The European Commission cooperates with experts and stakeholders from different sectors to identify BEMPs. As a result of this cooperation, Sectoral Reference Documents for 11 sectors are currently under development.

BEMP on Fertiliser Management — An Example From The Agricultural Sector —

The BEMP on fertiliser management provides:

- **Practical guidance**
  - How to produce a nutrient management plan
  - Selection of lower impact fertilizers
  - Precise application of nutrients

- **Environmental performance indicators**
  - Field nutrient surplus (kg/ha/year) < Nitrogen use efficiency (%)
    - An indication of the level of uptake of nitrogen

- **Benchmarks of excellence**
  - The fertiliser nutrients applied do not exceed the amount required to achieve the “economic optimum” crop yield.
  - Field nutrient surplus or nutrient use efficiency are estimated for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium for individual fields.

Why it matters:

- Ammonia Emissions: 99% of European ammonia emissions arise from the storage and application of manure and fertilizers.
- GHG Emissions: Over 2% of total EU greenhouse gas emissions are due to nitrous oxide fertilizers.
- Eutrophication of surface waters: Agriculture accounts for 70% of nitrogen entering EU rivers and lakes.

BEMPs for 11 sectors

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**BEMPs** help your organisation to improve its environmental performance and are a key element of the **EMAS** framework.

Don't have an Environmental Management System yet? Discover EMAS (the EU Eco-management and Audit Scheme) on [www.EMAS.eu](http://www.EMAS.eu).