1. EUROPEANS AND THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

**Attitudes towards the environment**

- **EU28**
  - Number of interviews: 27,998
  - Fieldwork: 26/04-11/05/2014
- **NL**
  - Number of interviews: 1,032
  - Fieldwork: 26/04-06/05/2014

**Methodology:** face-to-face

### QA1. How important is protecting the environment to you personally?

- **EU**
  - Very important: 53% (2014), 42% (2014-2011)
  - Fairly important: 42% (2014), 60% (2014), 5% (2014-2011)
  - Not very important: 4% (2014), 3% (2014), 37% (2014-2011)
  - Not at all important: 1% (2014), 0% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)
  - Don't know: 0% (2014), 1% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)

- **NL**
  - Very important: 37% (2014), 3% (2014-2011)
  - Fairly important: 60% (2014), 17% (2014), 3% (2014-2011)
  - Not very important: 3% (2014), 36% (2014), 37% (2014-2011)
  - Not at all important: 0% (2014), 1% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)
  - Don't know: 0% (2014), 0% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)

- **Attitudes towards the environment EU28 Number of interviews:** 27,998
- **Fieldwork:** 26/04-11/05/2014
- **Attitudes towards the environment NL Number of interviews:** 1,032
- **Fieldwork:** 26/04-06/05/2014

### QA2. From the following list, please pick the five main environmental issues that you are worried about.

- Water pollution (seas, rivers, lakes and underground sources): 50% (EU), 57% (NL)
- Air pollution: 56% (EU), 54% (NL)
- Depletion of natural resources: 36% (EU), 52% (NL)
- The impact on our health of chemicals used in everyday products: 43% (EU), 48% (NL)
- Our consumption habits: 24% (EU), 41% (NL)

(TOP 5 ANSWERS AT COUNTRY LEVEL)

2. BEHAVIOUR REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENT

### QA13.1. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

As an individual, you can play a role in protecting the environment in (OUR COUNTRY)

- **EU**
  - Totally agree: 43% (2014), 35% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to agree: 42% (2014), 42% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to disagree: 10% (2014), 6% (2014), 5% (2014-2011)
  - Totally disagree: 2% (2014), 0% (2014), 1% (2014-2011)
  - Don't know: 1% (2014), 5% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)

- **NL**
  - Totally agree: 73% (2014), 5% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to agree: 23% (2014), 4% (2014), 3% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to disagree: 3% (2014), 1% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)
  - Totally disagree: 0% (2014), 1% (2014), 0% (2014-2011)
  - Don't know: 5% (2014), 0% (2014), 1% (2014-2011)

- **Attitudes towards the environment EU28 Number of interviews:** 27,998
- **Fieldwork:** 26/04-11/05/2014
- **Attitudes towards the environment NL Number of interviews:** 1,032
- **Fieldwork:** 26/04-06/05/2014

### QA13.3. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Environmental issues have a direct effect on your daily life

- **EU**
  - Totally agree: 35% (2014), 25% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to agree: 42% (2014), 42% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to disagree: 16% (2014), 16% (2014-2011)
  - Totally disagree: 4% (2014), 4% (2014-2011)
  - Don't know: 3% (2014), 2% (2014-2011)

- **NL**
  - Totally agree: 41% (2014), 41% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to agree: 25% (2014), 25% (2014-2011)
  - Tend to disagree: 1% (2014), 1% (2014-2011)
  - Totally disagree: 6% (2014), 6% (2014-2011)
  - Don't know: 2% (2014), 2% (2014-2011)

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EUROBAROMETER 81.3
RESULTS FOR THE NETHERLANDS
**3. CURRENT BEHAVIOUR AND EXPECTED PRIORITIES REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENT**

**QA11. Have you done any of the following for environmental reasons in the past month?**

- Separated most of your waste for recycling: 72% (NL), 80% (EU28)
- Cut down your energy consumption e.g. by turning down air conditioning or heating, not leaving appliances on stand-by, buying energy efficient appliances: 52% (NL), 57% (EU28)
- Chosen a more environmentally friendly way of traveling (by foot, bicycle, public transport): 35% (NL), 53% (EU28)
- Used your car less: 20% (NL), 33% (EU28)
- Cut down your water consumption: 37% (NL), 31% (EU28)

**TOP 5 ANSWERS AT COUNTRY LEVEL**

**QA12. In your opinion, which of these should be the top-three priorities for people in (OUR COUNTRY) in their daily life to protect the environment?**

- Reduce food waste through smarter purchasing, storage, preparation and use of leftovers: 33% (NL), 55% (EU28)
- Sort waste so that it can be recycled: 54% (NL), 55% (EU28)
- Reduce your home energy consumption (lightening, heating, household appliances): 39% (NL), 44% (EU28)
- Use public transport as much as possible instead of using your own car: 29% (NL), 39% (EU28)
- Purchase environmentally-friendly products for your daily needs: 22% (NL), 20% (EU28)

**4. INFORMATION ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**QA3. In general, do you consider that you are very well, fairly well, fairly badly or very badly informed about environmental issues?**

- EU: Very well informed - 36%, Fairly well informed - 54%, Fairly badly informed - 8%, Very badly informed - 6%, Don’t know - 6%
- NL: Very well informed - 31%, Fairly well informed - 53%, Fairly badly informed - 6%, Very badly informed - 1%, Don’t know - 1%

**EUROBAROMETER 81.3 RESULTS FOR THE NETHERLANDS**

- The impact on our health of chemicals used in everyday products: 39% (NL), 48% (EU28)
- Depletion of natural resources: 28% (NL), 36% (EU28)
- Water pollution (seas, rivers, lakes and underground sources): 28% (NL), 34% (EU28)
- The growing amount of waste: 23% (NL), 29% (EU28)
- Agricultural pollution (use of pesticides, fertilisers, etc.): 28% (NL), 29% (EU28)

**Methodology:** face-to-face
5. A STRONG PERCEIVED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE ECONOMY

QA9.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The protection of the environment can boost economic growth in the EU

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QA9.2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The efficient use of natural resources can boost economic growth in the EU

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6. SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

QA7. On which of the following criteria do you think the measurement of progress in (OUR COUNTRY) should be based?

- Equally on social and environmental criteria and on economic criteria: 59% in EU, 66% in NL
- Mainly on social and environmental criteria: 20% in EU, 19% in NL
- Mainly on economic criteria, such as GDP (Gross Domestic Product): 14% in EU, 12% in NL
- Don't know: 7% in EU, 3% in NL

QA16. In your opinion, is each of the following currently doing too much, doing about the right amount, or not doing enough to protect the environment?

- Big companies and industry: 77% in EU, 66% in NL
- Citizens themselves: 60% in EU, 33% in NL
- The (NATIONALITY) Government: 46% in EU, 62% in NL
- The European Union: 39% in EU, 36% in NL
- Your region: 50% in EU, 28% in NL
- Your city, town or village: 48% in EU, 32% in NL

EU28 NL

RESULTS FOR THE NETHERLANDS
7. THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS OF TACKLING ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS

QA17. In your opinion, which of the following would be the most effective way(s) of tackling environmental problems?

- Ensuring higher financial incentives (e.g. tax breaks, subsidies) to industry, business and citizens who protect the environment: 54% (NL 48%) EU28 54%
- Ensuring better enforcement of existing environmental legislation: 33% (NL 33%) EU28 33%
- Introducing or increasing taxation on environmentally damaging activities: 29% (NL 29%) EU28 29%
- Providing more information on environmental issues: 31% (NL 31%) EU28 31%
- Introducing heavier fines for offenders: 40% (NL 39%) EU28 40%
- Introducing stricter environmental legislation: 25% (NL 25%) EU28 25%

8. EUROPEANS FAVOUR ACTION AT EU LEVEL TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

QA15. When it comes to protecting the environment, do you think that decisions should be made by the (NATIONALITY) Government or made jointly within the EU?

- EU: 65% (NATIONALITY) Government, 34% jointly within the EU, 1% don't know
- NL: 65% (NATIONALITY) Government, 36% jointly within the EU, 4% don't know

QA18. Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

- More EU funding should be allocated to supporting environmentally-friendly activities: 84% agree (NATIONALITY), 10% disagree, 6% don't know
- European environmental legislation is necessary for protecting the environment in (OUR COUNTRY): 77% agree (NATIONALITY), 16% disagree, 7% don't know
- The EU should be able to check that environmental laws are being applied correctly in (OUR COUNTRY): 79% agree (NATIONALITY), 16% disagree, 5% don't know
- The EU should assist non-EU countries to improve their environmental standards: 70% agree (NATIONALITY), 26% disagree, 4% don't know