


6.9 Factsheet EU Ecolabel

This factsheet aims to provide accessible and factual information on the EU Ecolabel. This factsheet presents the actual status of the ecolabel in April 2023. For more detailed information on the system, the reader may visit the website of the certification scheme or contact ecolabel owner.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this factsheet is for informational purpose only and cannot be used in replacement of the official EU Ecolabel standards and procedures

Table 17 Factsheet EU Ecolabel

Scheme Feature	Description
General	
Name of scheme	EU Ecolabel
Scheme owner	The functioning of the EU Ecolabel is set out in the official Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (No 66/2010). The EU Ecolabel is managed by the European Commission and the Member States. The European Commission manages the EU Ecolabel at the EU level to ensure that the EU Ecolabel Regulation is implemented correctly and agrees on a Strategic Working Plan for the EU Ecolabel. Different groups involved in the management, implementation and growth of the EU Ecolabel include the European Commission, EU Ecolabelling Board, Competent Bodies, Stakeholders, and EU Ecolabel Helpdesk.
Website	https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home_en
Label provided	
Operational since	1992
Number of active certificates	As of March 2023, 2367 licences have been awarded for 88045 products (goods and services) in the EU market.
Standard ownership	The EU Ecolabel is a voluntary ecolabelling scheme primarily for the EU market. The EU Ecolabel is the official European Union label for environmental excellence.
General objective	The EU Ecolabel aims to promote products and services with a reduced environmental impact during their entire life cycle and to provide consumers with accurate, non-deceptive, science-based information on the environmental impact of products. It is awarded to sustainably designed products that contribute to the EU goal of climate neutrality by 2050 and to the circular economy.
Scope	
Biomass feedstock coverage	The EU Ecolabel covers a wide range of biomass: from forestry, agricultural, as well as residual products from production and manufacturing processes such as straw from cereal production or bagasse from sugar cane production or recycled material like fibres. The label is provided on the products and not on raw materials.
Sector/Product group coverage	The EU Ecolabel covers a wide range of products that we use in our day-to-day home and work life. The products groups currently covered by the EU Ecolabel are: Cleaning, Clothing and textiles, Coverings, Do it yourself (paints and varnishes), Electronic equipment, Furniture and mattresses, Gardening, Holiday accommodation, Lubricants, Paper, and Personal and animal care products. Additionally, the EU Ecolabel is developing the following new product group criteria: Financial products, Food and feed products, and Office buildings. For this project, the 6 sectors are: plastics, construction, woodworking, textiles, pulp and paper, and chemicals. Therefore, the product groups of cleaning, clothing and textiles, coverings, paint and varnishes, furniture, lubricants, paper and personal and animal care products are most relevant.

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Supply chain coverage	EU Ecolabel encompasses the entire product life cycle and therefore considers the full supply chain.
Geographic focus of the standard	The EU Ecolabel is applied in all EU member states, and also in Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland. EU Ecolabel is recognised worldwide.
Governance, Standard Development and Certification Requirements	
Scheme governance	<p>The EU Ecolabel has a multi-layered governance structure composed by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. European Parliament and Council of the European Union: adopt/revise Regulation on Community Eco-label Award Scheme. 2. European Commission: manages the EU Ecolabel at the EU level to ensure correct implementation of the ecolabel. EC is responsible for preparing the final draft of the criteria documents, taking into account comments from the EU Ecolabelling Board (EUEB) 3. European Ecolabelling Board (EUEB): composed of representatives of the Competent Bodies of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, and the representatives of 13 stakeholder organisations and 3 EU/UN bodies. EUEB contributes to the development and revision of Ecolabel criteria and the implementation of the EU Ecolabel scheme, gives advice and assistance to the commission in the recommendations on minimum environmental performance requirements. 4. National competent bodies: responsible for implementing the EU Ecolabel scheme at the national level, receive and assess applications and award the EU Ecolabel to products that meet the criteria set for them, work for EUEB and commenting on draft criteria (partly with financial contributions from the national authorities), manage the licensing process, seek opinions at national level of interested parties, and promote the use of the EU Ecolabel. 5. Stakeholders: take part in the development of the criteria with a balanced participation of all relevant stakeholders concerned with a particular product group, such as industry and service providers, including SMEs, and their business organisations, trade unions, traders, retailers, importers, environmental protection groups and consumer organisations must be guaranteed. 6. EU Ecolabel helpdesk: assists the European Commission with various tasks such as writing news publications, generating stakeholder support and soliciting aid for certain marketing activities. It also provides help to the public by email and phone regarding general questions about the EU Ecolabel.
Standard documents	<p>The EU Ecolabel Regulation (No 66/2010) lays down rules for the establishment and application of the voluntary European Union Ecolabel scheme, which applies to any goods or services which are supplied for distribution, consumption or use on the European Community market. These provisions regulate the award of the EU Ecolabel and terms and conditions of its use. The EU Ecolabel provides for each product group documents with information on the current criteria, the validity and application pack/user manual. The criteria and application documents can be downloaded from its website: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/product-groups-and-criteria_en. The EU Ecolabel has additional guidelines regarding use of the EU Ecolabel Catalogue (ECAT) for applicants and License holders and use of logo. The documents can be found at: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/how-apply_en</p>
Transparency and accessibility of standard documents	The EU ecolabel is transparent regarding the criteria that products must meet. Documents explaining the criteria, guidelines, application forms are publicly and freely available online. User Manuals are available to support applicants and users of EU Ecolabel.
Multi-stakeholder participation in standard development	EU Ecolabel criteria development and revision is a multi-step and multi-stakeholder process carried out according to the Annex I of the EU Ecolabel Regulation (No 66/2010). They are developed with the input of relevant stakeholders such as industry, business organisations, SMEs, environmental and consumer organisations and trade unions. The EU Ecolabel criteria development is managed by the Joint Research Centre. Every set of criteria undergoes several rounds of discussion. Criteria are finally adopted through a Decision of the European Commission.
Compliance with ISEAL's Standards-Setting, Impacts and Assurance Codes of Good Practice	The EU Ecolabel is an ISO 14024 (2018) Type 1 Ecolabel and conforms to the requirements of this international standard along with the more general ISO 14020 (2022). The EU Ecolabel does not refer to ISEAL codes. However, certification schemes that the EU Ecolabel accepts as documentation for responsibly sourced raw materials, must comply with ISEAL codes.
Compliance with regional, national, international laws	The EU Ecolabel follows international, European, or national standards. They verification of compliance shall take into consideration the net environmental balance between the environmental benefits and burdens, including health and safety aspects; where appropriate, social and ethical aspects shall be considered, e.g., by making reference to related international conventions and agreements such as relevant International Labor Organization (ILO) standards and codes of conduct.
Reference to standards and policies	The EU Ecolabel is an ISO 14024 Type 1 ecolabel and a member of the Global Ecolabelling Network. In the product criteria other standards (ISO and European standards) may apply and references are provided. This information can be found in the product criteria documents.
Obligation for certification	Producers, manufacturers, importers, service providers and wholesalers placing their products and/or services on the EEA (the European Union, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland) market can apply for the EU Ecolabel. Retailers can also apply for products placed on the market under their own brand name. Any product or service that is supplied for distribution, consumption or use in the EEA market can be awarded the EU Ecolabel,

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	regardless of the origin of the product. The EU Ecolabel Regulation allows manufacturers, producers and retailers based in non-European countries to apply for the EU Ecolabel on the condition that they meet the criteria for their respective product group and that the product is sold in the EEA market. The application can be made to the competent body of the country where the products are produced (if inside the EEA) or will be marketed (if outside the EEA).
Certification process	The EU Ecolabel application process consist of the following steps: 1.Contact the Competent Body (in the European Union and Iceland, Lichtenstein, and Norway), 2. Register your goods or service in the online EU Ecolabel catalogue (ECAT) or the EU Ecolabel tourist accommodation catalogue, 3. Build your application dossier with your goods and service description and testing, 4. Submit your application and pay the fees, 5. Assessment, 6. Application approval and licence award, 7. Communicate about your EU Ecolabel goods and services.
Traceability and Chain of custody	The EU Ecolabel requires a chain of custody certification system to meet the following requirements: It must be issued by an accredited, competent third party and it must assure traceability, documentation and controls throughout the production chain. The manufacturer of the EU Ecolabelled product must show that raw material suppliers are certified and provide information about traceability system. The applicable chain of custody system is provided per product group. The supplier of wood raw materials must have a valid Chain of Custody (CoC) certification under the FSC / PEFC schemes. In the case of Lubricants, the following supply chain models for the uptake of the certified palm oil and palm kernel oil products: Identify Preserved, Segregated System and Mass Balance system.
Verification of compliance	The EU Ecolabel is a Type 1 Ecolabel and requires independent third-party certification. The user of the EU Ecolabel shall allow the competent body (including its authorised agents) which has awarded the EU Ecolabel to the product to undertake all necessary investigations to monitor its on-going compliance with the product group criteria. The EU Ecolabel licence holder is the responsible to ensure criteria compliance throughout the entire validity of its licence.
Accreditation of Certification Bodies	The Competent bodies are independent and neutral organisations responsible for implementing the Community Eco-label award Scheme at national level. Competent bodies shall ensure that the verification process is carried out in a consistent, neutral and reliable manner by a party independent from the operator being verified, based on international, European or national standards and procedures concerning bodies operating product-certification schemes. The EU Ecolabel works and create synergies with European Union Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).
Training of auditors and staff and qualification and evaluation of competencies	Competent bodies and their personnel shall carry out the conformity assessment activities with the highest degree of professional integrity and have the requisite technical knowledge and sufficient and appropriate experience to perform the conformity assessment tasks. Competent bodies shall participate in, or ensure that their assessment personnel are informed of, the relevant standardisation activities and the activities of the working group of competent bodies.
Audit process	After receiving the application, the Competent Body will examine all submitted documentation (including any material that might have been sent directly by suppliers) and gives initial feedback within two months. After all documentation has been assessed, the Competent Body may carry out an on-site visit of the operator or suppliers' sites. The Competent Body judges the necessity for this on-site visit on a case-by-case basis unless otherwise stated within the EU Ecolabel criteria and may charge a fee for it. After approval, the Competent Body communicates how often test samples of the product should be conducted to proactively verify criteria compliance. Depending on the Competent Body, factory inspections and product tests or visits may be carried out. These inspections are intended to ensure that environmental excellence is maintained for consumers.
Frequency of audit	Once the contract is in place, the competent body may at any time request the necessary documentation from the licence holder to monitor compliance of the product with the criteria and the conditions of use laid down in the contract. The competent body may also visit the premises of the license holder to ensure that the requirements are met. The use of EU Ecolabel is limited to the period of validity of the product group criteria which is usually valid for a period of three to five years, depending on the product group. Licence holders may use the EU Ecolabel starting from the date it is awarded until the end of the period of the validity of the criteria. If criteria are revised, license holders need to renew their contract. If criteria validity is prolonged, the contract is automatically renewed as long as the criteria remain valid for a product or service.
Internal audit	As a licence holder, it is the operator's responsibility to ensure criteria compliance throughout the entire validity of the licence(s). The Competent Body will explain how often test samples of the product should be conducted to proactively verify criteria compliance. The manufacturer or the supplier will need to keep a journal of all tests conducted on the goods or services along with their results. This documentation should be always available and may be requested by the Competent Body.
Certification claims and labels	The EU Ecolabel Logo Guidelines provides detailed information on the use of the EU Ecolabel logo. More information can be found at:

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	https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/eu-ecolabel-branding_en#logo-guidelines
Sanctions, non-conformities and suspension	EU Ecolabel relays on the Competent Body to evaluate non-conformities and suspension. If the Competent body receives evidence that the goods or service no longer complies with the criteria during the validity period, the Competent Body will request an immediate Corrective Action Plan or may even prohibit the use of the EU Ecolabel on that good or service.
Complaint and appeal mechanisms	The competent body which has awarded the EU Ecolabel to the product shall inform the user of the EU Ecolabel of any complaints made concerning the product bearing the EU Ecolabel and may request the user to reply to those complaints. The competent body may withhold the identity of the complainant from the user. EU Ecolabel help desk has a “Non-compliance with EU Ecolabel criteria complaint form” online at: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/community-and-helpdesk_en
Guarantee smallholder inclusiveness of the standard	The EU ecolabel supports small, medium enterprises, micro-enterprises and operators in developing countries with specific measures to encourage small and medium sized enterprises to take part in the scheme, e.g., reduced fees, consultation procedures open to SMEs, testing and verification requirements adapted to SMEs' capabilities. The EU Ecolabel gives 25% discount for SMEs and applicants from developing countries.
Promote continuous improvement	The EU Ecolabel is a Type 1 Ecolabel according to the standard ISO 14024 which requires a development through continuous improvements and regular evaluation. The different product group criteria is revised on a regular basis to reflect on technical innovation, such as evolution of materials or production processes, emission reductions and changes in the market. This revision process reinforces the trust that consumers and professionals place in the EU Ecolabel to only include high quality goods and services that respect the latest environmental standards.
Assurance of quality	The EU Ecolabel is awarded by independent third-party organisations only to the best 10- 20% products on the market, in terms of environmental performance. The EU ecolabel also fulfils high standards with respect to the protection of human health while also having the same fitness for use and quality. The label also encourages companies to develop innovative products that are durable, easy to repair and recyclable.
Impact assessment	The Commission initiated its Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme (REFIT) in 2012, where one of the resultant actions of the program is the Fitness Check which has the purpose to analyse the effectiveness, efficiency and the added value of European regulations, as well as, to evaluate and assess the contribution to competitiveness, sustainable consumption, and production. The Fitness Check mandate applies to the EU ecolabel voluntary scheme. With the fitness check, the Commission, together with the EU Ecolabelling Board, assesses whether the objectives of these regulations have been met and whether implementation has been done in a cost-effective way.
Risk management	Aspects of risk management are considered in the EU Ecolabel, and this should be implemented in compliance with precautionary principle Article 191 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The precautionary principle may be invoked when a phenomenon, product or process may have a dangerous effect, identified by a scientific and objective evaluation. The principle belongs in the general framework of risk analysis (which, besides risk evaluation, includes risk management and risk communication), and more particularly in the context of risk management which corresponds to the decision-making phase.
Cost of certification	The certification cost includes: 1) Application fee: no lower than EUR 200 and no higher than EUR 2000. Reductions may apply for some applications, 2) Annual fee: This can be a flat fee, or a fee based on the annual value of sales within the Union of the product awarded the EU Ecolabel, 3) Inspection fee: annual fee does not cover the cost of testing, verification and any on-site inspections that may be required. Applicants will cover the cost of such testing, verification and inspections themselves., 4) Extension and modification fee: fee for modification or extension of a licence and shall not be higher than the application fee. Updated information about the fees can be found at: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/how-apply_en
Sustainability Principles and Criteria	
Reference Document	The EU Ecolabel is a component of the European Commission’s action plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production and Sustainable Industrial Policy. There is not a single document summarizing and describing the sustainability principles and criteria requirements for all product categories. The background information, environmental, quality criteria, chain of custody and reference for each product groups can be found in individual documents.
Major Must and Minor Must	n/a
Environmental	
General information	EU Ecolabel sets environmental requirements for each set product group related to: the impact on climate change, the impact on nature and biodiversity, energy and resource consumption, generation of waste, emissions to all environmental media, pollution through physical effects and use and the substitution of hazardous substances by safer substances, as such or via the use of alternative materials or designs, wherever

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	it is technically feasible. There is special focus on use of sustainable and renewable raw materials. To ensure that biological resources are sustainably sourced, EU Ecolabel accepts credible third-party standards and certification schemes e.g., FSC and PEFC for sustainable forestry in products which include fibre raw materials and some agricultural products e.g., palm (RSPO).
Reduce GHG emissions	The Ecolabel sets thresholds limiting the amount of GHG emissions during the production. This is especially linked to the criteria on energy consumed during the production processes (combustion emissions).
Protection of land with high carbon stock	The EU Ecolabel criteria aim to protect forests from deforestation by requiring that at least 70 % of fibre material allocated to the product is recycled or originates from forests managed according to sustainable forestry principles set out by an independent third-party certification scheme such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). For agricultural products the sustainable production is checked through compliance with certification schemes such as a RSPO for palm oil.
Protection of peatland	EU Ecolabel criterion excludes the use in the product of intentionally added peat (for growing media and soil improvers). This restriction was set because peat extraction affects valuable habitats for wildlife and contributes to the emission of sequestered carbon into the atmosphere, accelerating climate change.
Promote sustainable forest management	EU Ecolabel requires that wood raw materials used in products must come from sustainably managed forests. For wooden products placed on the market bearing the Ecolabel, at least 70% of any solid wood and 40% wood-based materials must originate either from sustainably managed forests which have been certified by independent third-party schemes fulfilling the criteria listed in paragraph 15 of the Council Resolution of 15 December 1998 on a Forestry Strategy for the EU and further development thereof, or from recycled materials. Following certification system are acceptable. FSC Forest Stewardship Council, PEFC Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes, SFI Sustainable Forestry Initiative, CSA Canada's National Standard for Sustainable Forest Management.
Protection of land with a high biodiversity value	The position of the European Commission regarding the protection of biodiversity has been focus on raw material extraction which should be covered by appropriate mitigation measures that aim at minimising biodiversity losses and guarantee appropriate recovery of the areas where extraction activities take place. Key changes are proposed after revising the EU Ecolabel criteria in 2022 and new principles set by the latest EU strategies were included, with reference to the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and Soil Strategy for 2030.
Restoration, preservation and strengthening of biodiversity	The EU Ecolabel is taken measures to protect and strength biodiversity according to the European Green Deal aims to preserve and restore ecosystems and biodiversity, the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 aims to protect and restore carbon-rich ecosystems and peatlands which are in agreement with the EU Soil Strategy for 2030 to promote the restoration of drained organic soils and EU Ecolabel criteria for growing media and soil improvers. For wood products it is required that measures must be in place to minimise potential impacts on the surrounding habitat and birds, and to limit the presence of invasive species.
Sustainable use of water	The EU Ecolabel sets requirements for sustainable water consumption. Manufacturing plants shall have systems for water-saving.
Maintaining and enhancing water quality	The EU Ecolabel demands that measures be taken to reduce the amount of unwanted chemicals end in water e.g., dishwasher detergents awarded with the EU Ecolabel should not contain substances adversely affecting marine life when discharged into a waterway and for textiles minimising effluent chemical oxygen demand (COD). Manufacturer applicants are also required to measure the emissions to water at the wastewater treatment plant.
Maintaining and enhancing soil quality and productivity	The European Commission has implemented policy tools such as the EU Soil Strategy for 2030 which promotes the restoration of drained organic soil and the future implementation of carbon farming in the EU, aimed at helping private actors and public authorities start up carbon farming initiatives. In the EU ecolabel the soil quality is addressed through voluntary sustainability certification schemes.
Soil quality consideration for use of residual flows	Within Fertilizer Product Regulation (FPR) the use of compost and digestate, as components of EU fertilising products, is promoted to recirculate organic matter and nutrients. This inclusion accommodates the principles of the Waste Framework Directive, stating that a waste ceases to be a waste if it undergoes recovery operations (including recycling) and meets specific criteria. From 16 July 2022, there will be a new consolidated version of the FPR, due to ongoing amendments, which were considered during the development of the revised EU Ecolabel criteria.
Prohibition on the use of hazardous/toxic chemicals	In May 2021, the European Commission has adopted the Zero Pollution Action Plan, as part of the European Green Deal, envisaging a toxic-free environment by 2050. The initiative aims to reduce air, water and soil pollution to levels no longer considered harmful to health and natural ecosystems, and that respect the boundaries our planet can cope with, thus creating a toxic-free environment. The EU Ecolabel is key to contributing to the Zero Pollution Action Plan's toxic-free environment objective. It is a transparent and reliable environmental label with a strong focus on toxic-free products, safe and sustainable by design. The EU Ecolabel may not be awarded if the product meet the criteria for classification with the hazard statements or risk phrases specified in table 4, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 or Council

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	Directive 67/548/EEC, nor they contain substances or mixtures referred to in Article 57 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH).
Implement best practices for the use of (agro)chemicals	The European Commission has adopted a proposal for a new Regulation on the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products, including EU wide targets to reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 2030, in line with the EU's Biodiversity strategies. The proposal, adopted on June 2022, the main measures include: 1) Legally binding targets at EU level to reduce by 50% the use and the risk of chemical pesticides as well as the use of the more hazardous pesticides by 2030. 2) Environmentally friendly pest control: new measures will ensure that all farmers and other professional pesticide users practice Integrated Pest Management (IPM). EU Ecolabel have strict requirements for the use of pesticides in cultivation of e.g., cotton and promotes use of IPM.
Restrict air pollution, promote good air quality	The EU Ecolabel is a strong instrument to reduce contamination of air. The EU Ecolabel guarantees that certified paints and varnished contain reduced amounts of hazardous substances and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Also, for paper mills limit on the sulphur, phosphorous and NOx emissions. Manufacturer applicants are required to measure the emissions to air.
Limit the risk of Indirect Land Use Change (ILUC)	-
Circularity	
General information	The EU Ecolabel promotes Europe's transition to a circular economy, supporting both sustainable production and consumption. The new Circular Economy Action Plan recognizes the valuable role of EU Ecolabel criteria to inspire mandatory legislation and prescribes the systematic inclusion of circular economy aspects in the EU Ecolabel criteria. The EU Ecolabel encourage producers, depending on the product group, to efficiently use raw materials, generate less waste and emission during the manufacturing process, use less hazardous chemicals and develop products that are durable, easy to repair and recyclable.
Promote waste reduction and responsible waste management	The EU Ecolabel strives to reduce waste. For some products there is criterion setting limits on the quantity of waste generated during the manufacture and packaging of the products. There is a requirement to have a waste management system in place for waste reduction, separation, reuse and recycling during the production.
Raw material efficiency	The implementation of material efficiency aspects has been progressively gaining importance in product policies, especially after the recast of the Ecodesign directive and EU Ecolabel regulation. For the EU Ecolabel, material efficiency criteria considered relate to reuse/recycling of process residues and waste.
Efficient use of energy	EU Ecolabel is a tool for reduced total energy consumption and less use of fossil fuels and promotes locally produced energy in products and services. In production systems the EU Ecolabel has limits to ensure energy efficiency (e.g., paper products and floor coverings).
Promote use of renewable sources	The EU Ecolabel promotes and stimulates the use of more sustainable and renewable resources and ingredients in different product criteria. Such as the requirement for lubricants that are manufactured from at least 50% renewable raw materials. Thereby EU Ecolabel promotes integration of bio-based products in the European economy. There is also restriction on the use of non-renewable energy sources and promotion of use of renewables.
Promote material circularity	The EU Ecolabel is referred to in the new Circular Economy Action Plan. The Action Plan foresees that the review of the Ecodesign Directive as well as further work on specific product groups, will build, among others and where appropriate, on criteria and rules established under the EU Ecolabel Regulation. The EU Ecolabel has in fact acted as a pioneer in promoting the circular economy, as the criteria are based on the main principles of the circular economy concept; for example, by promoting reuse of materials, setting strict chemical requirements that allow the materials to be recycled, and requirements on durability of products. The EU Ecolabel requires information to be provided for users about maintenance and disposal.
Social	
General information	The EU Ecolabel puts most emphasis on environmental aspects, but also include some social requirements.
Compliance with labour rights	The EU ecolabel promotes full and productive employment and decent work for all and guarantees social and ethical aspects. Applicants shall ensure that the fundamental principles and rights at work shall be observed by production sites by referring to related international conventions and agreements, such as relevant International Labour Organization (ILO) standards and codes of conduct. Companies that make products with the EU Ecolabel must always adhere to the relevant legislation. For industries that typically carry out production outside the EU, this also means that no child labour or forced labour, along with other social requirements.
Respect wellbeing of workers	EU Ecolabel favour substitution of hazardous substances with safer ones. This helps to prevent both users and factory workers from being exposed to harmful chemicals.

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Respect property and usage rights	This aspect is indirectly covered through recognition of voluntary sustainability certification schemes where this requirement is covered.
Respect wellbeing of the local population	This aspect is indirectly covered through recognition of voluntary sustainability certification schemes. Additionally, EU Ecolabel helps reducing the amount of hazardous substances and promoting healthy lives for all. This applies to substances that come into direct contact with humans as well as substances that pollute air, soil and water. For example, the EU Ecolabel sets requirements for personal care products, prohibiting among other things, substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or allergenic as well as reproductive toxicants and substances listed by the EU as possible endocrine disruptors.
Food security	This aspect is indirectly covered through recognition of voluntary sustainability certification schemes.
Economic	
General information	The EU Ecolabel criteria focus mainly on environmental aspects, health aspects and some social aspect of concern in a few product groups. Economic aspects are outside scope. Relevant information found related to economic aspects are provided below.
Financial and economic viability	The EU Ecolabel is a tool for enhancing business competitiveness, promoting resource efficiency and helping to create new business models and innovative solutions. The EU Ecolabel enhances company's sustainable image, and can also lead to financial savings (e.g., reduced resource use and electricity consumption, improved waste management). Having products or services awarded with the EU Ecolabel ensures easier access to Green Public Procurement.
Fair business practices, Integrity	-
Promote local development, Inclusive economic growth	-
Use of knowledge and technology	-
Fair trade and market practices	-
Risk assessment and management	-

Date completed: 13 April 2023

Sources:

- General Information EU Ecolabel https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- General Information <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/documents/general.pdf> (Last visited: April 2023)
- How to Apply for the EU Ecolabel https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/how-apply_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- REGULATION (EC) No 66/2010 EU ECOLABEL <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2010:027:0001:0019:en:PDF> (Last visited: April 2023)
- EU Ecolabel Facts and Figures https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/business/ecolabel-facts-and-figures_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- About the EU Ecolabel https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/about-eu-ecolabel_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- What is an ecolabel? https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/faq_en#the-eu-ecolabel-scheme (Last visited: April 2023)
- Product groups and criteria https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/product-groups-and-criteria_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- How to apply to EU Ecolabel? https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/how-apply_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- Business https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/business_en (Last visited: April 2023)

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- What is the procedure to develop or revise group product criteria? https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/faq_en#eu-ecolabel-products-and-criteria (Last visited: April 2023)
- Frequently ask questions https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/faq_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- Helpdesk https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/community-and-helpdesk_en#global-ecolabelling-network (Last visited: April 2023)
- How is the Ecolabel being monitored to prevent wrongful use? https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/circular-economy/eu-ecolabel-home/about-eu-ecolabel_en (Last visited: April 2023)
- Carbon footprinting and the European Ecolabel https://ec.europa.eu/environment/archives/ecolabel/carbon_en.htm (Last visited: April 2023)
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