

EU Ecolabel and GPP updates



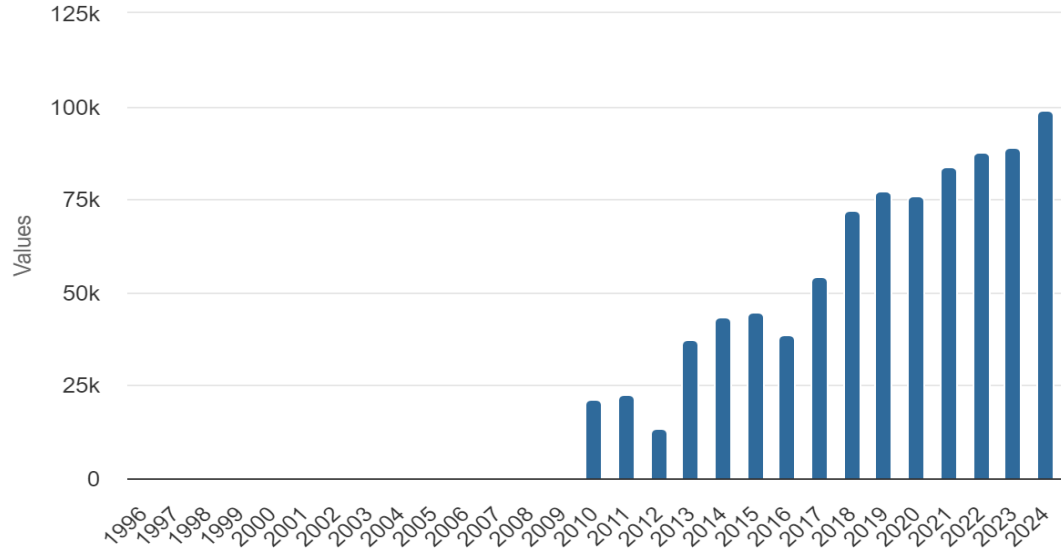
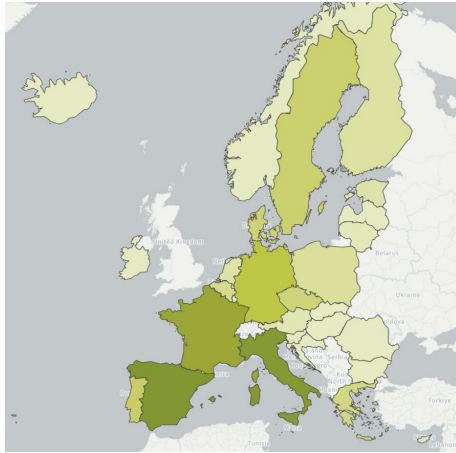
EUEB meeting – 27 Nov 2024

Sylvie Ludain

DG ENVIRONMENT, EUROPEAN COMMISSION



2 983 licences (+9% in 6 months) 98 977 products (+3% in 6 months)
Countries with higher nr of products: Italy, Spain and France



● Products (please note, product/service data was not collected prior to 2010)

Environment

Home > News > EU Ecolabel grows as nearly 100,000 products certified

NEWS ARTICLE | 10 October 2024 | Directorate-General for Environment | 2 min read

EU Ecolabel certifications increase with almost 100,000 products recognised

Launched in 1992, the logo has become a byword for quality while meeting the highest environmental standards.



Highest growing product groups over the past 6 months (in terms of licences)



+94 licences

Tourist accommodation services



+27 licences

Hard surface cleaning products



+25 licences

Indoor cleaning services

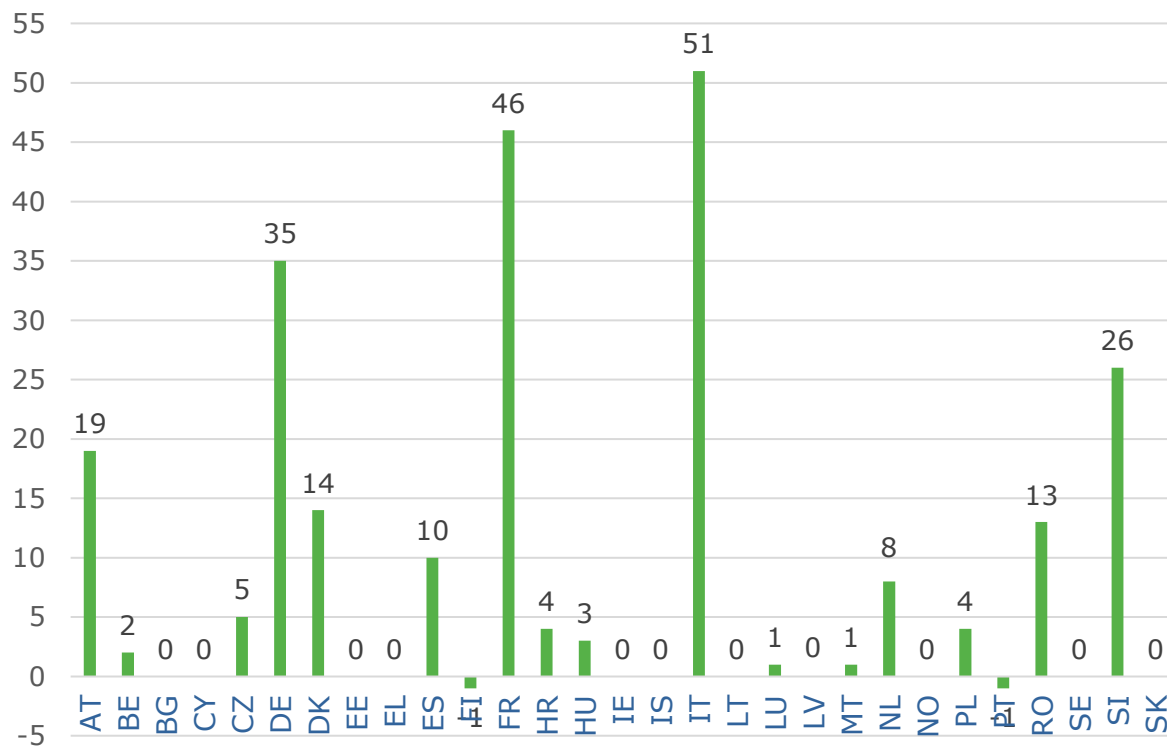


+23 licences

Furniture



Average variation of nr of licences since March 2024 per country



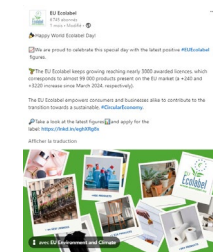
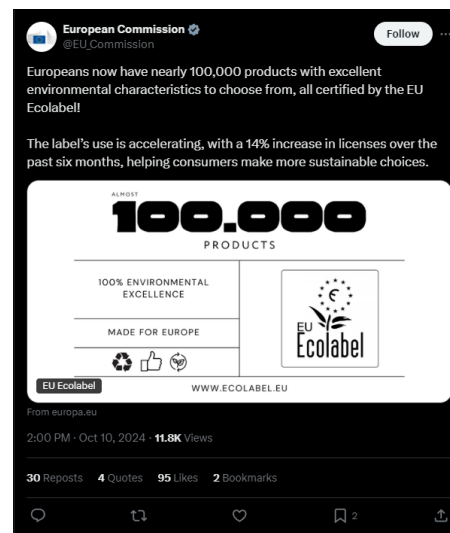
Extra-EEA:

- 109 licenses (4% of total), 2 688 products (3% of total)
- Mainly awarded by AT, DK and IE
- PGs (according to nr of licences): Textiles (28), HSCP (20), Lubricants (13) and TAS (13)
- From: *Montenegro, Pakistan, Switzerland, Turkey, UK and US*



Extensive communication on publication day

- **World Ecolabel Day:** 10 October 2024
- **EU Ecolabel website:** updated figures on welcome page and a news announcement
- **Social media posts:** EU Ecolabel LinkedIn account, DG ENV accounts (X, LinkedIn), EC corporate account (X), LIFE programme (X), CINEA (LinkedIn, X), GEN (LinkedIn), Lastminute (LinkedIn) etc.
- **Publications on other websites:** DG ENV, EC Daily News, BEUC, EEB, GEN, CINEA News, CE Stakeholders' Platform, Climate Pact Newsletter, etc.
- **Information with our contacts:** other EC services (DG GROW, DG JUST), umbrella organisations and stakeholders (retailers etc.)



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EU Ecolabel criteria

State of play and relevant updates





Published and upcoming Legal acts

PG	Legal act	Next steps
	<p>Corrigendum to the FR version of the EU Ecolabel criteria for cosmetic products and animal care products</p>	<p>Published on 19/11/2024</p>
	<p>Commission Decision amending the validity of certain EU Ecolabel criteria (Graphic Paper, Tissue Paper, Lubricants, TAS) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourist Accommodation: 31.12.2027 • Graphic Paper/Tissue Paper: 31.12.2028 • Lubricants: 31.12.2028 	<p>Adoption planned by end 2024</p>





On-going revisions

PG	2023-2024	Next steps
<p>6 Detergents (exp. Dec 2026)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revision started 1Q2023• Preliminary-Technical report delivered 20.02.2024• 1st AHWG: 12-13 March 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2nd AHWG (hybrid): 12 (afternoon) and 13 (full day) March 2025• Regcom vote planned in 2Q2026 (tentative)
<p>Paints and varnishes (exp. Dec 2025)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revision started 2Q2023• Preliminary-Technical report delivered 09.04.2024• 1st AHWG: 07.05.2024• 2nd AHWG: 13.11.2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comments to TR2 until 20.11.2024 (completed)• EUEB final consultation in March 2025• ISC• Regcom vote in June 2025

On-going and planned revisions

PG	2023-2024	Next steps
<p>Textiles (exp. Dec. 2025)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary work for ESPR-EU Ecolabel-GPP started (initial questionnaire was in spring 2023) • 1st ESPR/EU Ecolabel/GPP stakeholder consultation meeting in March 2024 • 2nd ESPR/EU Ecolabel/GPP stakeholder consultation 9-10 December 2024 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work ongoing • CBs and interested stakeholders to register on the Textile website • Stakeholders' meeting on 9-10 December 2024 • Vote of the prolongation in June in 2025

Planned revisions

PG	Reasoning	Next steps
<p>Tourist Accommodation (In the process of being prolonged to 31 December 2027)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-going PEFCRs. Technical Secretariat started its work in February 2024 More info: PEFCR website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PEFCR: first public consultation planned in February 2025. End: Spring 2026 Revision to start 1Q2025 RegCom vote 2Q2027
<p>Indoor cleaning services (exp. Dec. 2027)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up in 2018 Potentially interesting PG for GPP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of revision in 1Q2025



Assessment of the validity of EU Ecolabel criteria

Printed paper, stationery paper and paper carrier bag products

Ongoing, finalisation in 1Q2025

Cosmetic products and Animal Care Products

Criteria established in October 2021 and valid until December 2027

Transition period ended in October 2022

Growing number of products but feedback from industry that the criteria are too strict (especially for leave-on cosmetics)

Even if criteria are quite recent, proposal to assess them in 2025. Do you agree?

Hard covering products

Criteria established in March 2021 and valid until December 2028

Transition period ended in March 2022

Stable number of products (for 2 years)

Proposal to postpone as criteria considered recent and need to be promoted among the industry



EU Ecolabel criteria for absorbent hygiene products – request for a derogation

Criterion 7.1 - Restriction on substances classified under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008

Derogation for softeners such as quaternary imidazoline from the classifications H400, H410 or H411 AND below 0.1% in the EU Ecolabel for Absorbent Hygiene Products as set out in [Commission Decision 2023/1809](#). These softeners are used to treat fluff pulp used in AHP.

Main arguments:

The company claims that (1) there is a reduction in the use of energy when the fluff pulp is treated with this softener and (2) that not using this softener would significantly affect the product quality and waste amount.

Status of the analysis:

JRC requested the company further information on 11/11/2024 to substantiate the derogation (feedback not received yet).

Meetings





AHWGs (*virtual*)

ESPR/EU Ecolabel/GPP stakeholder meetings (*virtual*)

Textiles



9-10 December 2024

Docs on
Product Bureau Project Plan
webpage

Meetings in 2025



CB Forum, EUEB (and RegCom tbc), AHWG

March meetings (in presence in BXL)

EUEB
CB Forum
AHWG meeting on Detergents

Communication TF

11 March 2025
12 March 2025 (morning)
12 (afternoon) and 13 (full day) March 2025
13 March 2025

June meetings (on-line)

EUEB paints; prolongation (textiles and footwear); fees (tbc);
update detergents
Reg Comm paints; prolongation (textiles and footwear); fees (tbc)

18 June 2025

23 June 2025

November meetings (on-line)

EUEB
CB Forum

18 Nov 2025
19 Nov 2025

CTF
AHWG (Tourism, Indoor Cleaning Services)

tbc
tbc

Ongoing activities





Strategic planning:

- Strategic EU Ecolabel Work Plan (2025-2029)
- Strategic Multi-Annual EU Ecolabel Communication Work–Plan (2023-2027) - *annual update*
- Action Plan for EU Ecolabel Communication Activities at EU level in 2025

Work on increasing synergies with existing EU Initiatives:

- Circular Economy Stakeholder Platform
- Transition Pathway for Tourism Policy
- LIFE Programme etc.





Stakeholders' reach out and collaborations:

Retailers/e-Retailers:

Key market players: Amazon, Colruyt, etc.

Umbrella organisations: Independent Retail Europe, E-commerce Europe, Euro-commerce etc.

Multipliers/umbrella organisations in specific sectors:

Umbrella organisations: Cosmetics (COSMED/SME United, Cosmetics Europe), AHP (EDANA)

Tourism sector:

Key market players/organisations: Booking.com, Tripadvisor, lastminute.com, Travalyst

Networks of Public/Private Procurers:

Public buyers: Government Expert Group on Public Procurement

Private buyers: health and transport sectors
Cooperation with BEUC/EEB (brochure)



*Webinars, presentations at events
Articles for newsletters,
websites, SoMe posts etc.*

GPP UPDATES





Practical guides (Manuals) for public authorities for the use of EU Ecolabel criteria in GPP

Already published:

- Hard covering products: *being translated*
- Absorbent hygiene products: *being translated*

Available on www.ecolabel.eu (PGs page) and GPP website



Work in progress:

- **Graphic paper:** *being finalised (publication 1Q2025)*
- **Tissue paper and tissue products:** *being finalised (publication 1Q2025)*
- **Printed paper, stationery paper and carrier bags products:** *being finalised (publication 2Q2025)*
- **Reusable menstrual cups:** *being prepared, CBs to be consulted on draft (publication 2Q2025)*
- More to come – Which PGs?

SoMe posts, presentations at procurers' meetings etc.
Member States shall encourage their use (art. 12.3 of EU Ecolabel Regulation)

Absorbent hygiene products

The EU Ecolabel absorbent hygiene products group includes products such as baby nappies, feminine sanitary pads, panty liners and tampons, nursing pads, absorbent inserts, disposable absorbent components in some reusable products and adult incontinence products - unless the latter are registered as medical devices.

The EU Ecolabel guarantees restricted use of hazardous substances, no use of allergenic fragrances and toxins as well as reduction of waste. All products also comply with stringent requirements on absorption and leakage, skin dryness, fit and comfort, and overall performance.

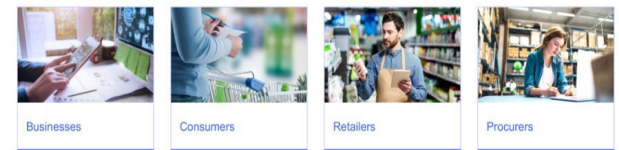
Current criteria	Commission Decision (EU) 2023/1809 of 14 September 2023
Validity	31 December 2029
Application pack / User manual	User Manual - Absorbent Hygiene Products Full Pgp Database ¹⁵
Practical guide	Practical guide for the use of the EU Ecolabel in the green public procurement of absorbent hygiene products
Revision	Finalised
Miscellaneous	Final Technical Report (2023) Webinar (2023)
Criteria in a nutshell	Factsheet



New webpage for "Procurers" on www.ecolabel.eu

- To be online by end 2024
- Presentation of the benefits of using EU Ecolabel in GPP
- Practical guidance for procurers
- Links to published «Practical Guides »
- Links to other useful pages/information (eg. GPP website, success stories, factsheets etc.

Please send us your success stories!



What is the EU Ecolabel?

Shopping today can be a challenge. There are so many products it's almost impossible to distinguish between them. To stand out, many brands now promote themselves as green or stress their environmental credentials. But





Update on EU GPP voluntary criteria

Currently under revision/development

Buildings: ISC (2nd round) to be concluded soon

Possible future revisions

Future revisions concerning voluntary GPP criteria tbd





Mandatory GPP

Legislation

- Energy Efficiency Directive (OJEU 20.09.2023): Exemplary role of public sector
- Batteries Regulation (OJEU 28.07.2023): Art. 85
- ESPR (OJEU 13.06.2024): Art. 65
- Net Zero Industry Act (OJEU 14.06.2024): Art. 25

Legislation provisionally agreed empowering the Commission to adopt downstream acts setting GPP mandatory requirements

- PPWR (publication expected in Dec 2024 or Jan 2025)
- Construction Products Regulation (adopted by the Council on 6 November 2024)



GPP – relevant developments

- In the [federal register notice](#) of US EPA's proposed update to the "[Recommendations of Specifications, Standards, and Ecolabels for Federal Purchasing](#)", the **EU Ecolabel for textiles products** is indicated as pending – further discussions to take place.



Funding opportunities



LIFE 2025 call for proposals:

To be published in spring 2025, deadline in autumn 2025
(Different deadlines for LIFE 'standard' project proposals and LIFE 'strategic integrated projects')

More info available at: [LIFE - European Commission](#)



TAIEX – Technical assistance and information exchange:

Supports public administrations in application and enforcement and facilitates, sharing of EU best practices (workshops, expert missions, study tours etc.)

More info available at: [TAIEX - European Commission](#)



[EU funding opportunities for EU Ecolabel activities:](#)

Document completed in August, to be updated in 1st quarter of each year.

Thank you!



The EU Ecolabel amongst EU policy successes!