EMAS, a premium environmental management tool for organisations

Benefits & registration process
EMAS in 7 questions...

1. What is EMAS?
2. What are the benefits of EMAS registration?
3. Who can participate?
4. How to be EMAS-registered?
5. What are the costs?
6. How is performance assessed?
7. How is EMAS different from other tools?
8. EMAS’ premium services
9. Statistics about EMAS
What is EMAS?

It is a voluntary environmental management instrument designed by the European Union

**Aim**
Continuous improvement in the environmental performance of companies and other organisations

**Means**
Management system enabling organisations to evaluate, improve, measure and report on their environmental performance

**Outcomes**
Lower environmental impact, better efficiency and credible information on these issues
What is EMAS?

3 core elements

**Performance**
Actions implemented by the organisation improve environmental performance and legal compliance, in line with policy targets.

**Transparency**
These achievements are made public through the annual environmental statement.

**Credibility**
The environmental statement is verified by independent environmental verifiers who guarantee the value of the information disclosed.
# What are the benefits of EMAS registration?

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<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Improved environmental performance:</strong> 70% of registered organisations show improvement on nearly ALL environmental indicators*</td>
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<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Improved legislative compliance</strong> and hence less risk of sanctions</td>
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<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Better identification of overall corporate responsibilities:</strong> Better-defined roles and responsibilities, stronger awareness of teams</td>
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<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fewer environmental accidents</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cost savings:</strong> Achieved through reuse, recycling, and decrease in resource use</td>
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<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Improved relations with stakeholders:</strong> Employees are more committed and external stakeholders value the transparency of the organisation</td>
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<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>Regulatory relief:</strong> In some Member States, authorities provide advantages to EMAS-registered organisations, such as reductions in inspections or taxes</td>
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*Source: [EMAS Evaluation Study, 2015](#)
Who can participate?

Organisations operating in all economic spheres (including local authorities, NGOs, etc.), of any size, including multiple sites

Size of EMAS-registered organisations – Oct. 2017 EMAS Helpdesk

I

II

Organisations with sites worldwide*

* EU Member States may permit registration of organisations located outside the EU, EEA and Accession Countries. Please visit www.emas.eu for further information.
How to be EMAS-registered

1. CONTACT your Competent Body
2. CONDUCT an initial Environmental Review
3. PLAN your Environmental Policy and Programme
4. DO Implement your Environmental Management System
5. CHECK Internal Environmental Audit
6. ACT Continuous Environmental Performance Improvements
7. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

EXTERNAL PROCESS

VERIFICATION and Validation by your environmental verifier
PROMOTE your environmental credentials
REGISTRATION by your Competent Body
How to be EMAS-registered

1. Contact your local Competent Body to get customised technical support (e.g. a list of qualified EMAS consultants) and information about funding opportunities.

2. Carry out an initial environmental review to identify your direct and indirect environmental impacts, your current performance, and the legal requirements. This initial assessment sets the benchmark to measure your future success in reducing environmental impacts.

3. As the first structuring phase of your Environmental Management System (EMS), your leadership (top management) will step up to define an environmental policy and environmental programme that are consistent with your organisation’s strategy.
How to be EMAS-registered

4. Implement your EMS by adapting your structure and processes to achieve your environmental policy and objectives.

5. Check the effectiveness of your EMS: follow appropriate indicators, including EMAS core indicators, and conduct an internal environmental audit.

6. Your top management will review the EMS to ensure its capacity to meet the goals set forth in the environmental policy and programme, and will decide on the next steps to foster continual improvement.
How to be EMAS-registered

7. Prepare your environmental statement to effectively communicate your environmental performance to stakeholders.

8. Have an accredited or licensed independent environmental verifier validate your environmental statement and verify your EMS.

9. Submit your registration to the Competent Body.

Celebrate EMAS and use it to show your environmental commitment!
Registration for multi-site organisations – including outside EU borders

Organisation with multiple sites can now register more easily.

**BEFORE**

- 1 audit per site (over the 3-year audit cycle)
  - Time-consuming and costly for large organisations, but very extensive

**NOW**

- 1 audit of the headquarters + \( \sqrt{n} \) audits (sample of sites)
  - Sampling methodology ensuring reliability of the scheme
  - Time and resource savings for large organisations
  - Organisations can register more sites and maximise the benefits of EMAS
    - Shared corporate policy
    - Mutualised costs

The procedure is described in the EMAS user’s guide.
What are the costs of EMAS registration?

Costs vary with the size and the sector of the organisation. They include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Fixed costs</th>
<th>Internal costs</th>
<th>External costs</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Assumed to be unrelated to staff numbers (e.g. registration fees, IT support-related costs)</td>
<td>Incurred by organisation staff to implement, administer and report on EMAS (e.g. environmental coordinator, internal audit team, etc.)</td>
<td>Incurred by employing external consultancy to support EMAS implementation, for example (e.g. employee training), and for verifiers</td>
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Some Member States have introduced financial incentives for EMAS-registered organisations, for example reduced administrative fees related to permits. A reported 30% of organisations who benefit from this incentive enjoy annual savings in the range of €40,000 to €50,000*.

⇒ For detailed information about the costs of EMAS implementation and financial incentives, please contact your national Competent Body.

*Source: RAVE Study, 2017
How is performance assessed?

Six core indicators that reflect direct environmental aspects are assessed over time. They are included in the environmental statement and calculated per output.

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<tr>
<th>Key area</th>
<th>Input/impact</th>
<th>Output/activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Energy efficiency</strong></td>
<td>Direct energy use</td>
<td><strong>Production sector:</strong> Annual gross value added or annual physical output</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Renewable energy use</td>
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<td><strong>Material efficiency</strong></td>
<td>Mass flow of different materials used (excluding energy carriers and water)</td>
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<td><strong>Water</strong></td>
<td>Annual water consumption</td>
<td><strong>Services or public sector:</strong> Number of employees</td>
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<td><strong>Waste</strong></td>
<td>Annual generation of waste</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Annual generation of hazardous waste</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Biodiversity</strong></td>
<td>Land use (<em>built-up area</em>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Emissions</strong></td>
<td>Annual emissions of greenhouse gases (CO₂ eq.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual air emissions</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
How is it different from other tools?

**EMAS**
- Registration by public authority
- Employee involvement from initial assessment
- ISO 14 001
- Strong check on legal compliance
- Informal management systems
- Core indicators providing benchmark
- Publicly available environmental statement
- Performance improvement checked by independent verifier
How is it different from other tools?

• Over 70% of environmental verifiers perceive EMAS to be more effective than ISO 14001 in ensuring legal compliance.

• 72% of verifiers consider EMAS more effective than ISO 14001 in ensuring the transparency, trustworthiness and completeness of environmental reports and documentation.

• 69% of EMAS-registered organisations feel that EMAS helps them achieve legal compliance more easily and completely than ISO 14001 alone (80% of them have both EMAS and ISO 14001)

Source: RAVE Study, 2017
Without any doubt, the first reason is communication. We chose EMAS registration because of the possibility to actively and transparently communicate to the public and to all stakeholders the environmental performance of our plants. We see it [EMAS] as the GOLD standard in best environmental practice. Our goal was to demonstrate a leadership position in our industry – EMAS supports this objective. It’s transparent and requires specific measurable objectives that actually make a real difference.

Certifications drive the organisation towards more structured management with predetermined prerequisites, which benefit the internal organisation of the company. This is the first reason. Second is the external visibility for commercial purposes, as such prerequisites are requested by clients.

We decided to adopt EMAS because we were already ISO 14001-certified and we realised that, with EMAS, we could achieve further advantages in terms of compliance with energy management regulations and with the auditing process.

Transparent communication, visibility, reputation, credibility and legitimacy emerge as the top priorities underlining EMAS registration.
EMAS’ premium services: Sectoral Reference Documents

- Sectoral Reference Documents are available to enable organisations to identify best environmental management practices before deciding on their action plan.
- These documents include sector-specific performance indicators.
- They provide benchmarks of excellence for organisations.

EMAS premium services: Tools to implement EMAS

Practical tools are available to help organisations implement EMAS:

- **4 tools** in Excel format:
  - Tool 1 summarises the organisation’s key activities
  - Tool 2 is used to identify its environmental aspects and impacts
  - Tool 3 structures responsibilities
  - Tool 4 calculates key indicators and monitors progress

- **1 Instruction manual**
  - Highlights where the tools fit into the implementation of EMAS

EMAS premium services: EMAS logo... and communication!

Quality mark: Can only be used by registered organisations

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/emasperformers_en.htm#_Manufacturing
Top performers that you might encounter in everyday life
EMAS premium services: Guidance, fact sheets, Helpdesk, awards...

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/emas_publications
A wealth of information on the official EMAS website

www.ec.europa.eu/environment/emas
EMAS statistics

Almost 4,000 organisations and 10,000 sites are EMAS-registered*.

*Source: National Competent Bodies, Oct. 2017

www.emas-register.eu

*Data incomplete

*Source: National Competent Bodies, Oct. 2017
Why not you?

Feel free to contact your national Competent Body with any questions you may have:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/emas_contacts/competent_bodies_en.htm

Or contact the EMAS Helpdesk:
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Fax: +49 (30) 89 000 68 – 10
The Helpdesk is operated by adelphi in cooperation with EMAS Club Catalonia, the Environment Agency Austria and 21 Solutions on behalf of the European Commission, Environment DG

EMAS Website: ec.europa.eu/environment/emas