



2022 G20 Bali Summit Final Compliance Report

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Feedback, as always, is welcome and is kept anonymous.
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14. Environment: Sustainable Development

“We will further promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.”

G20 Bali Leaders’ Declaration

Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
India			+1
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Türkiye			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.80 (90%)	

Background

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, issues of environmental protection first gained prominence as the leaders affirmed the responsibility “to secure our future through sustainable consumption, production and use of resources that conserve our environment and address the challenge of climate change.”²⁶⁸¹

²⁶⁸¹ G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, RANEPА (Moscow) 25 September 2009. Access Date: 6 February 2023. <https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2009pittsburgh/G20%20Leaders%20Statement.pdf>

Similar commitments, highlighting the interplay of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability, were made at the consequent summits, including the Cannes,²⁶⁸² Saint Petersburg,²⁶⁸³ Brisbane,²⁶⁸⁴ Hangzhou,²⁶⁸⁵ Hamburg²⁶⁸⁶ and Osaka²⁶⁸⁷ meetings.

In 2021 at the Rome Summit the G20 leaders committed to “enhance ... efforts towards achieving sustainable consumption and production patterns and management and reduction of emissions, including by adopting circular economy approaches.”²⁶⁸⁸

In 2022 at the Bali Summit the G20 leaders committed to “promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability” while working together on “scientific knowledge-sharing, raising awareness, and capacity building, particularly to advance on the ocean-based climate action.”²⁶⁸⁹

Commitment Features

The commitment urges the G20 to take actions as to “promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.”

The concept of sustainability was elaborated by the Brundtland Commission in 1987. The basic definition implies “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”²⁶⁹⁰ The concept is entrenched into the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) program of action till 2030.²⁶⁹¹

“Lifestyle” implies “someone’s way of living; the things that a person or particular group of people usually do.”²⁶⁹²

“Resource efficiency” implies “using the Earth’s limited resources in a sustainable manner while minimising impacts on the environment.”²⁶⁹³

²⁶⁸² Cannes Summit Final Declaration – Building Our Common Future: Renewed Collective Action for the Benefit of All, RANEPА (Moscow) 4 November 2011. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2011cannes/Cannes%20Summit%20Final%20Declaration.pdf>

²⁶⁸³ G20 Leaders’ Declaration, RANEPА (Moscow) 6 September 2013. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

https://www.ranepa.ru/ciir/gruppa-dvadsati/predsdatelstva/sankt-peterburg-2013/Saint_Petersburg_Declaration_ENG.pdf

²⁶⁸⁴ G20 Leaders’ Communique Brisbane Summit, RANEPА (Moscow) 16 November 2014. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2014brisbane/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Communique%C3%A9%20Brisbane%20Summit,%2015-16%20November%202014.pdf>

²⁶⁸⁵ G20 Leaders’ Communique Hangzhou Summit, RANEPА (Moscow) 5 September 2016. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2016Hangzhou/G20%20Leaders%E2%80%99%20Communique%20Hangzhou%20Summit.pdf>

²⁶⁸⁶ G20 Leaders’ Declaration, RANEPА (Moscow) 8 July 2017. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/2017hamburg/G20%20Hamburg%20leaders_%20communiqu%C3%A9.pdf

²⁶⁸⁷ G20 Osaka Leaders’ Declaration, RANEPА (Moscow) 29 June 2019. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

https://www.ranepa.ru/images/News_ciir/Project/G20_new_downloadings/FINAL_G20_Osaka_Leaders_Declaration.pdf

²⁶⁸⁸ G20 Rome Leaders’ Declaration, RANEPА (Moscow) 31 October 2021. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/images/media/g20/italyanskoe-predsdatelstvo-2021/G20-ROME-LEADERS-DECLARATION.pdf>

²⁶⁸⁹ G20 Bali Leaders’ Declaration, G20 Information Centre (Toronto) 16 November 2022. Access Date: 6 February 2023.

<http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/2022/221116-declaration.html>

²⁶⁹⁰ Sustainability, United Nations (New York). Access Date: 7 February 2023. <https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/sustainability>

²⁶⁹¹ The 17 Goals, United Nations (New York). Access Date: 7 February 2023. <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

²⁶⁹² Lifestyle, Cambridge Dictionary. Access Date: 7 February 2023.

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/lifestyle>

²⁶⁹³ Resource Efficiency, European Commission (Brussels). Access Date: 7 February 2023.

https://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/

Finally, “circular economy” as a notion implies “a model of production and consumption, which involves sharing, leasing, reusing, repairing, refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products as long as possible”²⁶⁹⁴

The commitment requires that the G20 members act in accordance with all the above-mentioned components, i.e. promoting sustainable development and lifestyle; resource efficiency; and circular economy. The G20 members may take actions that correspond with but are not limited to the following:

- Sustainable development and lifestyles
 - Launching public awareness campaigns facilitating spread of information about the SDGs among the general population;
 - Incorporating the SDG-related indicators and concepts into national development plans;
 - Creating conditions on national level that facilitate shifting to more sustainable businesses practices including, for instance, introduction of special awards and tax exemptions;
 - Publicly demonstrate adherence to the sustainable development concept;
 - Facilitating of knowledge and experience sharing on SDGs promotion on international level, etc.
- Promoting resource efficiency²⁶⁹⁵
 - Consider the use of information about material flows and their environmental impacts for planning purposes, as appropriate in a national context, including, for instance, using such information for target setting, and share these experiences and best practices with partner countries;
 - Promote integrated life-cycle-oriented approaches, such as 3R policies (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle), sustainable materials management and sustainable manufacturing as an input to decision-making and to increasing coherence among policies;
 - Further develop and promote the use of new technologies and innovations aimed at improving resource productivity;
 - Encourage co-operation and sharing of best practices among enterprises on resource efficiency;
 - Contribute to the establishment of framework conditions that improve resource productivity through economic instruments;
 - Co-operate to ensure that policy measures taken to improve resource productivity are efficient in economic terms, effective in environmental terms and equitable in social terms;
 - Co-operate with partner economies to strengthen their capacity for developing and implementing policies concerning the improvement of resource productivity.
- Promoting circular economy
 - Some examples of how a state policy might facilitate a shift to the circular economy model are extracted from The Circular Economy in Cities and Regions report²⁶⁹⁶ from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development:
 - Implement green public procurement;
 - Establish clear requirements in tenders to foster the use of circular economy principles
 - Apply a life cycle analysis approach;
 - Facilitate access to finance and broaden the range of financial instruments for entrepreneurship;
 - Develop training programs on the circular economy for the private sector and public bodies employees;

²⁶⁹⁴ Circular economy: definition, importance and benefits, European Parliament (Strasbourg). Access Date: 7 February 2023. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/economy/20151201STO05603/circular-economy-definition-importance-and-benefits>

²⁶⁹⁵ Recommendation of the Council on Resource Productivity, OECD (Paris) 28 March 2008. Access Date: 7 February 2023. <https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/en/instruments/OECD-LEGAL-0358>

²⁶⁹⁶ Getting the governance of the circular economy right: Checklist for Action and Scoreboard, OECD (Paris) 28 October 2020. Access Date: 7 February 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1787/10ac6ae4-en>

- Review and analyze the required skills and capacities for carrying out all the activities associated with designing, setting, implementing and monitoring the strategy;
- Create incubators to promote circular economy projects;
- Establish a single window for the circular economy for businesses;
- Promote public-private partnerships;
- Collect data and information on the circular economy;
- Generate open data sources;
- Make relevant data publicly accessible, understandable and updated regularly;
- Monitor and evaluate targets and goals of a circular strategy in the short, medium and long terms, etc.

As to fully comply with the commitment (+1), a G20 member shall take strong actions in all three abovementioned spheres. A strong action implies that a G20 member goes beyond a mere declaration of intent or public support for the concepts under consideration – those actions are considered weak. Examples of strong actions in this regard includes assigning extra funding, amending existing legislation, entering legally binding agreements, etc. Partial compliance (0) is awarded if a G20 member takes strong actions in less than three key spheres, e.g. two strong actions in two different spheres and one weak action or no action at all in the other one. To achieve partial compliance a G20 member shall take at least one strong action in any of the key spheres. Absence of any action or only weak actions are considered a prerequisite for a non-compliance conclusion (-1).

Scoring Guidelines

-1	A G20 member takes no action OR only weak actions as to further promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability
0	A G20 member takes at least ONE strong action in any of the key spheres: promotion of sustainable development and lifestyles; resource efficiency; and circular economy to increase sustainability
+1	A G20 member takes strong actions in ALL three key spheres: promotion of sustainable development and lifestyles; resource efficiency; and circular economy to increase sustainability

Compliance Director and Lead Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Argentina: +1

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 28 November 2022, the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development promoted the approval of the regulation of Law No. 25916 on Minimum Budgets for Environmental Protection for the Integral Management of Household Waste.²⁶⁹⁷ The aforementioned regulation, in one of its annexes, incorporates key guidelines to address production, distribution, consumption and recycling, promoting the recovery and reincorporation of waste. In addition, it adds the principle of extended responsibility to the producer that assigns the extended responsibility for the integral management and its financing, to the producers that introduce goods for the first time in the market. It also includes the promotion of incentives for the systematic integration of environmental aspects in the design of goods and products – ecodesign – as well as the creation of special programs for the management of universally generated special waste.

On 5 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development met with representatives of the Argentine Industrial Union in order to review the modifications raised by this body to the project of the packaging law presented to the Chamber of Deputies.²⁶⁹⁸ The Ministry of the National Environment

²⁶⁹⁷ The Law of Minimum Environmental Protection Budgets for the Comprehensive Management of Household Waste was regulated, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 28 November 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-reglamento-la-ley-de-presupuestos-minimos-de-proteccion-ambiental-para-la-gestion>.

²⁶⁹⁸ Environment and the Argentine Industrial Union advance in a joint project of packaging law, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 5 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-y-la-union-industrial-argentina-avanzan-en-un-proyecto-conjunto-de-ley-de-envases>.

promised to include the option of private management systems, which will be incorporated into the refund and return deposit options already contemplated in the regulatory text; and the payment of the fee for its management by the local systems, which also appear in the project.

On 27 December 2022, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Juan Cabandié held a meeting with the mayor of Avellaneda Jorge Ferraresi in which he confirmed the delivery of machinery to strengthen the management of urban solid waste in the town. He also announced financing to expand the “Ecopunto Avellaneda” recyclable waste treatment and recovery center.²⁶⁹⁹

On 19 January 2023, as part of the machinery and equipment delivery program to strengthen the integrated management of urban solid waste the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable delivered eight mobile green points for the towns of Las Flores, San Andrés de Giles, General Alvarado, Exaltación de la Cruz, General Madariaga, Malvinas Argentinas, General Las Heras and Monte Caseros. The units promote the separation of waste among citizens.²⁷⁰⁰

On 23 January 2023, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, together with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Action of Portugal, organized the seminar “Environmental and Climate Action Luso-Argentina.”²⁷⁰¹ It was part of the international cooperation work carried out by both institutions. The conference was a space for the exchange of experiences and actions promoted by both countries in terms of climate policies, management of urban solid waste, energy efficiency, renewable energy, conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, as well as water and sanitation.

On 23 January 2023, the Government issued Decree 31/2023, which establishes the principles of sustainability applied to the buildings of the National Public Sector.²⁷⁰² The execution of the initiative will be progressive and a guide for its implementation will be offered. It is expected that in a period of two years the buildings will comply with the first basic sustainability actions, such as the installation of bicycle racks, the separation of waste at source and the purchase of efficient household appliances, among other measures. Meanwhile, within 6 years, more comprehensive practices will be carried out, such as the installation of panels and green roofs and the acquisition of hybrid vehicles.

On 26 January 2023, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, through the Casa Común federal plan allocated financing of ARS 690,747.25 to the Asociación Mutual Sentimiento, of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires to carry out projects corresponding to the axes of circular economy, agroecology, biodiversity and heritage.²⁷⁰³ With the first allocation of the investment, a greenhouse was built, improvements were made to the native plant nursery, investment was made in structures, and the composting system was put into operation.

On 27 January 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Culture and the municipality of La Costa and various environmental organizations, jointly held a festival to celebrate

²⁶⁹⁹ Cabandié announced investments to strengthen waste management in Avellaneda, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 27 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/cabandie-anuncio-inversiones-para-fortalecer-la-gestion-de-residuos-en-avellaneda>.

²⁷⁰⁰ Ambiente delivered mobile green points to Buenos Aires municipalities, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 19 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-entrego-puntos-verdes-moviles-municipios-bonaerenses>.

²⁷⁰¹ Argentina and Portugal strengthen bilateral cooperation in environmental matters, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 23 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-y-portugal-fortalecen-la-cooperacion-bilateral-en-materia-ambiental>.

²⁷⁰² The national government established that public buildings are sustainable, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 23 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/el-gobierno-nacional-establecio-que-los-edificios-publicos-sean-sostenibles>.

²⁷⁰³ Environment finances the largest agroecological center in CABA within the framework of the Casa Común comprehensive plan, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 26 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-financia-el-centro-agroecologico-mas-grande-de-caba-en-el-marco-del-plan-integral>.

World Environmental Education Day.²⁷⁰⁴ Live music, educational games and virtual visits to national parks were some of the proposals offered at the festival organized to commemorate the date.

On 13 March 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development delivered solar cookers to the province of Jujuy, which will be allocated to native communities and educational establishments in the region.²⁷⁰⁵ The initiative seeks to generate capacities in the local population in the use of alternative energies, with an emphasis on solar thermal energy and biodiversity conservation, and contribute to responding to the needs of the communities in terms of energy efficiency.

On 5 April 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development relaunched the Training for Environmental Action program, aimed at civil society organizations, local governments, citizens throughout the country, to promote care for the environment.²⁷⁰⁶ The new trainings that will be offered include introductions to hazardous waste, food sovereignty and environmental assessment; and also environmental education, principles and foundations. In turn, three lines of action of virtual and certified training are offered: Environmental Educators, which provides theoretical and practical tools for the comprehensive development of environmental projects; training in specific thematic areas, aimed at providing basic knowledge on various environmental issues, and Promoters of Native Forests, which aims to bring the participants closer to the needs, realities and challenges of our forests.

On 17 May 2023, Argentina participated as a part of the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean in the launching of the Waste and Circular Hub for Latin America and the Caribbean.²⁷⁰⁷ This platform is expected to enhance performance of key stakeholders in the aforementioned field, which, in a long term, would result in the joint and full-fledge work on reducing of municipal solid waste flow.

On 24 May 2023, Argentina legislators took part in event concerning ending plastic pollution.²⁷⁰⁸ The event was held under the usual meeting of the the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean, ending with the presentation of the new Global Plastics Treaty, that was jointly created by the member-states. The document address the role of circular economy in a fight against plastic pollution of oceans.

On 31 May 2023, the report “Sustainability and Circularity in the Textile Value Chain. A Global Roadmap” was published, which was a result of a collaborative research of multiple stakeholders, including Argentina and other members of the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean.²⁷⁰⁹ The report emphasises roles of the potential change of consumption patterns, investments in infrastructures and sharing knowledge across the Coalition, that would lead to the improved resource efficiency among the participating countries.

On 5 June 2023, the Government issued a statement concerning annual World Environment Day that was celebrated that day.²⁷¹⁰ The Government announced the current agenda, that is based on the 2022

²⁷⁰⁴ The World Day of Environmental Education was celebrated in La Costa, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 27 January 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-celebro-el-dia-mundial-de-la-educacion-ambiental-en-la-costa>.

²⁷⁰⁵ Ambiente delivered solar cookers to native communities and educational establishments in Jujuy, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 13 March 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-entrego-cocinas-solares-comunidades-originarias-y-establecimientos-educativos-en>.

²⁷⁰⁶ Environment relaunched the Training for Environmental Action program, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 5 April 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-relanzo-el-programa-de-capacitaciones-para-la-accion-ambiental-0>.

²⁷⁰⁷ LAUNCH OF THE WASTE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY HUB FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean. Access Date: 22 June 2023 <https://coalicioneconomicircular.org/en/event/>

²⁷⁰⁸ HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY: THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN ENDING PLASTIC POLLUTION, the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean. Access Date: 22 June 2023 <https://coalicioneconomicircular.org/en/event/>

²⁷⁰⁹ SUSTAINABILITY AND CIRCULARITY IN THE TEXTILE VALUE CHAIN - A GLOBAL ROADMAP, the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean. Access Date: 22 June 2023 <https://coalicioneconomicircular.org/en/event/>

²⁷¹⁰ Certification of recycled plastic: another bet on the circular economy, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 5 June 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 22 June 2023 <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/certificacion-de-plastico-reciclado-otra-apuesta-la-economia-circular>

certification for standards, seals and certifications for the circular economy of plastics in the Latin American and the Caribbean region. This year's programme emphasises the importance of finding a solution to plastic pollution in order to develop circular economy.

On 13 June 2023, President Alberto Fernández and the European Union Commission President Ursula von der Leyen signed a Memorandum of Understanding, aiming at promotion of cooperation on research of raw materials, the minimisation of environmental footprint and circular economy.²⁷¹¹

On 20 June 2023, the Government announced the international conference on urban solid water and the circular economy, to which it provided ground.²⁷¹² During which on June 26 and 27 the Forum Convention and Exhibition Center and on June 28 field visits were held. The conference allowed countries of the region to share their experiences in the integral urban solid waste management service, as well as in achieving circular economy.

On 21 June 2023, Argentina participated in a partnership to accelerate the circular economy on the basis of the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean together with the European Union's Switch Green Program.²⁷¹³ The main goal of the event was to establish strategic alliances, collaboration and promote a stable regional and national development in a long term.

During the compliance period Argentina has taken strong actions in all three key aspects of the commitment: promotion of sustainable development and lifestyles; resource efficiency; and circular economy to increase sustainability.

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

Analysts: Irina Popova and Victoria Mushina

Australia: +1

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 18 November 2022, Australia joined the world first Net Zero Government Initiative launched at the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference.²⁷¹⁴ The initiative commits governments around the world to lead by example and achieve net zero emissions across their operations.

On 19 December 2022, the Government launched the new grant program worth AUD200 million as to enable the local households to store affordable solar energy and share excess power with neighbors.²⁷¹⁵ The program is designed as to lower electricity bills, fulfill the 2050 Net Zero ambition, and also reduce pressure on the electricity grid. The program is aimed to cover at least 100,000 households across the country.

On 27 January 2023, Australia and Germany entered a new partnership as to facilitate development of hydrogen technologies.²⁷¹⁶ The parties claimed to invest AUD50 million and EUR50 million respectively

²⁷¹¹ Global Gateway: EU and Argentina step up cooperation on raw materials, European Commission 13 June 2023. Access date: 23 June 2023 https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_3217

²⁷¹² An international conference on urban solid waste and the circular economy will be held, Government of Argentina (Buenos Aires) 20 June 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 23 June 2023 <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-realizara-una-conferencia-internacional-sobre-residuos-solidos-urbanos-y-economia>

²⁷¹³ A PARTNERSHIP TO ACCELERATE THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY, the Circular Economy Coalition for Latin America and the Caribbean. Access Date: 24 June 2023 <https://coalicioneconomicircular.org/en/event/>

²⁷¹⁴ Australia joins international Net Zero Government Initiative, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 18 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australia-joins-international-net-zero-government-initiative>

²⁷¹⁵ Community battery grant guidelines now available, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 19 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/community-battery-grant-guidelines-now-available>

²⁷¹⁶ Australia and Germany strengthen hydrogen partnership, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 27 January 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australia-and-germany-strengthen-hydrogen-partnership>

in new projects including construction of methanol production plants, implementation of new types of electrolysers, etc. as well as establishment of supply chains between the two countries.

On 31 January 2023, Australia and the Netherlands signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in renewable hydrogen supply.²⁷¹⁷ Australia committed to advance shared clean energy interests and support emerging renewable energy industries. The MoU covers standards and certification schemes in hydrogen trade, infrastructure development, innovations in the targeted sphere, safety and social regulations for hydrogen.

On 21 February 2023, the Government announced its intention to launch new grant programs to facilitate small and medium business conversion to energy efficient models of operation.²⁷¹⁸ The government plans to invest AUD16 million in the first round of grant competition. Each grant values between AUD10,000 and AUD25,000. The government said to finance installation of heat pumps, lighting upgrades, space and water heating improvements, energy monitoring systems, etc. This contributes to implementation of the commitment by facilitating access to finance and broaden the range of financial instruments for entrepreneurship.

During the compliance period Australia has taken strong actions in all three key aspects of the commitment: promotion of sustainable development and lifestyles; resource efficiency; and circular economy to increase sustainability.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Brazil: +1

Brazil has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 22 December 2022, Minister of Mines and Energy Adolfo Sachsida gave an account of his ministry's plans for 2023. It is expected that energy costs for consumers in three Brazilian regions will be reduced by BRL9 billion.²⁷¹⁹ The Minister announced the structural reduction of electricity tariff by 38.9 per cent for 2023.

On 22 December 2022, the National System of Attendance to Women in Situations of Violence was launched as an interactive virtual platform by the Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights.²⁷²⁰ This virtual tool includes a database capable of generating the necessary statistics to monitor and evaluate public policies to combat violence against women. The system allows the registration of all calls made in the Brazilian Women's Houses, Reference Centers and Assistance to Women and Specialized Center for Assistance to Women throughout the country.

On 23 December 2022, the Government announced the preliminary results of the 2022/2023 Crop Plan.²⁷²¹ The Plan, in force from July 2022 to June 2023, was conceived by the Ministry of Economy in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Central Bank, and the National Treasury. It is projected to benefit

²⁷¹⁷ Australia and the Netherlands sign milestone renewable hydrogen agreement, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 31 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/australia-netherlands-sign-milestone-renewable-hydrogen-agreement>

²⁷¹⁸ Opening soon: energy efficiency grants to support small and medium businesses, Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Canberra) 21 February 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023. <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/news/opening-soon-energy-efficiency-grants-support-small-medium-businesses>

²⁷¹⁹ Minister takes stock of his management and reinforces commitment to the consumer of electricity, Brazilian Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brasilia) 22 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/ministro-faz-balanco-da-sua-gestao-e-reforca-compromisso-com-o-consumidor-de-energia-eletrica>.

²⁷²⁰ National system creates database on care for women in situations of violence, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 27 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/assistencia-social/2022/12/sistema-nacional-cria-base-de-dados-sobre-atendimento-a-mulheres-em-situacao-de-violencia>.

²⁷²¹ Plano Safra grants credit of more than BRL 340 billion to rural producers, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 23 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/financas-impostos-e-gestao-publica/2022/12/plano-safra-concede-credito-de-mais-de-r-340-bilhoes-aos-produtores-rurais>.

hundreds of thousands of rural agricultural producers with credit lines exceeding BRL340 billion, of which BRL246.3 billion are allocated for funding and commercialization, and BRL94.6 billion for investments.

On 26 December 2022, the Government announced that the Special Secretariat for Investment Partnerships Program of the Ministry of Economy concluded 48 projects by 2022 and secured BRL101 billion in new investments.²⁷²² The primary mission of the Special Secretariat is to support society, the business environment, and state and municipal governments, through attracting investment and improving the “internal mechanisms” of local governments.

On 26 December 2022, the National Department of Transportation Infrastructure announced the completion of reconstruction works on 21.94 kilometers of the BR-265/MG highway, between Jacuí and São Sebastião do Paraíso.²⁷²³ According to the government, the project “will provide greater comfort and safety for users, lower maintenance costs for the road, reduced travel time, reduced transportation costs for agricultural inputs such as fertilizers and fertilizers, and also reduced transportation costs corresponding to the disposal of typical products from the region.” The investment amounted to BRL9 million.

On 27 December 2022, the Decree 11.310/2022 regulating the provisions of Law 12.334/2010, which establishes the National Policy for Dam Safety, was published.²⁷²⁴ The decree provides monitoring of safety precautions and control of dams of various types. The establishment of these measures, according to the Ministry of Mines and Energy, would help organize the actions of federal agencies and improve the processes of planning, execution and monitoring of dam safety.

On 4 January 2022, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Marina Silva announced the creation of the National Authority for Climate Security within the Ministry.²⁷²⁵ Minister Silva said that the creation of the National Authority for Climate Security would be formalized by March 2023. Additionally, the National Council on Climate Change is to be created and headed by the President of the Republic, with the participation of all ministries, states and municipalities. The purpose of the National Climate Security Authority is to produce funding for the execution and implementation of the National Policy on Climate Change, as well as to regulate and monitor the implementation of actions related to sectoral policies and targets for mitigation, adaptation and promotion of resilience to climate change.

On 24 January 2023, the Ministry of Healthcare announced the plans to distribute 150,000 rapid tests to support leprosy diagnosis in the Unified Health System.²⁷²⁶ According to the Ministry, the units will be aimed at people who have had close and prolonged contact with confirmed cases of the disease and will be of two types: the rapid test, and the molecular biology test.

On 13 February 2023, the integration of data on food security into the AdaptaBrasil platform was announced. The AdaptaBrasil MCTI platform consists of an information system on climate change risks in Brazil that offers subsidies for decision-making in the planning of adaptation actions.²⁷²⁷ The Ministry of

²⁷²² PPI Special Secretariat completed 48 projects in 2022 and secured BRL 101 billion in new investments, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 26 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/financas-impostos-e-gestao-publica/2022/12/secretaria-especial-do-ppi-concluiu-48-projetos-em-2022-e-assegurou-r-101-bilhoes-em-novos-investimentos>.

²⁷²³ Delivered 21.94 kilometers of revitalized lane on BR-265, in Minas Gerais, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 26 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/transito-e-transportes/2022/12/entregue-21-94-quilometros-de-pista-revitalizada-na-br-265-em-minas-gerais>.

²⁷²⁴ Decree published to increase dam safety, Brazilian Ministry of Mines and Energy (Brasilia) 27 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/mme-publica-decreto-para-aumentar-seguranca-de-barragens>.

²⁷²⁵ Marina Silva announces the creation of the National Climate Security Authority, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 5 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/meio-ambiente-e-clima/2023/01/marina-silva-anuncia-a-criacao-da-autoridade-nacional-de-seguranca-climatica>.

²⁷²⁶ Ministry of Health will distribute 150,000 rapid tests to fight leprosy, Brazilian Ministry of Healthcare (Brasilia) 24 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/saude/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/2023/janeiro/ministerio-da-saude-vai-distribuir-150-mil-testes-rapidos-para-enfrentamento-a-hanseniose>.

²⁷²⁷ MCTI, INPE and Embrapa will integrate data on food security in the AdaptaBrasil platform Information should enhance climate risk analysis in relation to climate change adaptation, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 13 February 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mcti/pt-br/acompanhe-o-mcti/noticias/2023/02/mcti-inpe-e-embrapa-integrarao-dados-sobre-seguranca-alimentar-na-plataforma-adaptabrasil>.

Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI), the National Institute for Space Research and Embrapa Agricultura Digital committed to work together to improve climate risk analysis on the topic of food security, and include it in the AdaptaBrasil MCTI platform.

On 29 March 2023, President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva signed a Decree №11456, updating and expanding the Program in Support of Technological Development of the Semiconductor Industry, by including the photovoltaic segment, focused on solar energy production.²⁷²⁸ The program offers various benefits, such as tax cuts, to the producers of semiconductors and other electronics, with estimated BRL600 million in incentives allocated for 2023.

On 29 March 2023, the Government published the Resolution №16 of the National Energy Policy Council, containing the new guidelines on the expansion of biodiesel mixture in diesel fuel sold in the country.²⁷²⁹ The measure increased the share of biodiesel in diesel fuel from 10 per cent to 12 per cent. It is also expected to go up to 15 per cent by 2026.

On 24 May 2023, a new Partnership for Green and Inclusive Growth was launched by Brazil and the United Kingdom.²⁷³⁰ The countries declared their commitment and willingness to address the global climate crisis, promote sustainable development and foster a fair and inclusive ecological transition. Both also reiterated the importance of fulfilling the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Partnership is envisaged to have 5 pillars: Climate (Implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions and adaptation strategies - including for the protection of oceans and coastal zones, as well as Net Zero Goals and Targets), Forests (Furthering biodiversity objectives, combating deforestation and illegal gold supply chains, promoting “socio-bioeconomics” and non-timber products, with a view to promoting the rights and engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities), Agriculture, Energy, and Finance.

On 5 June 2023, President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Minister of Environment Marina Silva announced a package of measures to expand environmental protection policies.²⁷³¹ The package includes the Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Deforestation in the Legal Amazon, as well as five decrees on combating climate change and two on the creation of Conservation Units. The president also announced vetoes to provisions that weakened the protection of the Atlantic Forest and the correction of acts of the previous government that resulted in the reduction of ambition in the country’s climate goal. The president announced that his government was making the necessary corrections in the Brazilian contribution to the Paris Agreement and Nationally Determined Contribution, as well as resuming the commitment made by Brazil in 2015.

On 12 June 2023, the Minister of Mines and Energy Alexandre Silveira announced the transfer of 53 electric vehicles to Minas Gerais police force.²⁷³² The vehicles, worth BR16.5 million, are to contribute to decarbonization of the police vehicle fleet.

On 4 August 2023, Minister Silva signed a Technical Cooperation Agreement with the ministries of Agrarian Development and Family Farming and Development and Social Assistance, Family and Fight

²⁷²⁸ Government guarantees tax exemption for semiconductors and includes solar energy in benefit, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/energia-minerais-e-combustiveis/2023/03/decreto-do-governo-garante-isencao-fiscal-para-semicondutores-e-inclui-energia-solar-em-beneficio>.

²⁷²⁹ Government oficializes expansion of biodiesel mixture in diesel sold in the country, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.br/pt-br/noticias/energia-minerais-e-combustiveis/2023/03/governo-oficializa-ampliacao-da-mistura-de-biodiesel-no-diesel-vendido-no-pais>.

²⁷³⁰ Brazil-UK Joint Statement on Green and Inclusive Growth, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 11 April 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/declaracao-conjunta-brasil-reino-unido-sobre-crecimento-verde-e-inclusivo>.

²⁷³¹ Government launches plan to combat deforestation in the Amazon and announces environmental acts, Brazilian Ministry of the Environment 5 June 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/governo-lanca-plano-de-combate-ao-desmatamento-na-amazonia-e-anuncia-atos-ambientais>.

²⁷³² Minister Alexandre Silveira participates in the delivery of 100% electric vehicles to the Military Police of Minas Gerais, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 12 June 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/durante-a-solenidade-ministro-conferiu-o-funcionamento-de-dois-prototipos-de-viaturas-100-eletricas>.

against Hunger during a meeting of the Council for Economic, Social and Sustainable Development.²⁷³³ The Agreement provides for additional technical assistance, socio-environmental rural extension, environmental conservation and socio-productive inclusion activities in the territories served by the Bolsa Verde program. The Bolsa Verde program, launched in 2011, provides payments of BR600 and is to be accompanied by a series of public policies, such as specialized technical assistance and rural extension for the peoples and communities, most affected by climate change.

On 1 August 2023, the Government issued a resolution raising an import tax for paper, cardboard, plastic and glass waste from 11.2 per cent to 18 per cent.²⁷³⁴ According to the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, the aim of the decision is to strengthen the national recycling chain, as well as to reduce the impact of solid waste on the environment.

During the monitoring period Brazil has fully taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 30 November 2022, the Government released the Wild Species 2020: The General Status of Species in Canada to enhance the understanding of the status and distribution of wild species across the country.²⁷³⁵

On 31 January 2023, the Government together with the Barclay Construction Group Inc. entered in an alternative measures agreement.²⁷³⁶ According to the agreement, the company had agreed to pay CAD175,000 to the Environmental Damages Fund. The agreement, as recommended by the court, was entered into as an alternative to prosecution of charges that had been laid by Environment and Climate Change Canada enforcement officers under the Fisheries Act.

On 9 March 2023, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Steven Guilbeault announced that the Government would invest CAD2.32 million for three projects that would contribute to Canada's rich network of protected and conserved areas.²⁷³⁷

²⁷³³ New agreement will bring technical assistance to Bolsa Verde Program communities, Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (Brasilia) 4 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/novo-acordo-vai-levar-assistencia-tecnica-a-comunidades-do-programa-bolsa-verde>.

²⁷³⁴ Government limits waste imports to boost recycling, Brazilian Ministry of the Environment (Brasilia) 1 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/governo-limita-importacao-de-residuos-para-fortalecer-reciclagem>.

²⁷³⁵ Government of Canada collaborates with provinces and territories to provide the most complete overview of Canada's biodiversity to date, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 29 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2022/11/government-of-canada-collaborates-with-provinces-and-territories-to-provide-the-most-complete-overview-of-canadas-biodiversity-to-date.html>

²⁷³⁶ The Barclay Construction Group Inc. agreed to pay CAD175K to the Environmental Damages Fund as part of an alternative measures agreement related to excavation work near Lake Ontario, Government of Canada (Toronto) 31 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/01/the-barclay-construction-group-inc-agreed-to-pay-175k-to-the-environmental-damages-fund-as-part-of-an-alternative-measures-agreement-related-to-exc.html>

²⁷³⁷ Partners working together to improve conservation and connect more Canadians with nature, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 9 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/03/partners-working-together-to-improve-conservation-and-connect-more-canadians-with-nature.html>

On 16 March 2023, Minister Guilbeault announced that the Government would invest CAD6.6 million over four years to support the Government of Nunavut's multi-year research and monitoring activities of the 13 barren-ground, Dolphin Union, and Peary Caribou herds in the territory.²⁷³⁸

On 25 April 2023, Minister of International Trade, Export Promotion, Small Business and Economic Development Mary Ng announced that CAD50 million would be invested in six venture capital funds focused on the Life Sciences sector under the renewed Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative. The six venture capital fund managers are: 1) AllosteRx Advanced Therapies; 2) Amplitude Ventures; 3) CTI Life Sciences Fund; 4) Genesys Capital; 5) Pender Ventures; 6) Sectoral Asset Management.²⁷³⁹

On 26 April 2023, Minister Guilbeault, announced the three Phase 1 recipients of the latest Canadian Plastics Innovation Challenges to address plastic pollution from tires.²⁷⁴⁰ These small- and medium-sized Canadian companies will each receive up to CAD150,000 toward developing environmentally acceptable and cost-effective solutions that will reduce the release of microplastics from tire wear in Canada.

On 16 May 2023, the Government declared support to industry partners in reducing emissions by adopting cleaner and more efficient processes. Minister Wilkinson start the Green Industrial Facilities and Manufacturing Program application phase. This initiative aims to support industrial facilities providing emission reduction projects that comply with the Energy Efficiency Implementation Program through March 2027. Announced in 2022, the 194 million-program aim to create guidelines, aggregate emission reduction knowledge, and directly support decarbonization-oriented industrial facilities.

On 1 June 2023, Minister of International Development and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada Harjit S. Sajjan announced an investment of over CAD5.9 million for two organizations supporting Indigenous economic growth in clean energy projects and digital skills training. BC Indigenous Clean Energy Initiative will support 14 Indigenous communities to develop new clean energy projects. This initiative is helping to reduce reliance on non-renewable fuels, while generating clean energy creating jobs in Indigenous communities.

On 5 June 2023, Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson launched the Canada Electricity Advisory Council. Group of 19 independent experts will provide advice to the Minister of Natural Resources on actions needed to achieve Canadian 2035 and 2050 net-zero goals. The Council's work will cover both the reduction of emissions in the electricity sector needed to achieve net-zero by 2035 and the rapid growth of electricity generation needed to power a net-zero-emissions economy in 2050.

On 31 July 2023, the Federal Government and the Government of Manitoba announced the provision of over CAD1.9 million in funding under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership to 54 projects supporting sustainable farming in Manitoba through the Resilient Agricultural Landscape Program (RALP).²⁷⁴¹ RALP providing two streams of funding: Watershed Resilience and Carbon Sequestration and Grassland Resilience that support on-farm management practices and projects that sequester carbon and improve sustainability through grassland management and agroforestry practices.

On 2 August 2023, the Federal Government and the Government of Ontario announced the investment of up to CAD7.5 million through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership to help eligible agri-

²⁷³⁸ Canada supports caribou conservation in Nunavut, Government of Canada (Iqaluit, Nunavut) 16 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/03/canada-supports-caribou-conservation-in-nunavut.html>

²⁷³⁹ Minister Ng announces new venture capital investments for life sciences sector (Ottawa, Ontario) 16 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2023/04/minister-ng-announces-new-venture-capital-investments-for-life-sciences-sector.html>

²⁷⁴⁰ Canadian companies innovating to tackle microplastics from tire wear with Government of Canada support, Government of Canada (Gatineau, Quebec) 26 April 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2023/04/canadian-companies-innovating-to-tackle-microplastics-from-tire-wear-with-government-of-canada-support.html>

²⁷⁴¹ Governments of Canada and Manitoba announce over \$1.9 million distributed to support sustainable farming in Manitoba, The Canadian Government (Ottawa) 31 July 2023 Access Date: 24 August 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/07/governments-of-canada-and-manitoba-announce-over-19-million-distributed-to-support-sustainable-farming-in-manitoba.html>

food businesses and contributors enhance their biosecurity measures to support animal and plant health, and food safety.²⁷⁴²

During the monitoring period Canada has taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nikita Shilikon

China: +1

China has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 2 December 2022, the Meteorological Administration reported that two new meteorological satellites started their operation.²⁷⁴³ According to the message of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the trial operation of the satellites demonstrated the reduced forecast deviation, strengthened interaction between observation and forecast, and enhanced accuracy of path prediction.

On 26 December 2022, the State Forestry and Grassland Administration announced the adoption of the National Desertification Prevention and Control Plan.²⁷⁴⁴ According to the plan, 6.7 million hectares of land affected by desertification will be reclaimed by 2025, and 12.4 million hectares will be reclaimed by 2030. The document also identified seven areas where spreading deserts need to be pushed back, including the mountains of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region, the areas around the Kubuqi Desert in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region and the Mu Us Desert in Shaanxi province.²⁷⁴⁵

On 30 December 2022, the State Council announced that the Baihetan-Zhejiang 800-kilovolt ultra-high-voltage direct current power transmission project was completed.²⁷⁴⁶ According to the message, the new power line transmits the clean electricity generated at the Baihetan hydropower station to eastern Zhejiang Province through a transmission line stretching 2,121 km.

On 1 January 2023, the State Council announced the launch of the Beijing-Xiong'an expressway, which linked these two locations, helping reduce travel time by approximately 50 minutes.²⁷⁴⁷ The newly built expressway is a major component of Xiong'an New Area's traffic network, with its main section running from Beijing's sixth ring road and covering a total of 81 km.

On 3 January 2023, the State Council reported the adoption of a new guideline for water and soil conservation.²⁷⁴⁸ The guideline, jointly released by the general offices of the Communist Party of China

²⁷⁴² Canada, British Columbia help farmers with climate adaptation, drought, The Canadian Government (Ottawa) 2 August 2023 Access Date: 24 August 2023 <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2023/08/canada-bc-help-farmers-with-climate-adaptation-drought.html>

²⁷⁴³ China's two meteorological satellites put into operation, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 2 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202212/02/content_WS6389b7b2c6d0a757729e3f56.html.

²⁷⁴⁴ The "National Desertification Prevention and Control Plan (2021-2030)" was officially issued and implemented, Teller Report 26 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. [https://www.tellerreport.com/news/2022-12-26-the-national-desertification-prevention-and-control-plan-\(2021-2030\)-was-officially-issued-and-implemented.SkQSIM3UYs.html](https://www.tellerreport.com/news/2022-12-26-the-national-desertification-prevention-and-control-plan-(2021-2030)-was-officially-issued-and-implemented.SkQSIM3UYs.html).

²⁷⁴⁵ National plan aims to push back desertification, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 20 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202301/20/content_WS63c9fd57c6d0a757729e5ec2.html.

²⁷⁴⁶ Major Chinese power transmission project now fully operational, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 30 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202212/30/content_WS63ae7fa4c6d0a757729e4f04.html.

²⁷⁴⁷ New expressway opens between Beijing and Xiong'an New Area, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 2 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202301/02/content_WS63b21522c6d0a757729e5022.html.

²⁷⁴⁸ China issues guideline to strengthen conservation of water, soil, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 3 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202301/03/content_WS63b43533c6d0a757729e50d1.html.

Central Committee and the State Council, details China's targets to strengthen water and soil conservation by 2025 and 2035. By 2025, China aims to improve its institutional mechanism and system for soil and water conservation, enhance management efficiency, and effectively control soil erosion caused by human activities in key regions. By 2035, a new soil conservation system is to be formed, with human-induced soil erosion under control, and soil erosion in key areas comprehensively negated. Areas without soil erosion should account for 75 per cent of the country's territory by that date, according to the document.

On 19 January 2023, the State Council announced its plans to increase the use of manufacturing robots, doubling their utilization by 2025.²⁷⁴⁹ The "robotics+" action plan was released by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and 16 other government departments. The document also provided for the expansion of efforts "to build a collaborative innovation system for robot production and application and speed up the development and promotion of robot application standards."

On 19 January 2023, the State Council Information Office released the "China's Green Development in the New Era" white paper. The document lists seven key areas of China's green transformation – "commitment to green growth, green territorial configuration, adjustment and improvement of the industrial structure, application of green production methods, eco-friendly living, institutions and mechanisms for green development, and efforts to build the earth into a beautiful home."

On 21 March 2023, the State Council announced the expansion of China's renewable energy capacity in the first two months of 2023 by 8.5 per cent year on year.²⁷⁵⁰ According to the Council's data, In January-February 2023, the total investment of China's major power companies in solar energy nearly tripled from a year before, reaching to CNY28.3 billion.²⁷⁵¹

On 25 May 2023, the National Energy Administration of China reported that from January to April 2023 62.51 million kW worth of new wind and photovoltaic power capacity were installed in the country.²⁷⁵² China's wind and photovoltaic power generation reached 482.8 billion kWh during the period, up by 26.8 percent year on year.

On 9 June 2023, the Ministry of Water Resources of China announced that the government investment in water conservancy projects totaled CNY410.6 billion in the first five months of 2023, which is a 32.1 percent year on year increase.²⁷⁵³ 14,680 new water conservancy projects were launched in January-May 2023, according to the Ministry statement.

During the monitoring period China has taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, China receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

²⁷⁴⁹ China to boost density of manufacturing robots, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 20 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023.

http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202301/20/content_WS63c9d296c6d0a757729e5e28.html.

²⁷⁵⁰ China issues white paper on green development, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 30 September 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023.

http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202301/20/content_WS63c9eef2c6d0a757729e5e80.html.

²⁷⁵¹ China's renewable energy capacity expands in Jan-Feb, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 2 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023.

http://english.www.gov.cn/archive/statistics/202303/21/content_WS6419a1acc6d0f528699db768.html.

²⁷⁵² China's newly installed capacity of wind, photovoltaic power rises, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 25 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023.

http://english.www.gov.cn/news/202305/25/content_WS646f1a21c6d03ffcca6ed610.html.

²⁷⁵³ China sees increase in water conservancy project investment in Jan-May, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 10 June 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023.

http://english.www.gov.cn/news/202306/10/content_WS6483b283c6d0868f4e8dcbc4.html.

France: 0

France has partially complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 9 January 2023, the Government introduced a plan to better secure the practice of hunting and reduce the number of accidents.²⁷⁵⁴ The Government's plan consists of three main areas: 1) To strengthen the training and awareness of hunters; 2) To make the rules during hunting stricter; 3) To provide shared spaces and better information for nature users.

On 17 May 2023, Minister for Energy Transition Agnès Pannier-Runacher, Minister Delegate for Industry Roland Lescure, and Minister Delegate for Transport Clément Beaune announce the relaunch of the call for projects "Territorial hydrogen ecosystems," that aims to finance the production and distribution of hydrogen and the deployment of vehicles.²⁷⁵⁵

On 13 July 2023, the Government launched "INNOV EAU" to support innovations in the service of the water sector.²⁷⁵⁶ It has a budget of EUR100 million. The call for projects aims to develop solutions for better water management around four axes: act on resource management by adapting French systems to climate change, save the resource by limiting water losses and reducing its consumption in uses, strengthen treatment to sustainably improve the quality of water and aquatic environments, develop digital and data for better water management.

France has taken weak actions as to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy. However, the new plan of the Government to better secure the practice of hunting could be a milestone in protecting the environment.

Thus, France receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Nikita Shilikov

Germany: +1

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 15 December 2022, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action and SME (Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises) Commissioner of the Federal Government Michael Kellner presented the action plan entitled "SMEs, climate action and transformation" at a dialogue event with representatives of the SME sector.²⁷⁵⁷ The action plan contains measures which the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action will deploy to help SMEs in their transition to more sustainability and climate action. The action plan highlights, inter alia, measure to promote circular economy.

On 19 January 2023, the German Institute for Standardization, the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic and Information Technologies, and the Association of German Engineers published the

²⁷⁵⁴ A plan to make hunting more secure, Government of France (Paris) 9 January 2023. Access Date: 10 April 2023 <https://www.gouvernement.fr/actualite/un-plan-pour-mieux-securer-la-pratique-de-la-chasse>

²⁷⁵⁵ Hydrogène : un nouvel appel à projets et 175 millions d'euros supplémentaires pour développer la filière, Le ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de la Souveraineté industrielle et numérique 19 May 2023 Access Date: 28 June 2023 <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/hydrogene-un-nouvel-appel-projets-et-175-millions-deuros-supplementaires-pour-developper-la-filiere>

²⁷⁵⁶ Lancement d'un appel à projets « INNOV EAU » pour la transition hydrique, The Government of France (Paris) 13 July 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 25 August 2023. <https://www.economie.gouv.fr/lancement-appel-projets-innoveau-transition-hydrique>

²⁷⁵⁷ Transition to climate action and sustainability in the SME sector: SME Commissioner Michael Kellner presents comprehensive action plan, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (Berlin) 15 December 2022. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmwk.de/Redaktion/EN/Pressemitteilungen/2022/12/20221215-transition-to-climate-action-and-sustainability-in-the-sme-sector.html>

Standardization Roadmap Circular Economy.²⁷⁵⁸ The Federal Environment Ministry supported the project. The Roadmap described the circular economy challenges that businesses face and presented the standards and specifications needed to address them.

On 15 March 2023, the Federal Government adopted the National Water Strategy.²⁷⁵⁹ The aim of the Strategy is to protect Germany's natural water reserves, take precautionary measures to prevent water scarcity, avoid conflicts of use, tackle the backlog in modernizing the water infrastructure and improve the status of water bodies and water quality. It contains 78 measures and is considered as a contribution to ensuring sustainable water management by 2050.

On 20 April 2023, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection launched the dialogue with stakeholders on the National Circular Economy Strategy.²⁷⁶⁰

On 12 June 2023, the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection together with the German Cooperation Agency (GIZ) published the report with recommendations on sustainable lifestyles.²⁷⁶¹

Germany has taken strong actions in all three key spheres: promotion of sustainable development and lifestyles; resource efficiency; and circular economy to increase sustainability.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrey Shelepov

India: +1

India has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

On 22 November 2022, NITI Aayog, NTPC Energy Technology Research Alliance and the National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture and Utilisation, IIT Bombay launched the assessment of CO₂ Geological Storage Potential in India.²⁷⁶² As a part of this initiative, an assessment of carbon dioxide storage potential in select Coalbed Methane rich coalfields will be carried out, and the CO₂ Storage Atlas will be produced. The project is envisaged as a part of India's mitigation strategy to facilitate the transition towards a low-carbon energy economy and subsequently to a Net-Zero emission level.

On 13 December 2022, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Department of Space signed a memorandum of Understanding on the development of the Krishi-Decision Support System using geospatial technologies and related databases for enhancing evidence-based decision making capability of

²⁷⁵⁸ Standardization Roadmap Circular Economy: New options for action for the green transformation, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/standardization-roadmap-circular-economy-new-options-for-action-for-the-green-transformation>.

²⁷⁵⁹ German government lays foundations for modern water management, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 15 March 2023. Access Date: 27 April 2023. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/german-government-lays-foundations-for-modern-water-management>.

²⁷⁶⁰ Minister Lemke: "Circular economy must become a driver for environmental protection and climate action", German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 20 April 2023. Access Date: 27 June 2023. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/minister-lemke-circular-economy-must-become-a-driver-for-environmental-protection-and-climate-action>.

²⁷⁶¹ The Climate is Changing, Why Aren't We?, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (Berlin) 12 June 2023. Access Date: 27 June 2023. <https://www.giz.de/de/downloads/giz-2023-en-lifestyle-for-climate-change-report-LIFE.pdf>.

²⁷⁶² NETRA NTPC, NITI Aayog, and the National Centre of Excellence in Carbon Capture & Utilisation (NCoE-CCU), IIT Bombay launches the assessment of 'CO₂ Geological Storage Potential', Government of India (New Delhi) 22 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1878184>.

all the stakeholders in the agriculture sector.²⁷⁶³ On the same day, the data products and services of RISAT-1A satellite (also known as EOS-04, Indian Radar Imaging Satellite, designed to provide high quality images for applications in agriculture, forestry, hydrology, including flood mapping) were formally released for the user community.

On 13 December 2022, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare announced the commencement of the work to create Agristack – a collection of technologies and digital databases proposed by the Central Government focusing on India’s farmers and the agricultural sector.²⁷⁶⁴ The core concept of “India Digital Ecosystem of Agriculture (IDEA)” was finalized, which, according to the Ministry, lays down a framework for Agristack. The system is aimed at tackling the issue of inadequate access to credit and information, pest infestation, crop wastage, poor price discovery, and yield forecasting, through the application of digital technology in agriculture.

On 4 January 2023, the Government approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission, with a goal of producing 5 million metric tonnes of hydrogen fuel annually by 2030.²⁷⁶⁵ The Mission included the following objectives: facilitating demand through exports and domestic utilization; providing incentives for manufacturing of electrolyzers and production of green hydrogen; Pilot Projects for steel, mobility, shipping, decentralized energy applications, hydrogen production from biomass, hydrogen storage, etc.; development of Green Hydrogen Hubs; support for infrastructure development; establishing a robust framework of regulations and standards; research and development programme; skill development programme; and public awareness and outreach programme.

On 23 February 2023, Chair and Managing Director of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Shri Pradip Kumar Das announced that Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency was planning to establish an office in Gujarat’s GIFT City to finance renewable energy projects in foreign currency, while avoiding foreign exchange hedging costs.²⁷⁶⁶

On 28 March 2023, the Government approved the construction of seven Solar Parks, with a total capacity of 3730 MW.²⁷⁶⁷

On 5 April 2023, the Government announced its intention to add 50 GW of renewable energy capacity annually for a five-year period, in order to achieve the target of 500 GW of renewable power capacity by 2030.²⁷⁶⁸

On 15 May 2023, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy announced “major reforms” in the Approved List of Models and Manufactures for Solar Photovoltaic Modules.²⁷⁶⁹ The reform includes: an 80 per cent reduction in application fees; up to 70 per cent reduction in inspection fees; certain exemptions from factory inspection; permission for the manufacturers to withdraw their applications prior to factory inspection, with 90 per cent refund of application fee; increase in enlistment validity from 2 years to 4 years; introduction of the following minimum module efficiency thresholds for enlistment: 20 per cent for Utility/

²⁷⁶³ Memorandum of Understanding signed on developing Krishi-Decision Support System using RISAT and VEDAS, Government of India (New Delhi) 13 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1883182>.

²⁷⁶⁴ Agristack Project, Government of India (New Delhi) 13 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1883173>.

²⁷⁶⁵ National Green Hydrogen Mission targets a production capacity of 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) per annum by 2030, Government of India (New Delhi) 7 February 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1897043>.

²⁷⁶⁶ IREDA plans to finance Renewable Energy projects in foreign currency, Government of India (New Delhi) 23 February 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1902184>

²⁷⁶⁷ Government have approved 7 Solar Parks with a cumulative capacity of 3730 MW: Union Power & NRE Minister Shri R. K. Singh, Government of India (New Delhi) 28 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1911476>.

²⁷⁶⁸ Government declares plan to add 50 GW of renewable energy capacity annually for next 5 years to achieve the target of 500 GW by 2030, Government of India (New Delhi) 5 April 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1913789>.

²⁷⁶⁹ MNRE announces major reforms in the Approved List of Models and Manufactures for Solar Photovoltaic Modules, Government of India (New Delhi) 15 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1924175>.

grid scale power plants, 19.5 per cent for rooftop and solar pumping, 19 per cent for solar lighting. These changes should, according to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy Secretary Shri B. S. Bhalla, “enhance the ease of doing business and help in ramping up the domestic production of solar photovoltaic modules.”

On 9 June 2023, Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) signed a Power Sale Agreement with GRIDCO Odisha, Government of Odisha under which the latter was to purchase 600 MW of wind power from.²⁷⁷⁰ The agreement is signed in accordance with the provisions of Inter State Transmission System Connected Wind Power Projects Scheme. The scheme provides for the opportunity to transmit energy from states rich in renewable energy to energy poor states.

On 1 August 2023, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy announced that under Green Energy Corridor Phase-II, a project had been approved for setting up transmission lines capacity substations, transferring renewable energy power of approx. 4000 MW capacity in the state of Tamil Nadu.²⁷⁷¹

On 9 August 2023, the extension of the “Development of Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects” scheme was announced by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy and Power.²⁷⁷² The scheme has been extended up to FY 2025-26 without any additional financial implication. The Minister informed that the Government had sanctioned 50 Solar Parks with aggregate capacity of 37,990 MW in 12 States, with 11 solar parks with aggregate capacity of 8,521 MW completed and further seven solar parks with aggregate capacity of 3,985 MW partially completed.

During the monitoring period India has taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, India receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Indonesia: 0

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 3 February 2023, the Government announced that it is determined to raise awareness on Sustainable Development Goals, which bolster the realization of country’s 2030 Vision.²⁷⁷³ According to the speech of the head of the National Development Planning Agency, Suharso Monoarfa, Indonesia is determined to improve the quality of life of Indonesians by applying sustainable development methods to achieve collective prosperity.

On 27 March 2023, during 10th Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development, Minister of Villages, Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration Halim Iskandar reported that Indonesia promotes an inclusive approach with collaboration of all actors regardless of their level either national or sub-national.²⁷⁷⁴ Minister Iskandar also mentioned that the National Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Coordination Team of Indonesia continues to cooperate with regional governments and relevant stakeholders in pushing the

²⁷⁷⁰ Solar Energy Corporation of India to supply 600 MW Wind Power to GRIDCO Odisha under Power Sale Agreement, Government of India (New Delhi) 9 June 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1931095>.

²⁷⁷¹ 4,000 MW Renewable Energy Power Project being set up in Tamil Nadu, Government of India (New Delhi) 1 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1944687>.

²⁷⁷² Solar Projects of 10.2 GW Developed in Solar Parks: Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy and Power, Government of India (New Delhi) 9 August 2023. Access Date 23 August 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1947131>

²⁷⁷² 4,000 MW Renewable Energy Power Project being set up in Tamil Nadu, Government of India (New Delhi) 1 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1947131>.

²⁷⁷³ Indonesian govt determined to raise awareness on SDGs, ANTARA News 3 February 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/271698/indonesian-govt-determined-to-raise-awareness-on-sdgs>

²⁷⁷⁴ Achieving 2030 SDGs requires inclusive strategies: Villages minister, The Jakarta Post 27 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.thejakartapost.com/business/2023/03/27/achieving-2030-sdgs-requires-inclusive-strategies-villages-minister.html>

implementation of SDGs. As of December 2022, 32 out of 38 provinces in Indonesia had established their own Regional Action Plan.

On 5 June 2023, Minister of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia Siti Nurbaya Bakar announced that the Government planned to gradually reduce the amount single use packaging and utensils, which are difficult to track and recycle.²⁷⁷⁵ This initiative goes in line with the government's plan to reduce the proportion of non-recyclable waste to 30 per cent.

On 6 June 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry awarded the winners of the national 2023 Kalpataru Award for the best activities and practices related to plastic waste management.²⁷⁷⁶

Indonesia has taken some efforts to actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 30 November 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security presented the UNI/TS 11820 standard "Circularity measurement – Methods and indicators for measuring circular processes in organizations."²⁷⁷⁷ These guidelines define the way of collecting information needed for measuring circularity and resource efficiency and provide a set of indicators (71 in total) so that organizations could verify the effectiveness of their processes. The indicators are divided into seven categories and include: material resources and components; energy and water resources; waste and emissions; logistics; production and services; human resources, assets, and policy. This also constitutes a step towards the development of the ISO 59020 standard which will provide an instrument for measuring circularity and resource efficiency at the international level.

On 7 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security published a list of municipalities who were admitted to the plastic recycling program "Mangiaplastica."²⁷⁷⁸ In total, EUR5 million will be directed to 199 municipalities of the country to finance the purchase of eco-compactor machinery for separate collection of PET plastic bottles. According to the scheme, a non-repayable contribution will be granted, with a maximum limit of EUR15,000 for each eco-compactor of medium capacity and EUR30,000 for the purchase of eco-compactors of high capacity. The new provision adds up additional 199 municipalities to the 712 municipalities already financed under the first 2021 open call.

On 1 February 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security approved a ranking framework for financing projects which participate in the national program "Culture for Sustainability."²⁷⁷⁹ The program's objective is to raise awareness and promote sustainability culture across Italy through education for

²⁷⁷⁵ Indonesia to phase out single-use plastic by 2029, ANTARA News 05 June 2023. Access Date: 21 June 2023. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/283980/indonesia-to-phase-out-single-use-plastic-by-2029>

²⁷⁷⁶ Commemoration of World Environment Day 2023: KLHK Confers Kalpataru Award and Holds Enchantment Festival, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia 06 June 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 22 June 2023. https://www.menlhk.go.id/site/single_post/5398/peringatan-hari-lingkungan-hidup-sedunia-2023-klhk-anugerahkan-penghargaan-kalpataru-dan-selenggarakan-festival-pesona

²⁷⁷⁷ Circular economy: the method to measure circularity is defined, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 1 December 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 5 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/economia-circolare-definito-il-metodo-standard-misurare-la-circularita>

²⁷⁷⁸ Waste: Ministry allocates EUR5 million to purchase modern eco-compactors, new 199 municipalities admitted to Mangiaplastica program, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 7 December 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 27 February 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/rifiuti-dal-mase-5-milioni-l-acquisto-di-moderni-eco-compattatori-altri-199-comuni-ammessi>

²⁷⁷⁹ Sustainability Culture, EUR2,3 million to projects. Gava and Barbaro: Conscious citizen is a fundamental ally, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 1 February 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 18 March 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/cultura-sostenibilita-finanziati-progetti-2-3-milioni-gava-e-barbaro-cittadino-consapevole>

sustainability. The Ministry will provide EUR2.3 million to the initiatives that promote the National Development Strategy for Sustainable Development through in-depth knowledge sharing, conferences, publications, events and any other formats of outreach, interaction and dissemination of sustainability culture. Key beneficiaries of this funding are municipalities, universities, foundations, associations, and non-profit research institutions whose activities are dedicated to raising awareness about sustainability issues.

On 1 February 2023, Minister of Environment and Energy Security Gilberto Pichetto Fratin signed three decrees allocating grants worth EUR450 million to 160 circular economy flagship projects in the waste electrical and electronic equipment, paper and textile sectors.²⁷⁸⁰ The projects that will benefit from this finance are implemented by companies that have proposed interventions aimed at refurbishing existing plants or building them from scratch. The total investment worth EUR600 million is intended to reach companies as non-repayable contributions and is aimed at improving separate collection systems and treatment and recycling plants for specific materials.

On 7 March 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development signed a cooperation agreement which relaunches the National Phosphorus Platform.²⁷⁸¹ The Platform unites more than 60 stakeholders across the value chain, including research entities, private and public institutions, and industrial companies. It facilitates members' collaboration and sharing of best practices to achieve self-sufficiency in phosphorus resources through better resource efficiency and circular economy practices, such as end-of-life materials recycling.

On 17 March 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security announced a technical mission to Cuba to support the implementation of joint environmental projects which Italy is contributing to.²⁷⁸² The technical visit takes place in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation for Sustainable Development signed between the two parties at the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference. In particular, the agreement focuses on projects which facilitate technical knowledge and experience sharing on SDG 6 (water management and aquatic environments), SDG 7 (access to sustainable and renewable energy sources), SDG 13 (combating climate change and its negative effects), and SDG 14 (sustainable use of oceans and marine resources). The two projects underway are "Maritime Surveillance in Cuba – Sense Solution" and "Coastal protection of the Malecón and EcoAtlante." These initiatives aim respectively to increase adaptation measures to extreme weather events and enhance risk prevention, and to identify engineering solutions to prevent flooding of the coastal strip of the city of Havana and protect and conserve marine ecosystems.

On 24 March 2023, Italy joined the International Drought Resilience Alliance.²⁷⁸³ The accession was communicated by Minister Pichetto to the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Ibrahim Thiaw at a bilateral meeting organized during the UN Water Conference.

On 6 April 2023, the Council of Ministers approved the Decree on Drought which aims to address the issue of water scarcity and inefficient water resources use.²⁷⁸⁴ The decree provides for the establishment of a special interministerial control unit and stipulates the creation of the position of National Extraordinary

²⁷⁸⁰ National Plan for Recovery and Resilience: Ministry approves 160 flagship projects in circular economy, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 1 February 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 1 March 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/pnrr-da-mase-ok-160-progetti-faro-di-economia-circolare>

²⁷⁸¹ Critical raw materials: MASE – ENEA agreement relaunches the National Phosphorus Platform, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 7 March 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 18 March 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/materie-prime-critiche-accordo-mase-enea-riparte-piattaforma-nazionale-fosforo>

²⁷⁸² Italy-Cuba cooperation, Ministry's technical and institutional mission to Havana on March 20-24, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 17 March 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 18 March 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/cooperazione-italia-cuba-missione-tecnico-istituzionale-del-mase-all-avana-dal-20-al-24>

²⁷⁸³ Environment: Minister's bilateral meetings in New York focus on climate, fight against drought and desertification, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 24 March 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 6 April 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/ambiente-incontri-bilaterali-del-ministro-pichetto-new-york-al-centro-clima-lotta-siccita>

²⁷⁸⁴ Drought: Minister says the decree brings tools needed to face national emergency, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 7 April 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 8 April 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/comunicati/siccita-pichetto-con-decreto-gli-strumenti-fronteggiare-emergenza-nazionale>

Commissioner who will be tasked with coordinating actions between all competent entities. The decree also introduces a series of simplification measures to improve the quality of existing infrastructure, regulate the volume of water reservoirs and support practices that can help overcome the challenge of low resource efficiency, especially in regards to reuse of purified waste for irrigation purposes. A new measure introduced by the decree aims to scale up the number of desalination plants which are not yet widespread in Italy. In terms of facilitating territorial resource management, the decree mandates the establishment of the Permanent District Observatory on Water Use which will provide decision makers with quality data.

On 9 May 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security adopted a decree which adds laminated wood chips in the form of wood chips to the list of biomasses eligible for further use as a fuel.²⁷⁸⁵ The decree enables the use of residues from wood working processes for energy purposes and stipulates quality requirements upon which wood can be qualified as a fuel in full respect of the environment, thus subtracting it from the waste management circuit.

On 4 July 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the Ministry of Environment of Chile signed a Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral environmental cooperation, in particular on circular economy, water management and ecological transition.²⁷⁸⁶ It provides for the development of bilateral cooperation activities in line with the three Rio Conventions, namely on climate change, biodiversity and desertification, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

On 27 July 2023, the Ministry of Environment and Energy Security launched the Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Industry Coalition along with other G20 countries under the Indian G20 presidency.²⁷⁸⁷ The key objective of the Coalition is to stimulate dialogue with the private sector and industry associations to support the green transition of enterprises, including through investment aimed at facilitating the transition to new industrial models of circular economy and energy efficiency.

Italy took strong actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency, and circular economy to increase sustainability.

Thus, Italy receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Vadim Kuznetsov

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 26 December 2022, Japan and Saudi Arabia signed a memorandum of cooperation in the energy sector, including carbon recycling and use of ammonia as a clean fuel source in order to achieve carbon neutrality.²⁷⁸⁸ It was said that both parties would continue to strengthen their cooperation in reducing emissions through promoting circular carbon economy and other relevant technologies.

On 17 January 2023, the Ministry of the Environment selected subsidized projects for the fiscal year 2022 support project for overseas emission reduction through strategic international expansion of Japanese waste

²⁷⁸⁵ Energy, change in the field of wood. Signing of a decree which adds laminated wood chips to fuels list, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 9 May 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/node/15973>

²⁷⁸⁶ A new MoU signed with the Ministry of Environment of Chile, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 6 July 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 15 August 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/firmato-nuovo-protocollo-dintesa-con-il-ministero-dellambiente-del-cile>

²⁷⁸⁷ G20 India, Gava at the official launch of the Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy Industry Coalition: "Italy is ready", Ministry of Environment and Energy Security (Rome) 27 July 2023. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 15 August 2023. <https://www.mase.gov.it/notizie/g20-india-gava-al-lancio-ufficiale-della-coalizione-industriale-lefficienza-delle-risorse-e>

²⁷⁸⁸ Japan minister signs clean energy cooperation document during Saudi visit, Reuters (Tokyo) 26 December 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/japan-minister-signs-clean-energy-cooperation-document-during-saudi-visit-2022-12-25/>

management and recycling industries.²⁷⁸⁹ Based on the results of the screening by the panel of experts set up by the Japan Waste Research Foundation one project was selected.

On 17 February 2023, the Ministry of the Environment together with Ministry of Environment of Cambodia and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development, co-organized the 11th Regional 3R and Circular Economy Forum.²⁷⁹⁰ The purpose of the forum was to organize a high-level dialogue on the policies on reduce, reuse and recycle (3Rs) and the circular economy, in order to boost material cycle society in the Asia-Pacific region, to share information on systems and technologies that contribute to the promotion of the 3Rs and Circular Economy and to network with other relevant parties. The forum was attended by approximately 400 participants from the public sector, international organizations, private companies, research institutions, and non-governmental organizations from about 40 countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

On 17 March 2023, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida held 13th SDGs meeting. At the meeting, a discussion was held on the SDGs Action Plan 2023 and the 6th Japan SDGs Award winners.²⁷⁹¹ Prime Minister Kishida stated that in 2023 Japan would revise the SDGs Implementation Guidelines, a medium- to long-term national strategy for achieving the SDGs. Additionally, the Prime Minister ordered relevant ministers to steadily implement the action plan that was established based on idea of diversity and inclusiveness and to ensure promotion of domestic and international efforts to achieve SDGs.

On 20 March 2023, the Government announced that it would provide grant aid for solar-powered irrigation in Egypt to improve agricultural productivity.²⁷⁹² The grant in the amount of JPY520 million (USD3.8 million) aimed to support the Government of Egypt in their efforts to ensure food security by increasing water productivity in agriculture. The new systems will be located on small-scale farmlands in rural areas of Upper Egypt and the Nile delta with the introduction of modern irrigation facilities and solar-powered pumps, the installation of agri-voltaic greenhouses, and the provision of highly efficient attachments for agricultural tractors and heat and saline-tolerant crop varieties.

On 27 March 2023, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry decided to establish an industry-government-academia organization to realize a circular economy model boosting resource efficiency through reusing and recycling.²⁷⁹³ The new body will develop a road map to implement a government plan to bolster resources recycling market with public and private instruments valued over JPY2 trillion (USD15.1 billion).

On 1 April 2023, The Act on Promotion of Plastic Resource Recycling came into effect. Under this law, business operators can prepare voluntary collection and recycling business plans and recycling business plans and have them approved by the competent minister, thus eliminating the need for a business license based on the Waste Management Law. This mechanism aims to reduce the administrative burden for business which boost the progress in achieving circular economy.²⁷⁹⁴

²⁷⁸⁹ Regarding the results of the secondary selection of the FY2022 "Overseas CO2 reduction support project through strategic international expansion of Japan's recycling industry", Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 17 January 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. https://www.env.go.jp/press/press_00944.html

²⁷⁹⁰ Results of the 11th Plenary Meeting of the Asia-Pacific 3R and Circular Economy Promotion Forum, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (Tokyo) 17 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. https://www.env.go.jp/press/press_01173.html

²⁷⁹¹ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Promotion Committee, Prime Minister's Office of Japan (Tokyo) 17 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/101_kishida/actions/202303/17sdgs.html

²⁷⁹² Japan To Provide Grant Aid For Solar-Powered Irrigation In Egypt To Improve Agricultural Productivity, Solar Quarter (Zhejiang) 20 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://solarquarter.com/2023/03/20/japan-to-provide-grant-aid-for-solar-powered-irrigation-in-egypt-to-improve-agricultural-productivity/>

²⁷⁹³ Japan to Make New Body to Realize Circular Economy, Nippon.com 27 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.nippon.com/en/news/yjj2023032700875/>

²⁷⁹⁴ Certification of Voluntary Collection/Recycling Business Plan and Recycling Business Plan Based on Law Concerning Promotion of Resource Circulation Related to Plastics, Ministry of Environment of Japan 01 April 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 June 2023. https://www.env.go.jp/press/press_01249.html

On 28 April 2023, the Ministry of the Environment conducted its annual Solicitation of Proposals for Specific Procured Items under the Green Purchasing Act.²⁷⁹⁵ In year 2023 Japan plans to extend the scope of goods to be procured in order to further promote the production of environmentally friendly goods that support.

On 30 May 2023, the Ministry of the Environment reported the status of installation of industrial waste treatment facilities and permits for industrial waste treatment. The Ministry stated that the amount of industrial waste collected for recycling went up 5 per cent in YoY comparison and reached 715,000 tons.²⁷⁹⁶

Japan has taken strong actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

Korea: +1

Korea has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 9 December 2022, the Ministry of Environment and the Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute announced the results of a nation-wide selection of the best green technology companies.²⁷⁹⁷ The two entities selected 14 local companies that demonstrated “excellent business performance” and leadership in the green technologies implementation on a day-to-day basis.

From 31 January to 7 February 2023, the Ministry of Environment held a series of special sessions on subsidy programs for hydrogen fuel cell vehicles for local government.²⁷⁹⁸ The Ministry of Environment is said to pursue “its policy of supplying hydrogen-powered vehicles by actively identifying the demand of local governments for those vehicles.”

On 27 February 2023, the National Assembly passed five environment-related bills as to “provide a legal basis to improve environmental quality for the people.”²⁷⁹⁹ The list includes the Special Act on the Improvement of Air Quality in Air Control Zones; the Act on the Promotion of Saving and Recycling of Resources; the Malodor Prevention Act; the Construction Waste Recycling Promotion Act; and the Framework Act on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth for Coping with Climate Crisis.

²⁷⁹⁵ Solicitation of Proposals for Specific Procurement Items under the Green Purchasing Act, Ministry of Environment of Japan 28 April 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 June 2023.
https://www.env.go.jp/press/press_01517.html

²⁷⁹⁶ Status of installation of industrial waste treatment facilities and permits for industrial waste treatment, Ministry of Environment of Japan 30 May 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 29 June 2023.
https://www.env.go.jp/press/111095_00004.html

²⁷⁹⁷ The Ministry of Environment to discover new companies to lead the future green industry, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 9 December 2022. Access Date: 4 May 2023.
<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=50&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1567220&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

²⁷⁹⁸ Environment Ministry to increase the supply of hydrogen-powered vehicles, together with local governments, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 2 February 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.
<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=40&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1578190&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

²⁷⁹⁹ Five Environmental Bills Passed by the National Assembly, including the Special Act On The Improvement Of Air Quality In Air Control Zones, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 3 March 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.
<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=30&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1584650&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

On 21 March 2023, the Government presented the draft of the first National Plan for Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth for 2023 – 2042.²⁸⁰⁰ The core goal of the state carbon neutrality policy is said to be reduction in greenhouse gas emission by 40 per cent comparing with 2018 base level. The primary purpose of the national plan is to prepare reasonable implementation measures, such as sectoral and annual reduction targets and strategies, considering economic and social conditions and feasibility comprehensively to faithfully comply with the greenhouse gas reduction targets committed to the international community.

On 18 April 2023, the Ministry of Environment has launched a new committee.²⁸⁰¹ The new structure named Innovation Committee on Environmental Research and Development would resolve environmental challenges namely carbon neutrality, promotion of a circular economy, and establishment of an environmentally safe society. Also, the Committee is said to facilitate the country's environmental industry in entering the overseas markets.

On 19 April 2023, the Ministry of Environment presented "The Republic of Korea's Adaptation Communication."²⁸⁰² Designing and presentation of documents of this kind is a voluntary recommendation under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The first Korea's report presents the country's best practices in pursuing the Convention's goals including the by-sector risk assessments.

Korea has taken strong actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Korea receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Alexander Ignatov

Mexico: 0

Mexico has partially complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 17 February 2023, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador launched the first stage the Puerto Peñasco Photovoltaic Plant, powering 64,300 households with clean solar energy.²⁸⁰³

On 18 February 2023, President López Obrador declared around 230,000 hectares a lithium mining reserve zone, proclaiming all its mineral reserves belonging to the people of Mexico.²⁸⁰⁴ This action, according to the President, complemented the ongoing construction of the Puerto Peñasco Photovoltaic Power Plant, and thus contributed to sustainable use of natural resources for the benefit of Mexican people.

On 24 January 2023, the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources of Mexico announced the creation of Geographic Information System containing information on the regulatory framework and an

²⁸⁰⁰ The Yoon administration's blueprint for achieving carbon neutrality and green growth revealed, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 30 March 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=20&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1591210&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

²⁸⁰¹ The Ministry of Environment launched Innovation Committee on Environmental R&D, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 25 April 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1596870&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

²⁸⁰² The Ministry of Environment published "The Republic of Korea's Adaptation Communication", Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 25 April 2023. Access Date: 4 May 2023.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=0&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1596800&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

²⁸⁰³ In Sonora, Mexico initiates a new environmental care policy: President López Obrador, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 February 2023. Access Date: 8 May 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/en-sonora-mexico-inicia-nueva-etapa-en-cuidado-ambiental-presidente-lopez-obrador?idiom=es>.

²⁸⁰⁴ En Sonora, President AMLO declares more than 230,000 hectares of lithium mining reserve zone, Mexican Government (Mexico) 18 February 2023. Access Date: 8 May 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/presidencia/prensa/en-sonora-presidente-amlo-declara-mas-de-230-mil-hectareas-zona-de-reserva-minera-de-litio?idiom=es>.

interactive map of mining companies, dams, aquifers and watersheds in the country.²⁸⁰⁵ The software tool, developed by the Mexican Institute of Water Technology, is to enable the creation of more sustainable water supply systems in accordance with the needs of the population, and minimize the impacts of mining and other sources of contamination on water supply.

On 9 July 2023, the Sectorial Committee of Soil for Sustainable Agriculture held its first working session.²⁸⁰⁶ The head of the Secretariat of Agriculture Víctor Villalobos Arámbula pointed out that this inter-institutional working group will help the implementation of public policy in the care and conservation of agricultural soils to promote sustainable agriculture, adapted to climate change and that adds to food security. The Committee also presented the scaling-up of the Doctors of Soils program, based on the training of the technical staff of the 32 Representative Offices on the importance of the soil resource for food and agriculture, as well as forums, discussions and seminars, indicated by the Interdisciplinary Studies Program of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

During the monitoring period Mexico has taken actions to promote sustainable development, and resource efficiency.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Russia: +1

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 24 November 2022, the Government issued a decree, allocating RUB2.6 billion to the development of social, municipal and transport infrastructure in the regions of the Arctic zone.²⁸⁰⁷ The package includes funds aimed at enhancing medical care facilities, transport infrastructure, schools, cultural centers and residential buildings in the Far North of the country.

On 8 December 2022, the Government issued a decree on financing the creation of agro-industrial enterprises in the Volgograd, Kaliningrad, and Smolensk regions.²⁸⁰⁸ RUB1.4 billion were allocated to partially compensate the regional governments for the cost of establishing agro-industrial enterprises. Specifically, the reimbursement was aimed at the completion of a plant for deep processing of corn grain in Volgograd Region, the building of a new fish-processing factory in Kaliningrad region, and the construction of a dry dairy products plant in Smolensk region.

On 19 December 2022, the Government approved a decree on the free retraining of citizens in 2023 and 2024 as part of measures to support the labor market.²⁸⁰⁹ In 2023 and 2024, unemployed citizens, including employees at risk of dismissal, certain categories of citizens under the age of 35, people over 50 years, women with young children, and refugees, will be able to undergo free retraining or receive additional vocational training. The Government plans to reimburse the costs of educational organizations for the

²⁸⁰⁵ IMTA develops a system that will help make better decisions in mining and water, Mexican Government (Mexico) 24 January 2023. Access Date: 8 May 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/desarrolla-imta-sistema-que-ayudara-a-tomar-mejores-decisiones-en-materia-de-mineria-y-agua?idiom=es>.

²⁸⁰⁶ With the presence of the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, Víctor Villalobos Arámbula, the Sectorial Committee of Soil for Sustainable Agriculture (COSESAS) held its first working session. Access Date: 20 August 2023. <https://www.gob.mx/agricultura/prensa/aporta-mexico-al-mundo-acciones-y-politicas-para-el-cuidado-de-los-suelos-agropecuarios?idiom=es>

²⁸⁰⁷ The government will allocate more than 2.6 billion rubles for the development of social, municipal and transport infrastructure in the regions of the Arctic zone, Russian Government 28 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47163/>.

²⁸⁰⁸ The government will finance the creation of agro-industrial enterprises in three regions, Russian Government 12 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023 <http://government.ru/news/47301/>.

²⁸⁰⁹ The government approved a decree on free retraining of citizens in 2023 and 2024 as part of measures to support the labor market, Government of Russia (Moscow) 20 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47377/>.

training of citizens with grants. The federal budget for 2023 will provide around RUB8.2 billion for the initiative, and RUB6.2 billion in 2024.

On 23 December 2022, the Government approved the draft federal law “On the Amendments to the Code of Administrative Offenses of the Russian Federation” with regard to establishment of administrative liability for failure to provide reliable information on greenhouse gas emissions.²⁸¹⁰ The draft law is aimed at ensuring the reliability of state accounting of greenhouse gas emissions generated as a result of economic and other activities of regulated organizations.

On 29 December 2022, the Government issued a decree on a new National Action Strategy for Women until 2030.²⁸¹¹ The key objectives of the Strategy are: the observance of the principle of equal rights of men and women in different spheres of life, increasing the economic independence and political activity of Russian women, as well as the prevention of female disadvantages. These issues are planned to be resolved by encouraging women to take interest in technical and technological professions, involving women in the digital economy, creating a system of continuing education and professional development, developing long-distance forms of employment, and increasing women’s participation in entrepreneurship.

On 29 December 2022, the Government adopted the program of state guarantees of free medical care until 2025.²⁸¹² The program provides for further development of medical rehabilitation, including provision of such care at home and provision of necessary medical devices to patients. It also includes provisions to deal with the spread and treatment of hepatitis C and diabetes, through increased financing of appropriate medical institutions and health insurance schemes.

On 29 December 2022, Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin signed a decree reviewing and expanding the five-year road-building plan.²⁸¹³ The updated plan includes two major projects - the construction of bypass roads around the cities of Khasavyurt and Derbent. Their length will total 21 km and 32 km respectively. Construction of these bypasses is aimed at developing the North-South international transport corridor, connecting Russia, Azerbaijan and Iran.

On 9 January 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree on special social payments for certain categories of medical workers.²⁸¹⁴ In 2023, Russian medics are to receive monthly social payments ranging from RUB4.5,000 to RUB18.5,000 per person. Increases to the basic salary are intended for medical workers of rare specialties: doctors and specialists of primary health care, doctors of regional hospitals, as well as doctors working at the stations and in the emergency departments. It is projected that the total number of recipients of these payments will amount to 1.1 million people. A total of RUB152.4 billion is be allocated for this purpose.

On 12 January 2023, the Government issued a directive on the procedure for financing the development and launch of the Northern Sea Route digital ecosystem.²⁸¹⁵ The directive provides for the creation of an “ice navigator,” which allows to accurately plot a safe route in the constantly changing conditions of the Arctic Ocean. In 2023-2024 a subsidy of RUB3.8 billion will be allocated from the federal budget for this purpose.

²⁸¹⁰ Decisions taken at the Government meeting of December 23, 2022, the Government of Russia (Moscow) 25 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47433/>.

²⁸¹¹ Mikhail Mishustin approved the new National Strategy of Action for Women until 2030, Government of Russia (Moscow) 8 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47493/>.

²⁸¹² The program of state guarantees of free medical care for the next three years has been approved, Government of Russia (Moscow) 3 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47486/>.

²⁸¹³ The government expanded the five-year plan of road activities, Government of Russia (Moscow) 31 December 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47484/>.

²⁸¹⁴ The government has established special social payments for certain categories of medical workers, Government of Russia (Moscow) 9 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47504/>.

²⁸¹⁵ The government will finance infrastructure projects necessary for the development of the Northern Sea Route, Government of Russia (Moscow) 12 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47546/>.

On 17 January 2023, the Government signed an agreement on cooperation in high-tech development with the companies “Rosatom” and “Gazprom.”²⁸¹⁶ The agreement primarily involves cooperative work on developing hydrogen energy capabilities and energy storage technologies. It is planned that by 2024, at least 25000 electric cars will be produced in Russia and more than 9000 charging stations will be opened. Domestic demand for energy storage will reach 17.5 GWh, of which 16 GWh per year will come from electric cars.

On 23 January 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree “On Approving the Rules for the Development and Approval of Documents for the Prospective Development of the Electric Power Industry and on Amendments to Certain Acts of the Government of the Russian Federation.”²⁸¹⁷ The amendments will help optimize the construction and modernization of grid infrastructure and generating facilities. The decree regulates the costs of building power lines and substations, as well as provides for the gradual formation of a rational structure of generating capacity in the country, while taking into account the objectives of low-carbon development.

On 23 January 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree providing for the modernization of public utilities in Russian regions.²⁸¹⁸ In 2023, RUB30 billion are to be allocated to the task.

On 8 February 2023, the State Duma approved in the first reading the law “On Environmental Protection and Certain Legislative Acts,” which created the legislative framework for the functioning of the state monitoring system for permafrost.²⁸¹⁹ The document was developed by the Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment at the request of the president. According to Alexander Kozlov, the Russian Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, monitoring data should assist in assessing greenhouse gas emissions from melting permafrost, predict climate change trends and prepare scenario-based forecasts of the country’s socio-economic development.

On 11 March 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree №373, expanding the nomenclature of green initiatives, subject to preferential financing through special bonds or loans.²⁸²⁰ The list includes projects related to the construction of energy-efficient housing, clearing and restoration of water bodies, creation and modernization of infrastructure for direct capture of greenhouse gases from the environment, as well as capture and utilization of landfill gas with subsequent energy generation.

On 24 March 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree on stimulation of further development of renewable energy.²⁸²¹ The decree approves the financial parameters (marginal values of capital and operating costs) for the period after 2024 for competitive selections of investment projects for construction of renewable energy generation facilities in retail electricity markets. In addition, the decree instructs the Ministry of Energy to annually monitor the dynamics of renewable energy sector development both in the wholesale electricity and capacity market and in the retail electricity markets, including microgeneration.

On 6 May 2023, Prime Minister Mishustin signed a decree on the rules for subsidizing the preferential credit program for participants of federal project “Clean Air.”²⁸²² Preferential loans with 3 per cent annual rate, will be available for enterprises located in Bratsk, Krasnoyarsk, Lipetsk, Magnitogorsk, Mednogorsk,

²⁸¹⁶ Alexander Novak took part in the signing of the final package of agreements on cooperation in the development of high-tech areas, Government of Russia (Moscow) 17 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47555/>.

²⁸¹⁷ The government has adopted new rules for the prospective development of the electric power industry, Government of Russia (Moscow) 23 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47604/>

²⁸¹⁸ The government will finance the development of municipal infrastructure in the regions, Government of Russia (Moscow) 23 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47593/>.

²⁸¹⁹ The State Duma approved in the first reading a bill on monitoring permafrost, Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Moscow) 8 February 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/gosduma_v_pervom_chtenii_odobrila_zakonoproekt_o_monitoringe_mnogoletney_merzloty_/?sphrase_id=565866.

²⁸²⁰ The government expanded the green financing program, Government of Russia (Moscow) 11 March 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <http://government.ru/news/47972/>.

²⁸²¹ The government creates additional incentives for the development of renewable energy generation in Russia, Government of Russia (Moscow) 24 March 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <http://government.ru/news/44924/>.

²⁸²² Government launches preferential credit program for participants of federal project "Clean Air", Government of Russia (Moscow) 24 March 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <http://government.ru/news/48442/>.

Nizhny Tagil, Novokuznetsk, Norilsk, Omsk, Chelyabinsk, Cherepovets and Chita. In these cities, an experiment on quotas for harmful atmospheric emissions has been underway since 2019. Its goal is to reduce these emissions and improve the environment. It is expected that in 2023-2024 the total amount of subsidized soft loans can reach RUB3.4 billion.

On 13 July 2023, the Government issued a decree expanding the list of activities that can be financed through “Clean Air” federal project.²⁸²³ The updated list includes measures for the purchase and installation of solid fuel boilers with automatic fuel supply in residential buildings. According to the government, such equipment is characterized by economical fuel consumption and environmental friendliness due to much less harmful emissions into the atmosphere.

On 9 August 2023, the Government and PAO AFK Sistema signed a letter of intent on the development of hydrogen energy.²⁸²⁴ The document was signed by Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak and Sistema’s President Tagir Sitdekov. The agreement is aimed at stimulating new developments, commercialization and introduction of domestic hydrogen technologies in different areas of the economy, defines the principles of interaction between the parties within the framework of the “road map” for the development of hydrogen energy technologies in Russia until 2024.

During the monitoring period Russia has taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Russia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Saudi Arabia: +1

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 26 December 2022, Saudi Arabia and Japan signed a memorandum of cooperation concerning circular carbon economy and carbon recycling.²⁸²⁵

On 28 December 2022, the board of directors of the Arab Gulf Programme for Development reviewed and approved 14 development projects aimed at achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in certain fields such as food security, early childhood, climate change, women empowerment, the health sector, and financial inclusion.²⁸²⁶

On 1 December 2022, Saudi Arabia and the United Nations Joint Steering Committee held its 1st United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022–2026) meeting to track the progress of implementation of SDGs in the Saudi Arabia.²⁸²⁷

²⁸²³ Regions will be able to receive additional funding under the federal Clean Air Project, Government of Russia (Moscow) 14 July 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <http://government.ru/news/49037/>.

²⁸²⁴ Alexander Novak signed an agreement on hydrogen energy development with Sistema JSFC, Government of Russia (Moscow) 9 August 2023. Access Date: 23 August 2023. <http://government.ru/news/49239/>.

²⁸²⁵ Japan minister signs clean energy cooperation document during Saudi visit, Reuters 26 December 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/japan-minister-signs-clean-energy-cooperation-document-during-saudi-visit-2022-12-25/>

²⁸²⁶ AGFUND’s Board Approves Financing 14 Projects in Areas that Contribute to Achieve Goals of Sustainable Development, The Government of Saudi Arabia 28 December 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.my.gov.sa/wps/portal/snp/content/news/newsDetails/CONT-news-0101202323>

²⁸²⁷ The Joint Steering Committee between the Kingdom and the United Nations holds its first meeting under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Economy and Planning), Ministry of Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia 1 December 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.mep.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/News/Pages/The-KSA-and-UN-Joint-Steering-Committee.aspx>

On 19 February 2023, the Ministry of Energy announced that it would hold accountable entities that use oil products to generate electric energy without obtaining special licenses confirming energy-efficiency of the power generating facilities.²⁸²⁸

On 28 February 2023, Saudi Arabia hosted an Investment Forum in the Waste Management Sector which was attended by over 300 local and international investors.²⁸²⁹ The CEO of National Center for Waste Management (MWAN) Abdurrahman al-Fadhli stated that forum aimed to introduce the transformation journey in the waste management sector, stimulate investment, and value the participation of the private sector. During the forum, Saudi Downtown Company signed a memorandum of understanding with MWAN to cooperate in programs and initiatives related to waste management. The memorandum also outlines future joint actions such as training, raising the level of performance of technical personnel, ensuring compliance with legislation and controls.

On 13 March 2023, the Ministry of Economy and Planning and the National Water Efficiency and Conservation Center signed a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at achieving water and financial sustainability in line with the SDGs.²⁸³⁰ The agreement outlines a joint framework for developing and harmonizing the strategic direction of national development priorities and economic policies while enabling decision-making through the preparation of methodologies and studies that support SDGs.

On 15 March 2023, Saudi Arabia organized workshop on accelerating progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals on World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2023 in Geneva. The topic of the workshop was declared as “Leveraging new technologies and innovation to accelerate the progress towards achieving the SDGs.” The workshop shared insight the majority of SDG related projects that were being implemented by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.²⁸³¹

On 1 June 2023, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture launched a new program “Sidra” aimed at involving and supporting private sector in the development of sustainable solutions for environmental projects in Saudi Arabia.²⁸³²

On 7 June 2023, the Commission for Communications and Technical Space announced that it had signed an agreement with the International Telecommunication Union with the aim of developing and implementing regulations that enable the circular economy.²⁸³³

On 13 June 2023, Saudi Arabia and Kazakhstan signed MoU, establishing framework of cooperation in the energy sector, sustainable practices and renewable energy sources.²⁸³⁴ Both parties agreed to collaborate on the topics of clean hydrogen, energy efficiency, storage and development. Additionally, the deal sets a ground for promoting Saudi Arabia’s concept of a circular carbon economy abroad.

²⁸²⁸ Ministry of Energy: The use of petroleum products for the purpose of generating electricity requires obtaining licenses to avoid legal accountability), Ministry of Energy of Saudi Arabia 19 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.moenergy.gov.sa/ar/MediaCenter/News/Pages/Licenses-of-petroleum-products-usage-and-transportation.aspx>

²⁸²⁹ Saudi Arabia Mobilizes Local, Int'l Investors to Convert Waste into Economic Value, Asharq Al-Awsat 28 February 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/4184011/saudi-arabia-mobilizes-local-intl-investors-convert-waste-economic-value>

²⁸³⁰ Saudi Ministry of Economy and Planning and the National Water Efficiency and Conservation Center sign a Memorandum of Understanding to safeguard water and financial sustainability, Ministry of Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia 13 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.mep.gov.sa/en/MediaCenter/News/Pages/Saudi-MEP-and-MAEE-sign-a-MOU.aspx>

²⁸³¹ Kingdom Organizes Workshop on Accelerating Progress towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Geneva, The Government of Saudi Arabia 15 March 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.my.gov.sa/wps/portal/snp/content/news/newsDetails/CONT-news-160320232>

²⁸³² launches the "Sidra" program to build the entrepreneurship system in the ministry's sectors, SABQ Online Newspaper 01 June 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 June 2023. <https://sabq.org/saudia/g6nxmacg0z>

²⁸³³ The Saudi Communications Authority signs an agreement to develop regulations to enable the circular economy, Mubasher.info 07 June 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 24 June 2023. <https://www.mubasher.info/news/4138831>

²⁸³⁴ Saudi Arabia collaborates with Kazakhstan to improve energy partnership, Arab News 13 June 2023. Access Date: 24 June 2023. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2320786/business-economy>

Saudi Arabia has taken strong actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

South Africa: 0

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 18 November 2022, Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Barbara Creecy published the Revised National List of Ecosystems That Are Threatened and in Need of Protection.²⁸³⁵ The List incorporates the information on terrestrial ecosystems' extent and condition, pressures and drivers of change. A total of 120 of the 456 terrestrial ecosystem types assessed in the list are categorized as threatened. Together these threatened ecosystems make up approximately 10 per cent of the country's habitats. According to the report, 55 of the 120 terrestrial ecosystems are critically endangered, 51 endangered and 14 vulnerable.

On 21 January 2023, Minister Water and Sanitation Senzo Mchunu, announced the launch of a steering committee to oversee and ensure that water and sanitation services management is sustainable in the North West Province.²⁸³⁶ According to the Minister's statement, a technical task team will be established under the steering committee, comprised of professional engineers from the Department and Water and Sanitation, the Magalies Water Board, as well as all district and local municipalities, to carry out technical work of assessing, planning, and implementation of water and sanitation needs of the whole province.

On 21 January 2023, the National Energy Crisis Committee released a six-month progress report on the implementation of the Energy Action Plan.²⁸³⁷ In July 2022, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a range of measures to improve the performance of existing power stations and add new generation capacity. The updated report highlighted major steps that had been taken during the six-month implementation of the Plan, including a new Ministerial determination for 14771 MW of new generation capacity from wind, solar and battery storage, and an additional 300 MW imported through the Southern African Power Pool, with the negotiations underway to secure a further 1,000 MW from neighboring countries in 2023.

On 6 April 2023, the Government adopted the White Paper on Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa's Biodiversity.²⁸³⁸ The White Paper contains recommendations of the High Level Panel advisory to the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, on matters related to the management, hunting, breeding, trade and handling of several animal species, such as elephant, lion, leopard and rhinoceros. According to the statement by the Government, the White Paper provides for "the conservation of the rich, diverse biodiversity and ecological infrastructure, which supports ecosystem functioning for livelihoods and the well-being of people and nature. This can set the country on a strong path of sustainable development, considering the historical, socio-economic, and environmental context of South Africa, and the aspirations and needs of the people."

²⁸³⁵ Minister Barbara Creecy publishes the revised national list of ecosystems that are threatened and in need of protection, Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 21 November 2022. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-barbara-creecy-publishes-revised-national-list-ecosystems-are-threatened-and-need>.

²⁸³⁶ Minister Senzo Mchunu on permanent water solutions for North West residents, Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 21 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-senzo-mchunu-resolute-finding-permanent-water-supply-solutions-north-west>.

²⁸³⁷ National Energy Crisis Committee releases six month progress update on implementation of Energy Action Plan, Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 21 January 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/national-energy-crisis-committee-releases-six-month-progress-update-implementation-energy>.

²⁸³⁸ Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment on Cabinet approving White Paper on Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa's Biodiversity, Government of South Africa (Pretoria) 6 April 2023. Access Date: 11 April 2023. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/forestry-fisheries-and-environment-cabinet-approving-white-paper-conservation-and>

During the monitoring period South Africa has taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, and resource efficiency.

Thus, South Africa receives a score of 0.

Analyst: Andrei Sakharov

Türkiye: +1

Türkiye has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 1 January 2023, the Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate change Murat Kurum announced that the existing price for plastic bags for consumers will remain the constant – TRY0.25 (USD0.01), while wholesale and retail shops will pay TRY0.38 (USD0.02) as a recovery share for a piece.²⁸³⁹ This mean is expected to enhance the effectiveness of the existing measures that have decreased the use of plastics bags by 65 per cent from 35 billion pieces a year before 2019 to around 12.3 billion.

On 3 January 2023, the Government introduced a new regulation for building exceeding 2 000 square meters which obliges them to meet a minimum of “B” energy efficiency class. Additionally, 5 per cent of these buildings’ energy consumption must be supplied with renewable energy sources.²⁸⁴⁰ It was stated that projects that fall under the aforementioned category and do not meet the requirements will not be granted construction permits by the authorities.

On 17 January 2023, Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change Kurum stated that over the 5 years of Türkiye’s Zero Waste Project 30 million tons were recycled and 347 trees were saved from being cut down.²⁸⁴¹

On 31 January 2023, the Government launched the Water Efficiency Campaign in order to prevent water wastage in households, workplaces and industrial sector, establish relevant legal infrastructure, implement modern irrigation methods in agriculture and raise public awareness.²⁸⁴²

On 23 March 2023, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry published the Water Efficiency in Buildings Target and Implementation Guide, which was prepared with the aim of achieving 25 per cent water savings in buildings.²⁸⁴³ The guide indicates several rules and actions with the target of adhering them into daily lifestyle of urban residents. This guide was developed within the framework of the Water Efficiency Campaign.

On 9-11 May 2023, WeEnergy and We-Cycle forum was held in Izmir.²⁸⁴⁴ Within the scope of the event several seminars and workshops were held in order to draw attention to the importance of recycling and shed light on the future of the industry. The forum was attended by numerous representatives of recycling

²⁸³⁹ Supermarkets to pay recovery share for plastic bags, Daily News 30 December 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/supermarkets-to-pay-recovery-share-for-plastic-bags-179705>; Mandatory payment reduces plastic bag use in Turkey, saves \$212.1M, DAILY SABAH 07 August 2022. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/economy/mandatory-payment-reduces-plastic-bag-use-in-turkey-saves-2121m>

²⁸⁴⁰ Turkey to impose new energy efficiency regulations on buildings, IEEFA (Lakewood) 3 January 2023. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://ieefa.org/articles/turkey-impose-new-energy-efficiency-regulations-buildings>

²⁸⁴¹ Minister institution participated in "zero waste for the world, our common home" program, Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change (Ankara) 17 October 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.csb.gov.tr/bakan-kurum-ortak-evimiz-dunya-icin-sifir-atik-programina-katildi-bakanlik-faaliyetleri-37384>

²⁸⁴² "Water Efficiency Mobile" Started, T.C. Tarım Ve Orman Bakanlığı (Ankara) 3 February 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/SYGM/Haber/1088/Su-Verimliligi-Seferberligi-Baslatildi>

²⁸⁴³ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry Prepared Guidelines for 25 Percent Water Savings in Buildings, T.C. Tarım Ve Orman Bakanlığı (Ankara) 24 March 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 April 2023. <https://www.tarimorman.gov.tr/Haber/5799/Tarim-Ve-Orman-Bakanligi-Binalarda-Yuzde-25-Su-Tasarrufu-Saglanmasi-Icin-Kilavuz-Hazirladi>

²⁸⁴⁴ We-Cycle Environment and Recycling Technologies Fair begins, Rha Ajans 05 May 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://rhaajans.com/haber/14913328/we-cycle-cevre-ve-geri-donusum-teknolojileri-fuari-basliyor>

sector, foundations, chambers, associations and local governments. The event enabled the visitors both from public and private sectors to discuss and share their best practices.

On 20 May 2023, Türkiye announced that it would ban imports of most plastic waste after the reveal of illegal dumping sites in several regions of the country.²⁸⁴⁵

On 21 May 2023, the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change announced that with the introduction of “Zero Waste Movement” the recycling rate increased by 5 per cent percent to 30 per cent in 2022 in comparison to 2021.²⁸⁴⁶ It was also stated that TRY96 billion (USD 3.7 billion) of economic loss prevented, 4.9 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions were avoided, and 432 million trees were saved from deforestation.

On 25 May 2023, the Court of Accounts, the United Nations Resident Coordinator’s Office, and the UNDP signed a Declaration of Intent. The ceremony was designed to commemorate the launch of the toolkit for Sustainable Development Goals auditors, a joint project between the United Nations and the Court of Accounts. As SDGs are gradually being implemented into national and sub-national planning the urge in congruent instruments for performance assessment arises. The toolkit is determined to provide a complex solution in order to resolve the necessity.²⁸⁴⁷

On 12 June 2023, the World Bank Board of Directors approved separate loan packages with a total amount of USD970.09 million for Türkiye’s green transformation.²⁸⁴⁸ The funds will be distributed for the realization of 3 projects: USD450 million towards “Türkiye Green Industry Project,” USD434.7 million towards “Türkiye Water Cycling and Efficiency Improvement Project” and USD85.44 million towards “Land Management Infrastructure for Green and Sustainable Development.” Under the abovementioned projects the government of Türkiye through its responsible executive authorities will develop infrastructure aimed at generating renewable energy, increasing resource efficiency, waste management and circular economy.

Türkiye has taken strong actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, Türkiye receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Pavel Doronin

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 25 November 2022, the Government announced that a sum of GBP20 million would be awarded to modernise and improve infrastructure across the seafood sector with a further GBP30 million became available.²⁸⁴⁹ Winning projects set to receive a share of GBP20 million included the expansion of processing facilities for popular British fish such as Scottish salmon and Cornish sardines, alongside money to bring an ageing dry dock back to life.

²⁸⁴⁵ Türkiye bans most plastic imports as EU trash found dumped on roadsides, Reuters 20 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/turkiye-bans-most-plastic-imports-eu-trash-found-dumped-roadsides-2021-05-20/>

²⁸⁴⁶ MINISTRY: RECYCLING RATE INCREASED WITH ZERO WASTE MOVEMENT; 96 BILLION TL ECONOMIC GAIN, Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of Türkiye 21 May 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://csb.gov.tr/bakan-kurum-sifir-atik-hareketi-ile-geri-kazanim-orani-artti-96-milyar-tl-ekonomik-kazanc-saglandi-bakanlik-faaliyetleri-38651>

²⁸⁴⁷ Turkish Court of Accounts and UN Türkiye sign Declaration of Intent to strengthen their collaboration, United Nations Türkiye 25 May 2023. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://turkiye.un.org/en/233306-turkish-court-accounts-and-un-t%C3%BCrkiye-sign-declaration-intent-strengthen-their-collaboration>

²⁸⁴⁸ Türkiye approved for \$970 million green loan, YesilEkonomi 12 June 2023. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 28 June 2023. <https://yesilekonomi.com/turkiye-970-milyon-dolarlik-yesil-kredi-icin-onay-sagladi/>

²⁸⁴⁹ Boost for UK fishing industry with new infrastructure projects, The UK Government (London) 25 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/boost-for-uk-fishing-industry-with-new-infrastructure-projects>

On 28 November 2022, the Government announced that the projects that tackle some of the greatest threats to trees and forests would get a financial boost.²⁸⁵⁰ This was additional investment announced for local authority tree planting initiatives which would see hundreds of thousands of trees planted in communities across England.

On 2 December 2022, Forestry Minister Trudy Harrison announced that a new funding to plant trees in communities across the country in honour of the late Queen Elizabeth would be established.²⁸⁵¹

On 22 December 2022, the Government announced its plans to improve the quality of England's waters over the next five years backed by GBP5.3 billion of investment.²⁸⁵² The River Basin Management Plans are a legally binding environmental planning framework setting environmental objectives to tackle the chief challenges facing the water environment, including water company pollution, agricultural pollution, climate change and population growth. The plans bring together an extensive range of actions and investment to tackle these challenges – setting out GBP5.3 billion worth of action by 2027 which is already planned and funded. This includes around GBP4.3 billion of action by water companies and more than GBP500 million to mitigate the impacts of agriculture on the water environment.

On 9 January 2023, the Forestry Commission and the Scottish and Welsh Governments jointly presented a new action plan to protect plants from pests and diseases.²⁸⁵³ The Plant Biosecurity Strategy for Great Britain sets out a five-year vision for plant health, consisting of an action plan to secure national biosecurity, protect native species and drive economic growth.

On 27 January 2023, the latest round of the GBP100 million UK Seafood Fund was opened.²⁸⁵⁴ The UK fishing industry benefited from an initial GBP2 million investment to trial new, greener engines and help create a safer, more sustainable fishing fleet. From that day, vessels in the small-scale coastal fleet can bid for up to GBP40,000 to trial hybrid and electric engines, and up to GBP20,000 to fund replacement petrol and diesel engines that are more environmentally friendly.

On 31 January 2023, the Government announced its plans to restore nature, improve environmental quality, and increase the prosperity of the UK in the new Environmental Improvement Plan 2023.²⁸⁵⁵

On 17 February 2023, Levelling Up Minister Dehenna Davison announced that every council in Northern Ireland would receive funding this financial year to enhance green spaces in their communities.²⁸⁵⁶ An allocated sum of more than GBP1.3 million would help councils to fund 26 projects that would see new trees planted, cycle paths and trails expanded, play parks improved and a new King's Garden developed to mark the coronation of King Charles. The funding will allow councils to go further with their plans to level up and unlock additional investment in local green spaces this year and next.

On 28 February 2023, the Government announced that marine habitats and wildlife would receive the highest levels of protection as the Government would designate the first three Highly Protected Marine

²⁸⁵⁰ Funding boost for country's woodlands and timber industry, The UK Government (London) 28 November 2022 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-boost-for-countrys-woodlands-and-timber-industry>

²⁸⁵¹ Funding for tree planting projects to honour Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth announced, The UK Government (London) 2 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-for-tree-planting-projects-to-honour-her-majesty-queen-elizabeth-announced>

²⁸⁵² Over GBP5 billion of action set out in latest plans to protect England's waters, The UK Government (London) 22 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/over-5-billion-of-action-set-out-in-latest-plans-to-protect-englands-waters>

²⁸⁵³ New biosecurity strategy to protect food security, trade and plant health, The UK Government (London) 9 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-biosecurity-strategy-to-protect-food-security-trade-and-plant-health>

²⁸⁵⁴ Fishing fund gears up to help industry go green, The UK Government (London) 27 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fishing-fund-gears-up-to-help-industry-go-green>

²⁸⁵⁵ Ambitious roadmap for a cleaner, greener country, The UK Government (London) 31 January 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ambitious-roadmap-for-a-cleaner-greener-country>

²⁸⁵⁶ Levelling up funding to improve green spaces in Northern Ireland, The UK Government (London) 17 February 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/levelling-up-funding-to-improve-green-spaces-in-northern-ireland>

Areas in English waters.²⁸⁵⁷ Delivering on the commitments set out in the Environmental Improvement Plan, Highly Protected Marine Areas will enable nature to fully recover by removing all harmful activities including fishing, construction and dredging, increasing marine biodiversity and supporting climate-resilient ecosystems to thrive.

On 13 March 2023, the Government reopened applications for the Forestry Commission delivered Woods into Management Forestry Innovation Funds and the Tree Production Innovation Fund to further support expansion and management of the country's trees and forests and futureproof them against stresses like pests, disease and climate change.²⁸⁵⁸ In 2023 almost GBP4 million will be allocated to successful applicants across both funds, which together boost nature regeneration efforts, promote biodiversity, and support innovative approaches to tree production, tree health, and woodland resilience through increased and improved active management of woodlands, amidst a changing climate.

On 20 March 2023, the Government backed new plans for the water regulator Ofwat to take action against water companies that pay out dividends to their shareholders despite failing to meet the required performance standards.²⁸⁵⁹ The changes have been made possible by the government's Environment Act 2021 which gave Ofwat new powers to change water company licences without consent from water companies.

On 27 April 2023, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) launched a new combined Adverse Weather and Health Plan (AWHP) as part of a commitment under the climate change National Adaption Programme (NAP) to bring together and improve existing guidance on weather and health.²⁸⁶⁰ The AWHP will build on existing measures taken by UKHSA, the wider government, its agencies, NHS England and local authorities to protect people from the health effects of adverse weather and build community resilience. Bringing together the previous Heatwave Plan for England, and the Cold Weather Plan for England, this new annual document will be underpinned by: 1) a collection of supporting scientific evidence, published in parallel; 2) updated Weather-Health alerts developed in partnership with the Met Office; 3) new and updated guidance and supporting materials, providing advice on how to stay safe during severe weather events, such as periods of extreme heat and cold.

On 25 April 2023, Nuclear Waste Service set the NWS strategy, that focused on key strategic objectives to ensure that the right waste form, in the right package, is managed or disposed of at the right facility.²⁸⁶¹ According to plan capping will start on the Low-Level Waste Repository in 2024-25; thermal treatment technologies will be developed as a proven technology by 2026-27; and decisions on the communities to progress as part of the Geological Disposal Facility programme will be made by 2026.

On 27 April 2023, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) launched a new combined Adverse Weather and Health Plan (AWHP) as part of a commitment under the climate change National Adaption Programme (NAP) to bring together and improve existing guidance on weather and health.²⁸⁶² The AWHP will build on existing measures taken by UKHSA, the wider government, its agencies, NHS England and local authorities to protect people from the health effects of adverse weather and build community resilience.

²⁸⁵⁷ Highly Protected Marine Areas to be designated in English waters, The UK Government (London) 28 February 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/highly-protected-marine-areas-to-be-designated-in-english-waters>

²⁸⁵⁸ Forestry funds open to boost biodiversity and futureproof forests against pests, diseases and climate change, The UK Government (London) 13 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/forestry-funds-open-to-boost-biodiversity-and-futureproof-forests-against-pests-diseases-and-climate-change>

²⁸⁵⁹ Government supports new Ofwat powers to tackle water company dividends, The UK Government (London) 20 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-supports-new-ofwat-powers-to-tackle-water-company-dividends>

²⁸⁶⁰ UKHSA launches new Adverse Weather and Health Plan, The UK Government (London) 27 April 2023. Access Date: 3 May 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-launches-new-adverse-weather-and-health-plan>

²⁸⁶¹ Nuclear Waste Services launches strategy that will make nuclear waste permanently safe, sooner, The UK Government 25 April 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/nuclear-waste-services-launches-strategy-that-will-make-nuclear-waste-permanently-safe-sooner>

²⁸⁶² UKHSA launches new Adverse Weather and Health Plan, The UK Government (London) 27 April 2023. Access Date: 3 May 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-launches-new-adverse-weather-and-health-plan>

On 2 August 2023, the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs has announced GBP14 million grant, that available to unlock innovation and develop solutions in the farming sector in two new research and feasibility competitions under the Farming Innovation Programme.²⁸⁶³

The United Kingdom has taken strong actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nikita Shilikov

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy to increase sustainability.

On 1 December 2022, the US Environmental Protection Agency issued a multi-part proposal that would build on the strong foundation for the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program started in the Biden-Harris Administration and sought to advance the priorities of energy security, less pollution, and consumer protection.²⁸⁶⁴ The RFS “Set” proposal requested public input on required volumes of biofuel for the next one to three years and on a series of important modifications to strengthen and expand the program.

On 1 March 2023, the Government announced that it would invest USD250 million to develop innovative strategies to cut climate pollution and build clean energy economies.²⁸⁶⁵ These planning grants, through the EPA, were the first tranche of funding going to states, local governments, Tribes, and territories from the USD5 billion Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program created by President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act.

On 16 May 2023, the Administration announced the availability of nearly USD11 billion in grants and loan opportunities that will help rural energy and utility providers bring affordable, reliable clean energy to their communities across the country.²⁸⁶⁶ Specifically, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will be opening a Letter of Interest process for the Empowering Rural America program, which makes USD9.7 billion available to eligible rural electric cooperatives to deploy renewable energy systems, zero-emission and carbon capture systems.

On 5 July 2023, the Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Ocean Energy Management today announced it has approved the plan for construction and operations of the Ocean Wind 1 project offshore New Jersey.²⁸⁶⁷ The Biden-Harris administration’s third approval of a commercial-scale, offshore wind energy project in the United States, joining the Vineyard Wind project offshore Massachusetts and the South Fork Wind project offshore Rhode Island and New York, both now under construction and being built by union labor. These projects represent the Administration’s goals of developing 30 gigawatts of clean, renewable offshore wind energy by the year 2030, while protecting biodiversity and multiple uses of the ocean.

The United States has taken strong actions in promoting sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

²⁸⁶³ £14 million to unlock agricultural innovation, The UK Government (London) 2 August 2023 Access Date: 24 August 2023 <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/14-million-to-unlock-agricultural-innovation>

²⁸⁶⁴ EPA Takes Next Steps in Renewable Fuel Standard Program for 2023-25, the US Environmental Protection Agency 1 December 2022 Access Date: 30 March 2023. <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-takes-next-steps-renewable-fuel-standard-program-2023-25>

²⁸⁶⁵ Biden-Harris Administration Announces Over \$250 Million to Fund Innovative Projects That Tackle Climate Pollution, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 1 March 2023 Access Date: 30 March 2023 <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/biden-harris-administration-announces-over-250-million-fund-innovative-projects-tackle>

²⁸⁶⁶ Biden-Harris Administration Makes Historic, \$11 Billion Investment to Advance Clean Energy Across Rural America Through Investing in America Agenda, The U.S. Department of Agriculture 16 May 2023 Access Date: 27 June 2023 <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2023/05/16/biden-harris-administration-makes-historic-11-billion-investment>

²⁸⁶⁷ Biden-Harris Administration Approves Third Major Offshore Wind Project in U.S. Waters, The U.S. Department of Interior (Washington) 5 July 2023 Access Date: 25 August 2023 <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-approves-third-major-offshore-wind-project-us-waters>

Thus, the United States receives a score of +1.

Analyst: Nikita Shilikov

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

On 13 December 2022, the European Council and the European Parliament reached an agreement of a provisional and conditional nature on the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM).²⁸⁶⁸ The objective of the mechanism is to prevent the offset of the EU greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts by increasing emissions outside its borders through relocation of production to non-EU countries. Under the provisional agreement, CBAM is to enter into force in October 2023, initially covering the most carbon-intensive goods, such as “iron and steel, cement, fertilisers, aluminium, electricity and hydrogen, as well as some precursors and a limited number of downstream products.”

On 19 January 2023, the European Union representatives signed an agreement with 16 green project leaders, granting the EUR1.8 billion through the Innovation Fund.²⁸⁶⁹ According to the European Commission, these projects are to “help avoid about 125 million tonnes of CO₂ [carbon dioxide] emissions in the first 10 years of operation.” The projects focus on innovative low-carbon technologies, such as green hydrogen and synthetic sustainable aviation fuel, and methanol production from renewable hydrogen.

On 26 January 2023, the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change launched its Community of Practice.²⁸⁷⁰ The event gathered regional and local adaptation practitioners who signed the Mission Charter, and discussed financial challenges, needs for access to environmental data, and the opportunities to involve citizens in the climate resilience building.

On 14 February 2023, the European Commission proposed emissions targets for new heavy-duty vehicles, effective from 2030.²⁸⁷¹ These targets are to help reduce emissions in the transport sector by strengthening the emissions standards compared to 2019 levels, specifically: 45 per cent emissions reductions from 2030; 65 per cent emission reductions from 2035; and 90 per cent emissions reduction from 2040. Additionally, the European Commission proposed to make all new city buses zero-emission by 2030.

On 14 March 2023, the European Commission proposed a reform to the EU’s electricity market design in order to accelerate renewables deployment and the phase-out gas, reduce dependency on fossil fuel prices, better protect consumers from future price spikes and potential market manipulation, and make the EU’s industry clean and more competitive.²⁸⁷² These objectives are to be completed through providing incentives for longer-term contracts with non-fossil power producers and bringing “more clean flexible solutions into the system to compete with gas, such as demand response and storage.” The Commission also envisaged measures to protect and empower vulnerable consumers from sudden price spikes – as such, consumers will be allowed to invest in renewables generation and sell excess rooftop solar electricity to neighbors.

²⁸⁶⁸ EU climate action: provisional agreement reached on Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), European Council (Brussels) 18 December 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/12/13/eu-climate-action-provisional-agreement-reached-on-carbon-border-adjustment-mechanism-cbam/>.

²⁸⁶⁹ Innovation Fund: grant agreements signed with further 16 innovative large-scale projects, European Council (Brussels) 19 January 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/innovation-fund-grant-agreements-signed-further-16-innovative-large-scale-projects-2023-01-19_en.

²⁸⁷⁰ Launch of the Community of Practice, European Commission (Brussels) 26 January 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/events/upcoming-events/launch-community-practice-2023-01-26_en.

²⁸⁷¹ European Green Deal: Commission proposes 2030 zero-emissions target for new city buses and 90% emissions reductions for new trucks by 2040, European Council (Brussels) 14 February 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_762.

²⁸⁷² Commission proposes reform of the EU electricity market design to boost renewables, better protect consumers and enhance industrial competitiveness, European Commission (Brussels) 14 March 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_1591.

On 4 April 2023, the European Commission announced the Declaration on EU Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) 2030: Research & Innovation, Education & Training.²⁸⁷³ The goal of the initiative is to ensure EU leadership and strategic independence with regards to SMRs development, production and deployment. According to the European Commission, the SMRs offer a “promising option to replace old coal power plants and to complement the penetration of renewables.”

On 18 April 2023, the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency launched a call for proposals for cross-border EU energy infrastructure projects of common interest to be co-financed through grants worth EUR750 million from the EU budget.²⁸⁷⁴ These projects of common interest represent the infrastructure projects aimed at achieving the EU's energy policy and climate goals of ensuring universally affordable, secure and sustainable energy, as well as the long-term decarbonization of the economy.

On 18 April 2023, the European Parliament approved the legislation on the Fit for 55 in 2030 package – the European Union's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 per cent by 2030 compared to 1990 levels, including the introduction of the CBAM, the regulation of the emissions from maritime transport and aviation, as well as an institution of the EU Social Climate Fund.²⁸⁷⁵ This Fund is to ensure that the climate transition will be fair and socially inclusive, through target support to Vulnerable households, micro-enterprises and transport users.

On 19 April 2023, the European Commission launched a portal on climate adaptation, to “help drive forward the EU's Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change.”²⁸⁷⁶ The Portal provides information on the Mission, its latest developments and the contribution by regional and local authorities. One of the goals of the portal is to provide support to regional and local authorities in developing, implementing and monitoring their climate change adaptation plans.

On 24 April 2023, the European Commissioner for International Partnerships Jutta Urpilainen and Prime Minister of Togo Victoire Tomegah Dogbé signed two agreements on: developing agro-industries and enhancing natural resources management amounting to EUR30 million in EU funding; and a EUR40 million support programme for expanding access to basic social services and agriculture.²⁸⁷⁷ The agreements are to support increased agricultural productivity – including through the implementation of solar irrigation, expansion of access to finance and the development of sustainable value chains.

On 24 April 2023, the European Union and Norway signed an agreement establishing a Green Alliance, aimed at strengthening “joint climate action, environmental protection efforts, and cooperation on the clean energy and industrial transition.”²⁸⁷⁸ According to the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, the alliance provides for a deeper cooperation between the two parties on reducing emissions, protecting nature, decarbonising energy systems, and greening industries.

²⁸⁷³ Commission Declaration on ‘EU Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) 2030: Research & Innovation, Education & Training’, European Commission (Brussels) 4 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/news/all-research-and-innovation-news/commission-declaration-eu-small-modular-reactors-smrs-2030-research-innovation-education-training-2023-04-04_en.

²⁸⁷⁴ CEF Energy launches €750 million call for energy infrastructure projects, European Commission (Brussels) 18 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://cinea.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/cef-energy-launches-eu750-million-call-energy-infrastructure-projects-2023-04-18_en

²⁸⁷⁵ Fit for 55: Parliament adopts key laws to reach 2030 climate target, European Parliament (Brussels) 18 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230414IPR80120/fit-for-55-parliament-adopts-key-laws-to-reach-2030-climate-target>.

²⁸⁷⁶ EU's Mission on Climate Adaptation launches its portal, European Commission (Brussels) 19 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/news/eus-mission-climate-adaptation-launches-its-portal-2023-04-19_en.

²⁸⁷⁷ Global Gateway: EU and Togo strengthen partnership in sustainable agribusiness, energy and connectivity, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_2401.

²⁸⁷⁸ European Green Deal: New EU-Norway Green Alliance to deepen cooperation on climate, environment, energy and clean industry, European Commission (Brussels) 24 April 2023. Access Date: 7 May 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_2391.

On 8 June, the European Commission published a report with the recommendations for the 18 Member States that are at risk of not achieving the main 2025 recycling targets.²⁸⁷⁹ These recommendations cover a broad range of actions: reducing non-recyclable waste, increasing reuse, boosting separate collection, developing waste treatment capacities for sorting and recycling, improving governance, deploying economic instruments and awareness-raising. Furthermore, the Commission has presented initiatives that contribute to a more circular economy and will support Member States in improving performance in waste management and reaching the targets, such as the proposals for new regulations on Waste shipments, Packaging and packing waste and on Ecodesign for sustainable products.

On 8 June, the EU accepted the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies. The Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies is crucial for ensuring that fisheries subsidies take sustainability as their core objective and avoid harming the ocean and fish stocks on which the livelihoods of coastal communities around the world depend.²⁸⁸⁰

On 13 June, the Commission put forward a new package of measures to ensure that the EU sustainable finance framework continues to support companies and the financial sector, while encouraging the private funding of transition projects and technologies.²⁸⁸¹ These measures include additional activities to the EU Taxonomy and proposing new rules for Environmental, Social and Governance rating providers, which will increase transparency on the market for sustainable investments.

On 20 June 2023, the Council of the EU reached an agreement (general approach) on a proposal for a nature restoration law.²⁸⁸² The proposal aims to put in place recovery measures that will cover at least 20 per cent of the EU's land and 20 per cent sea areas by 2030, and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050.

On 30 June 2023, the European Commission announced today 18 new projects which will receive over EUR106 million to contribute to the EU Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters'.²⁸⁸³ The projects gather over 370 beneficiaries from 36 countries, including SMEs, research institutions, local authorities, schools and businesses. The projects will deliver a wide variety of benefits to the ocean and waters, such as protection and restoration of degraded coastal and marine habitats, wetlands, flood plains, coastal wetlands and salt marshes; actions to prevent, minimise and remediate chemical pollution in the Mediterranean Sea etc.

On 5 July 2023, the European Commission responded to the European citizens' initiative 'Stop finning – Stop the trade' asking the Commission for action to end international trade of loose shark fins.²⁸⁸⁴ The Commission will take action in three areas, including examining the opportunity of taking a legislative initiative to end trade in loose fins, starting an impact assessment and improving relevant statistics.

On 10 July 2023, the Council of the EU adopted a new regulation that strengthens sustainability rules for batteries and waste batteries.²⁸⁸⁵ The regulation will regulate the entire life cycle of batteries – from

²⁸⁷⁹ Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions identifying Member States at risk of not meeting the 2025 preparing for re-use and recycling target for municipal waste, European Commission. Access Date: 29 June 2023. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2023%3A304%3AFIN&qid=1686220362244>

²⁸⁸⁰ EU among first to accept WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, European Commission. Access Date: 29 June 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3108

²⁸⁸¹ Sustainable Finance: Commission takes further steps to boost investment for a sustainable future, European Commission. Access Date: 29 June 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_23_3192

²⁸⁸² Council reaches agreement on the nature restoration law. Access Date: 22.08.2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/06/20/council-reaches-agreement-on-the-nature-restoration-law/>

²⁸⁸³ EU Mission 'Restore our Ocean and Waters': €106 million for 18 new projects for protection, conservation, depollution and innovation. Access Date: 22.08.2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_3608

²⁸⁸⁴ 'Stop finning – Stop the trade': Commission welcomes European citizens' initiative and will explore ways to address trade in shark fins. Access Date: 22.08.2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_3676

²⁸⁸⁵ Council adopts new regulation on batteries and waste batteries. Access Date: 20.08.2023. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/07/10/council-adopts-new-regulation-on-batteries-and-waste-batteries/>

production to reuse and recycling – and ensure that they are safe, sustainable and competitive. The new rules aim to promote a circular economy by regulating batteries throughout their life cycle.

On 11 July 2023, the European Parliament adopted its position on the industrial emission directive (IED) and the directive on the landfill of waste and on the regulation on the Industrial Emissions Portal.²⁸⁸⁶ MEPs backed the Commission proposal to extend the IED to extractive industry installations (mines) and large installations manufacturing batteries. The Parliament also voted to increase transparency and public participation in relation to the licensing, operation and control of regulated installations. The European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register would be transformed into an EU Industrial Emissions Portal where citizens can access data on all EU permits and local polluting activities.

On 12 July 2023, the European Parliament adopted its position on the EU nature restoration law.²⁸⁸⁷ The Commission proposed on 22 June 2022 a regulation on nature restoration to contribute to the long-term recovery of damaged nature across the EU's land and sea areas and to achieve EU climate and biodiversity objectives.

On 13 July 2023, the European Commission proposed measures to enhance the circularity of the automotive sector, covering the design, production and end-of-life treatment of vehicles.²⁸⁸⁸ The proposed actions are expected to generate EUR1.8 billion net revenue by 2035, with additional jobs created and enhanced revenue streams for the waste management and recycling industry. To facilitate the sector's transition, the Commission has revised the existing legislation and proposes a single regulation that focuses on several key elements to improve quality in design, collection, and recycling, while facilitating reporting obligations.

On 25 July 2023, the European Council adopted the law, aiming to reduce the carbon footprint of the maritime sector in the EU.²⁸⁸⁹

During the monitoring period the European Union has taken actions to promote sustainable development and lifestyles, resource efficiency and circular economy.

Thus, the European Union receives a score of +1.

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²⁸⁸⁶ Industrial emissions: MEPs support revision of rules to reduce pollution. Access Date: 20.08.2023.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230707IPR02417/industrial-emissions-meps-support-revision-of-rules-to-reduce-pollution>

²⁸⁸⁷ Nature restoration law: MEPs adopt position for negotiations with Council. Access Date: 20.08.2023.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230707IPR02433/nature-restoration-law-meps-adopt-position-for-negotiations-with-council>

²⁸⁸⁸ Circular economy: improving design and end-of-life management of cars for more resource-efficient automotive sector. Access Date: 20.08.2023. https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_3819

²⁸⁸⁹ FuelEU maritime initiative: Council adopts new law to decarbonise the maritime sector. Access Date: 20.08.2023.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2023/07/25/fueu-maritime-initiative-council-adopts-new-law-to-decarbonise-the-maritime-sector/>