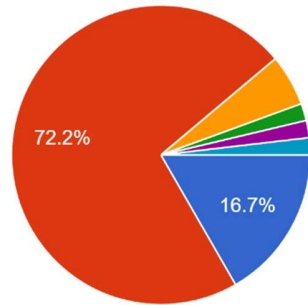
Interpretation: Views regarding the usefulness of EU environmental policy were mixed. **38.9%** of respondents considered EU environmental policy useful, while **11.1%** responded negatively and **44.4%** gave a more qualified response (“somewhat”). The remaining responses represented individual comments or uncertainty. Overall, the findings indicate that respondents do not reject EU environmental policy outright, but many express only moderate or uncertain confidence in its usefulness.

10. What is the overall objective of the European Green Deal?

- ☐ Reducing early school leaving rates to below 10%, increasing the 30-34 age group with a tertiary education to 40%
- ☐ Achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050
- ☐ Increasing investment in research and development to 3% of EU GDP
- ☐

Avrupa Yeşil Mutabakatının genel amacı nedir?

54 responses



- Erken okul terk oranlarını %10'un altına düşürmek, yükseköğrenim gören 30-34 yaş grubunu %40'a çıkarmak
- 2050 yılına kadar Avrupa'da iklim nötrlüğüne ulaşmak
- Araştırma ve geliştirmeye yapılan yatırımın AB GSYİH'sinin %3'üne çıka...
- Bilmiyorum
- bilgin yok.
- Bilmiyorum.

Interpretation: A substantial majority of respondents (**72.2%**) correctly identified achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050 as the overall objective of the European Green Deal. **16.7%** selected an incorrect response relating to education targets, while the remaining respondents selected another incorrect option or indicated that they did not know. Overall, the findings indicate a relatively high level of awareness of the Green Deal's headline climate objective, although knowledge gaps remain among approximately one quarter of respondents.

11. What are the reasons that led to the creation of the European Green Deal?

- ☐ They are about EU law and rulings, the application of EU law, public consultations, data protection, infringements, fraud and serious crime
- ☐ They are about fighting poverty and marginalisation: at least 20 million fewer people at risk of or in poverty and marginalisation



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- They are about environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, ozone depletion, water pollution, urban stress, waste generation and more. And to try to give a direction to companies
-

Avrupa Yeşil Mutabakatının oluşturulmasına yol açan nedenler nelerdir?

54 responses



92

Interpretation: A substantial majority of respondents (75.9%) correctly associated the creation of the European Green Deal with environmental challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and other forms of environmental degradation. 14.8% incorrectly associated it primarily with poverty and social exclusion, while the remaining respondents selected other responses or indicated that they did not know. Overall, the findings indicate a relatively strong understanding of the environmental rationale underpinning the European Green Deal, although some confusion with other EU policy priorities remains.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Turkish survey results indicate a high level of environmental concern and a generally positive attitude towards individual environmental responsibility. Respondents reported substantial engagement in sustainable practices, particularly waste reduction and recycling, while climate change emerged as the dominant environmental concern. The findings also show support for a combination of regulatory measures, changes in consumption behaviour and environmental education as ways of addressing environmental challenges.

At the same time, the results reveal important information and knowledge gaps. A substantial proportion of respondents did not consider environmental information fully accessible and understandable, and perceptions of the usefulness of EU environmental policy were mixed. Although most respondents correctly identified the European Green Deal's climate-neutrality



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objective and its broader environmental rationale, a minority demonstrated uncertainty or confusion with other EU policy priorities. These findings support the need for accessible, practical and engaging environmental education that connects individual behaviour with wider environmental and policy objectives.



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Survey results in Greece

Results of the survey done online on the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BnILLWPFFxign7yV4scQXVF7Bi4L7UJmNQgdz_av3z0/edit

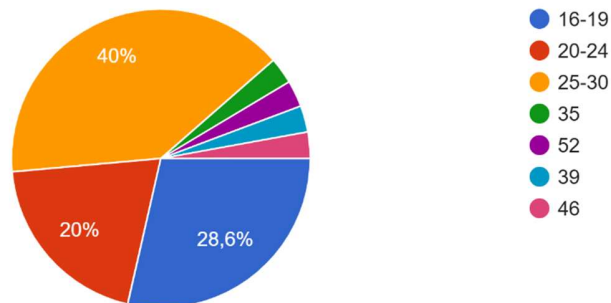
Please report here the results with graphics of the answers obtained in your own national survey

1. How old are you?

- ☐ 16-19
- ☐ 20-24
- ☐ 25-30
- ☐

Ποια είναι η ηλικία σας;

35 απαντήσεις



Interpretation: The largest group of respondents was aged 25–30 (40.0%), followed by those aged 16–19 (28.6%) and 20–24 (20.0%). A further 11.4% of respondents reported ages outside the predefined age categories. Overall, 88.6% of respondents were within the 16–30 age range targeted by the survey.





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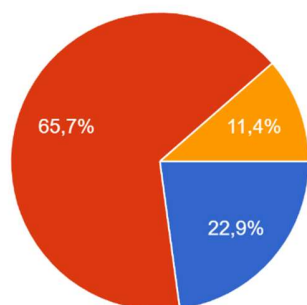


2. Do you think you can help limit the damage caused by humans in the environmental field?

- ☐ Yes, by implementing simple behavioural and civil rules
- ☐ I try to do what I can even if I think I can't make a difference alone
- ☐ No, even if I were more attentive to the changes, they are independent of my actions
- ☐

Πιστεύετε ότι μπορείτε να συμβάλετε στον περιορισμό της ζημιάς που προκαλεί ο άνθρωπος στο περιβάλλον;

35 απαντήσεις



- Ναι, εφαρμόζοντας απλούς κανόνες συμπεριφοράς και κοινωνικής ευθύνης.
- Προσπαθώ να κάνω ό,τι μπορώ, ακόμα κι αν πιστεύω ότι δεν μπορώ να κάνω τη διαφορά μόνος/μόνη μου.
- Όχι, ακόμα κι αν ήμουν πιο προσεκτικός/ή στις αλλαγές, αυτές είναι ανεξάρτητες από τις δικές μου ενέργειες.

95

Interpretation: The results indicate a generally positive attitude towards individual environmental responsibility. Most respondents (65.7%) reported that they try to contribute to environmental protection, although they feel that their individual actions alone may have limited impact. A further 22.9% believed that adopting simple behavioural and civic practices can contribute to reducing environmental damage. Only 11.4% considered environmental changes to be largely independent of their individual actions. Overall, the findings suggest a high willingness to act, accompanied by some uncertainty regarding the effectiveness of individual action.



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3. In the last few months have you taken any action to help protect the environment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ I'm working hard
- ☐ No, but I encourage others to do so
- ☐

Τους τελευταίους μήνες, έχετε προβεί σε κάποια ενέργεια για να βοηθήσετε στην προστασία του περιβάλλοντος;

35 απαντήσεις



96

Interpretation: The results indicate a high level of self-reported engagement in environmental protection. Most respondents (71.4%) stated that they are actively making an effort to protect the environment, while a further 20.0% reported having taken environmental action in recent months. Only 8.6% reported not taking direct action themselves, although they encourage others to do so. Overall, the findings suggest a strong willingness among respondents to translate environmental awareness into action.



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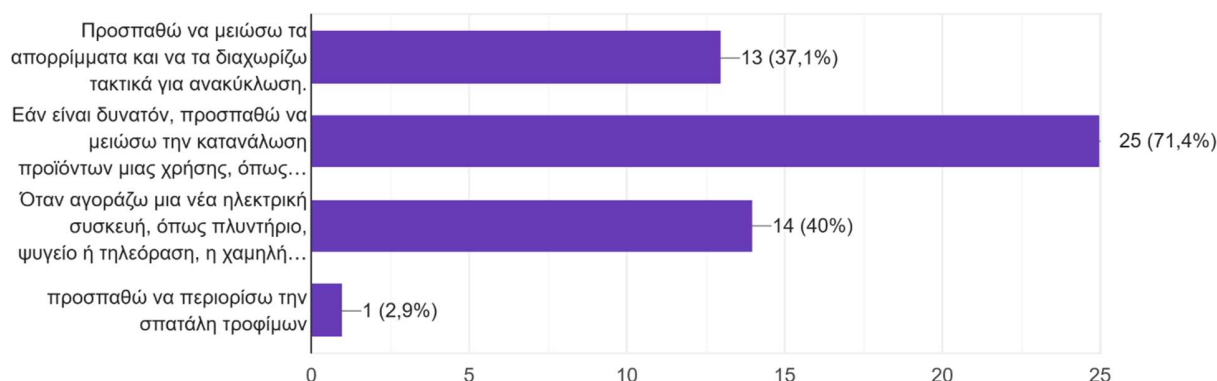


4. Which of the following activities are suitable for you?

- ☐ Try to reduce waste and regularly separate it for recycling
- ☐ If possible, try to reduce the consumption of disposable items, such as plastic bags from the supermarket, excessive packaging
- ☐ When buying a new appliance, such as a washing machine, a refrigerator or a TV, low consumption is an important factor in choosing
- ☐

Ποιες από τις παρακάτω δραστηριότητες σας ταιριάζουν;

35 απαντήσεις



97

Interpretation: Reducing the consumption of disposable and single-use products was the most commonly reported sustainable practice, selected by 71.4% of respondents. Energy efficiency was also an important consideration, with 40.0% reporting that low energy consumption influences their choice when purchasing electrical appliances. In addition, 37.1% reported reducing and separating waste for recycling. Food-waste reduction was mentioned by only one respondent (2.9%). Overall, the results indicate that respondents are particularly engaged in reducing single-use consumption, while there is scope to further promote other sustainable practices, particularly food-waste reduction and systematic recycling.



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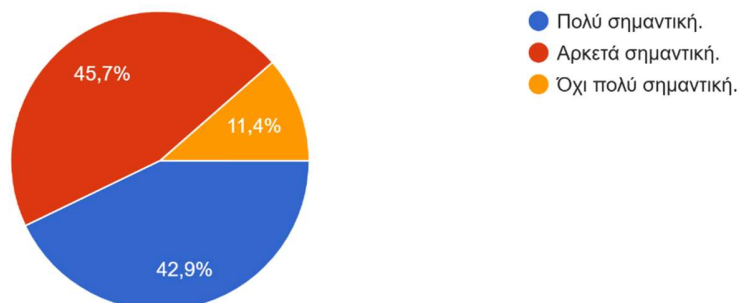
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5. How important is protecting the environment to you personally?

- ☐ Very important
- ☐ Somewhat important
- ☐ Not very important
- ☐

Πόσο σημαντική είναι για εσάς προσωπικά η προστασία του περιβάλλοντος;
35 απαντήσεις



98

Interpretation: Environmental protection is personally important to a large majority of respondents. In total, **88.6%** considered environmental protection either very important (42.9%) or somewhat important (45.7%), while only 11.4% considered it not very important. These findings indicate a generally high level of environmental concern among the Greek respondents, although fewer than half selected the strongest response category (“Very important”).



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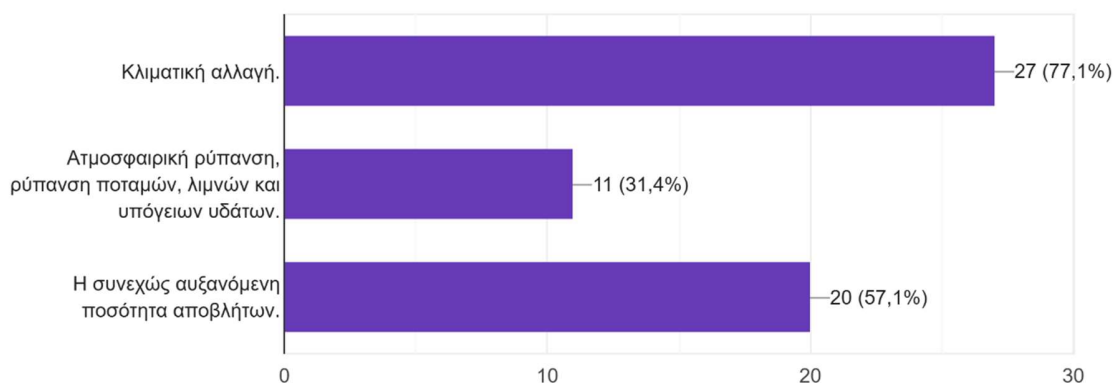
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6. Which of the following environmental issues do you think are most important?

- ☐ Climate change
- ☐ Air pollution, Pollution of rivers, lakes and groundwater
- ☐ The increasing amount of waste
- ☐

Ποια από τα παρακάτω περιβαλλοντικά ζητήματα θεωρείτε πιο σημαντικά;
35 απαντήσεις



99

Interpretation: Climate change emerged as the most important environmental concern, selected by 77.1% of respondents. The increasing amount of waste was also identified as a major concern by 57.1%, while 31.4% selected air pollution and the pollution of rivers, lakes and groundwater. The results indicate that climate change is the dominant environmental concern among the Greek respondents, while waste generation is also perceived as a significant environmental challenge.



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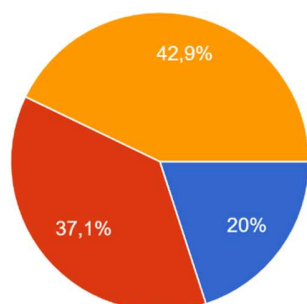


7. Which of the following would be the best ways to address environmental problems?

- ☐ Changing the way we consume
- ☐ Providing more information and education, e.g. on waste sorting, energy consumption
- ☐ Introduce stricter environmental laws
- ☐

Ποιοι από τους παρακάτω τρόπους θεωρείτε ως τους καλύτερους για την αντιμετώπιση των περιβαλλοντικών προβλημάτων;

35 απαντήσεις



- Αλλάζοντας τον τρόπο που καταναλώνουμε.
- Παροχή περισσότερης ενημέρωσης και εκπαίδευσης, π.χ. για τη διαλογή απορριμμάτων, την κατανάλωση ενέργειας.
- Θέσπιση αυστηρότερων περιβαλλοντικών νόμων.

100

Interpretation: Stricter environmental legislation was identified as the most effective approach to addressing environmental problems, selected by **42.9%** of respondents. A further **37.1%** prioritised greater access to environmental information and education, while **20.0%** considered changes in consumption patterns to be the most effective approach. Overall, the findings suggest that respondents place greater emphasis on **policy and educational measures (80.0% combined)** than on changes in individual consumption behaviour alone.



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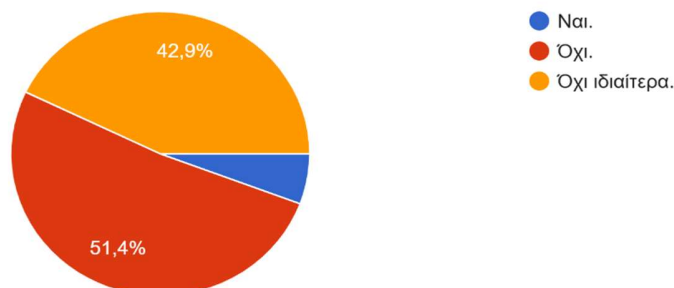


8. Do you think that information on the environment is easily accessible and clear?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not so
- ☐

Πιστεύετε ότι οι πληροφορίες σχετικά με το περιβάλλον είναι εύκολα προσβάσιμες και κατανοητές;

35 απαντήσεις



101

Interpretation: The results reveal a significant perceived gap in the accessibility and clarity of environmental information. More than half of respondents (**51.4%**) stated that environmental information is not easily accessible and understandable, while a further **42.9%** considered it not particularly accessible or clear. Only **5.7%** expressed a positive view. Overall, **94.3%** of respondents expressed some degree of difficulty with the accessibility or comprehensibility of environmental information, highlighting a clear need for information that is simpler, more accessible and better adapted to young people.



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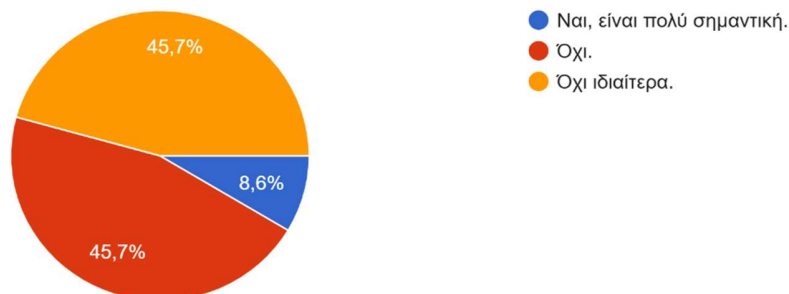
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9. Do you think that European Union policy is useful in the environmental field?

- ☐ Yes. It is very important
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not so
- ☐

Πιστεύετε ότι η πολιτική της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης είναι χρήσιμη στον τομέα του περιβάλλοντος;
35 απαντήσεις



102

Interpretation: Respondents expressed a predominantly critical view of the usefulness of EU environmental policy. Only **8.6%** considered EU policy to be very important in the environmental field, while **45.7%** considered it not useful and a further **45.7%** considered it not particularly useful. Overall, **91.4%** of respondents did not express a clearly positive assessment of the usefulness of EU environmental policy. This finding suggests a substantial gap between environmental concern among respondents and their perception of the effectiveness or relevance of EU-level environmental action.



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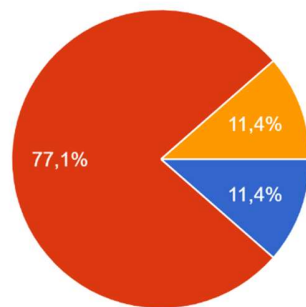


10. What is the overall objective of the European Green Deal?

- ☐ Reducing early school leaving rates to below 10%, increasing the 30-34 age group with a tertiary education to 40%
- ☐ Achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050
- ☐ Increasing investment in research and development to 3% of EU GDP
- ☐

Ποιος είναι ο συνολικός στόχος της Ευρωπαϊκής Πράσινης Συμφωνίας;

35 απαντήσεις



- Μείωση του ποσοστού πρόωρης εγκατάλειψης του σχολείου κάτω από το 10% και αύξηση του ποσοστού ατόμων ηλικίας 30-34 ετών με τριτοβάθμια εκπαίδευση στο 40%.
- Επίτευξη κλιματικής ουδετερότητας στην Ευρώπη έως το 2050.
- Αύξηση των επενδύσεων στην έρευνα και ανάπτυξη στο 3% του ΑΕΠ της ΕΕ.

103

Interpretation: A substantial majority of respondents (77.1%) correctly identified achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050 as the overall objective of the European Green Deal. However, 22.9% selected an incorrect response. The results therefore indicate a relatively high level of awareness of the Green Deal's central climate objective among the Greek respondents, while also revealing some remaining knowledge gaps regarding EU policy priorities.



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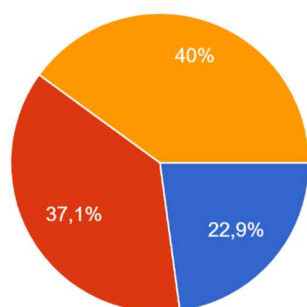
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11. What are the reasons that led to the creation of the European Green Deal?

- ☐ They are about EU law and rulings, the application of EU law, public consultations, data protection, infringements, fraud and serious crime
- ☐ They are about fighting poverty and marginalisation: at least 20 million fewer people at risk of or in poverty and marginalisation
- ☐ They are about environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, ozone depletion, water pollution, urban stress, waste generation and more. And to try to give a direction to companies
- ☐

Ποιοι είναι οι λόγοι που οδήγησαν στη δημιουργία της Ευρωπαϊκής Πράσινης Συμφωνίας;
35 απαντήσεις



- Αφορούν το δίκαιο και τις αποφάσεις της ΕΕ, την εφαρμογή της νομοθεσίας της ΕΕ, τις δημόσιες διαβουλεύσεις, την προστασία δεδομένων, τις παραβιάσεις...
- Αφορούν την καταπολέμηση της φτώχειας και του κοινωνικού αποκλεισμού: τουλάχιστον 20 εκατομμύρια λιγότεροι άνθρωποι σε κί...
- Αφορούν περιβαλλοντικά ζητήματα όπως η κλιματική αλλαγή, η απώλεια βιοποικιλότητας, η καταστροφή του όζ...

Interpretation: Only **40.0%** of respondents correctly associated the creation of the European Green Deal with major environmental challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and waste generation. By contrast, **60.0%** selected responses relating primarily to other EU policy areas, including poverty and social exclusion (37.1%) and EU legal and administrative matters (22.9%). The results indicate a notable knowledge gap regarding the broader rationale and environmental challenges underpinning the European Green Deal.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The main findings are now clear: environmental concern and self-reported action are generally strong, with **88.6%** considering environmental protection very or somewhat important and **91.4%** reporting either active effort or environmental action in recent months. Climate change is the dominant concern (**77.1%**), followed by increasing waste (**57.1%**). At the same time, **94.3%** consider environmental information not or not particularly accessible and understandable, and only **8.6%** give a clearly positive assessment of the usefulness of EU environmental policy.

Knowledge of the European Green Deal is mixed: **77.1%** correctly identify climate neutrality by 2050 as its overall objective, but only **40.0%** correctly identify the broader environmental challenges behind its creation. This distinction is particularly useful for EcoMinds: the Greek



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respondents appear to know the Green Deal's headline goal considerably better than its wider rationale.





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Comparative Analysis of Survey Results

To identify common trends and country-specific differences, the survey findings from Greece (n=35), Italy (n=30) and Türkiye (n=54) were compared using percentages rather than absolute response counts. This approach facilitates comparison between the three national samples despite their different sample sizes. The comparison focuses on environmental attitudes and behaviours, perceptions of environmental information and policy, and knowledge of the European Green Deal. Given the sampling approach and relatively small national samples, the findings should be interpreted as indicative of the participating respondents rather than representative of the wider youth populations of the three countries.

1. Environmental concern and individual responsibility

Environmental concern was high across all three national samples, although its intensity varied. In Italy, **83.3%** of respondents considered environmental protection “very important”, compared with **75.9%** in Türkiye and **42.9%** in Greece. When the “very important” and “somewhat important” categories are considered together, the proportions were **96.6% in Italy, 96.3% in Türkiye and 88.6% in Greece**.

Respondents also generally believed that individuals can contribute to reducing environmental damage. The proportion explicitly stating that simple behavioural and civic actions can make a contribution was highest in Italy (**63.3%**), followed by Türkiye (**51.9%**) and Greece (**22.9%**). In Greece, however, **65.7%** reported trying to contribute despite feeling that individual action alone may have limited impact. This suggests that environmental concern is widespread across the three samples, while perceptions of individual efficacy differ.

2. Environmental behaviours and priorities

Sustainable practices were reported across all three countries, but with different patterns. Waste reduction and recycling were particularly prominent in Italy (**90.0%**) and Türkiye (**75.9%**), compared with **37.1%** in Greece. Conversely, reducing disposable and single-use consumption was the most frequently reported practice in Greece (**71.4%**), compared with **60.0%** in Italy and **55.6%** in Türkiye.

Climate change was identified as a major environmental concern in all three samples, particularly in Türkiye (**81.5%**) and Greece (**77.1%**), compared with **56.7%** in Italy. Italian respondents placed slightly greater emphasis on air and water pollution (**60.0%**), while increasing waste was selected by **57.1%** in Greece, **46.7%** in Italy and **46.3%** in Türkiye.

3. Preferred solutions to environmental problems

Respondents differed in their preferred approaches to addressing environmental problems. In Greece, stricter environmental legislation was the most frequently selected solution (**42.9%**), followed by information and education (**37.1%**) and changing consumption patterns (**20.0%**). Italian respondents placed greater emphasis on changing consumption patterns (**50.0%**), followed by stricter legislation (**36.7%**) and information and education (**13.3%**). The Turkish results were more evenly distributed, with **35.2%** prioritising stricter environmental laws, **33.3%** changes in



consumption habits and **27.8%** greater information and education.

These differences suggest that the three samples recognise both individual and systemic dimensions of environmental action, but place different levels of emphasis on behavioural change, education and regulation.

4. Accessibility of environmental information and perceptions of EU policy

This is probably the **strongest cross-country finding**.

Considerable differences emerged regarding the accessibility and clarity of environmental information. In Italy, **50.0%** considered environmental information easily accessible and clear, compared with **27.8%** in Türkiye and only **5.7%** in Greece. Conversely, **94.3%** of Greek respondents expressed either a negative or qualified assessment of the accessibility and clarity of environmental information, compared with **72.2%** in Türkiye. In Italy, half of respondents either disagreed or expressed uncertainty.

Differences were also evident in perceptions of EU environmental policy. In Italy, **70.0%** considered EU environmental policy very important/useful. In Türkiye, **38.9%** gave a clearly positive response, while **44.4%** provided a more qualified assessment. Greece presented the most critical pattern, with only **8.6%** giving a clearly positive assessment and **91.4%** selecting either “No” or “Not particularly”. These findings suggest substantial differences in respondents’ perceptions of the accessibility, relevance and usefulness of environmental policy information.

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5. Knowledge of the European Green Deal

Indicator	Italy	Türkiye	Greece
Correctly identified climate neutrality by 2050	86.7%	72.2%	77.1%
Correctly identified environmental rationale behind the Green Deal	86.7%	75.9%	40.0%

Knowledge of the European Green Deal's headline objective was relatively high across all three national samples. The proportion correctly identifying climate neutrality by 2050 as its overall objective was highest in Italy (**86.7%**), followed by Greece (**77.1%**) and Türkiye (**72.2%**).

Greater differences emerged regarding the reasons behind the creation of the European Green Deal. The correct environmental rationale was identified by **86.7%** of Italian respondents and **75.9%** of Turkish respondents, compared with only **40.0%** of Greek respondents. The Greek findings therefore reveal an important distinction: while respondents were relatively familiar with the Green Deal's headline climate-neutrality target, their understanding of the broader environmental challenges underpinning the policy was considerably weaker.



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Implications for the EcoMinds Game

The comparative findings provide several practical directions for the development of the EcoMinds game. First, the high level of environmental concern across all three samples suggests that the game should move beyond basic awareness-raising and encourage players to translate environmental concern into informed and effective action. Scenarios should demonstrate how individual choices, collective action and public policy can complement one another in addressing environmental challenges.

Second, climate change, waste management, recycling, pollution and responsible consumption should form prominent thematic areas within the game, as these issues were consistently identified as important across the three national samples. Practical scenarios could address waste separation, reduction of single-use products, energy-efficient choices and responsible consumption.

Third, the difficulties reported regarding the accessibility and clarity of environmental information, particularly in Greece and Türkiye, support the use of **simple language, visual explanations, practical examples and interactive decision-making scenarios** rather than complex policy terminology.

Finally, the results concerning the European Green Deal indicate that familiarity with its headline climate-neutrality objective does not necessarily correspond to a comprehensive understanding of its broader rationale. The game should therefore explain not only **what** EU environmental objectives are, but also **why** they exist and **how they relate to environmental challenges and everyday behaviour**.

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