

# Environmental Administration and Legislation

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Autumn 2016

# (EU) Legislation for environmental management:



EMAS  
Ecolabel



# EMAS



# The Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS), repealing Regulation (EC) No 761/2001 and Commission Decisions 2001/681/EC and 2006/193/EC.



# The Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

- aims at encouraging European organisations to improve their environmental performance.
- “It represents a considerable asset, bringing them added value in terms of regulatory control, cost savings and public image if they are able to demonstrate an improvement in their environmental performance.”



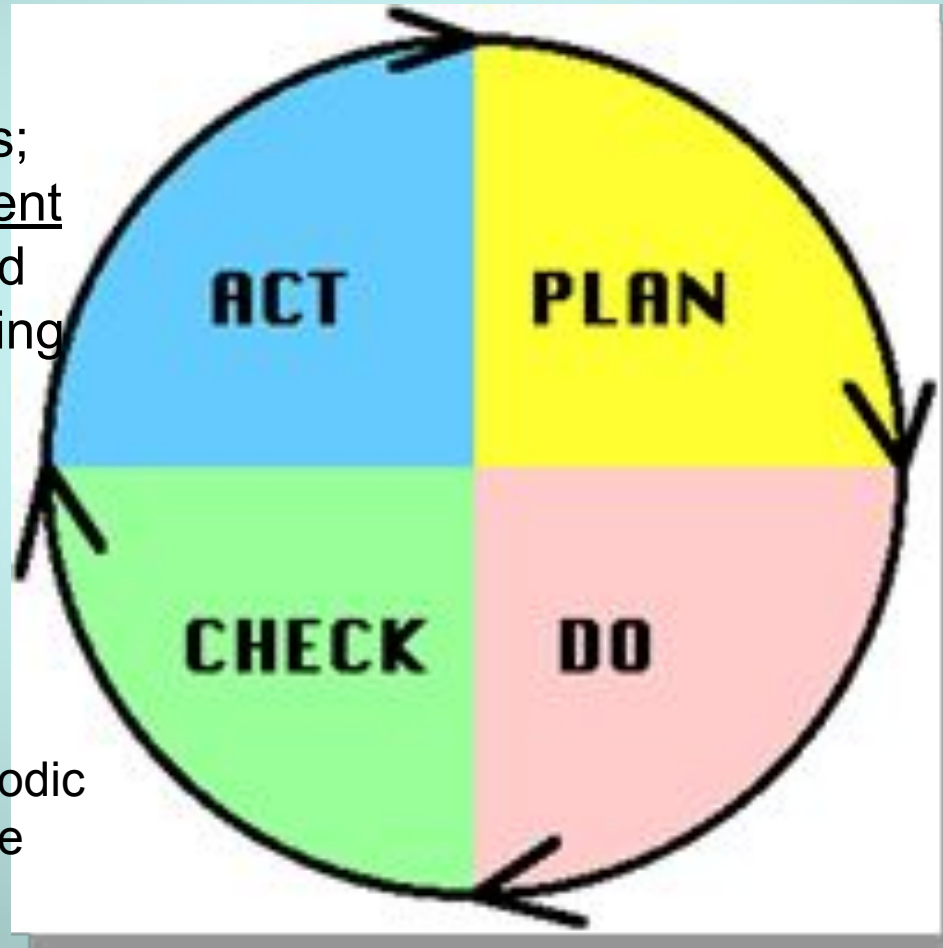
# EMAS



- an **instrument which is open to voluntary participation** by organisations established inside or outside the Community.
- Its objective is to **promote continuous improvements in the environmental performance** of these organisations from all sectors of economic activity by...

-the exchange of information on the results obtained;  
-consulting the public and other interested parties;  
-active involvement of employees and appropriate training

-environmental review:  
environmental aspects



-establishing  
and  
implementing  
environmental  
management  
systems

-the systematic,  
objective and periodic  
evaluation of these  
systems

# EMAS Registration

Applications for registration from organisations in a Member State shall be made to a Competent Body in that Member State. Competent Bodies shall be designated by Member States.





Before submitting application for registration an organisation must:

- carry out an environmental review of all of its environmental aspects;
- review, develop and implement an environmental management system
- carry out an internal audit;

# Before submitting application for registration an organisation must:

- prepare an environmental statement, demonstrate that it complies with all of the applicable legal requirements relating to the environment;
- have the environmental review, the environmental management system, and the audit procedure and its implementation verified by an accredited environmental verifier, and the environmental statement validated by that verifier.



# Benefits?

- As long as registration is valid, registered organisations are authorised to use the EMAS logo



# Ecolabel



# Regulation (EC) No 66/2010 on the EU Ecolabel

“The EU Ecolabel may be awarded to products and services which have a lower environmental impact than other products in the same group. The label criteria were devised using scientific data on the whole of a product’s life cycle, from product development to disposal.”



# Award criteria

- the impact of goods and services on climate change, nature and biodiversity, energy and resource consumption, generation of waste, pollution, emissions and the release of hazardous substances into the environment;
- the substitution of hazardous substances by safer substances;
- durability and reusability of products;

# Award criteria

- ultimate impact on the environment, including on consumer health and safety;
- compliance with social and ethical standards, such as international labour standards;
- taking into account criteria established by other labels at national and regional levels;
- reducing animal testing.

# How does one get an ecolabel?

- Member States designate one or more bodies responsible for the labeling process at national level. Their operations shall be transparent and their activities shall be open to the involvement of all interested parties.
- They are specifically responsible for regularly checking that products comply with the label criteria!





# Application

- In order to be awarded the label, economic operators shall submit an application to:
  - one or more Member State(s), which will send it to the competent national body;
  - a third State, which will send it to the Member State where the product is marketed.



## ...and Labelling:

- If the product complies with the label criteria, the competent body shall conclude a contract with the operator, establishing the terms of use and withdrawal of the label. The operator may then place the label on the product. The use of the label is subject to payment of a fee when the application is made, and an annual fee.
- The Commission has created a catalogue of products which have been awarded the label. (<http://www.eco-label.com>)



# Example: EMAS step by step



# 1. Conduct an **environmental review**

The organisation needs to conduct a verified initial environmental review, considering all environmental aspects of the organisation's activities, products and services, methods to assess them, the organisation's legal and regulatory framework and existing environmental management practices and procedures.

## 2. Adopt an **environmental policy**

Registration to EMAS requires an organisation to adopt an environmental policy and to commit itself both to compliance with all relevant environmental legislation and to achieving continuous improvement in its environmental performance.

### 3. Establish an EMS

Based on the results of the environmental review and the policy (objectives), an EMS needs to be established. The EMS is aimed at achieving the organisation's environmental policy objectives as defined by the top management.

The management system needs to set responsibilities, objectives, means, operational procedures, training needs, monitoring and communication systems.

## 4. Carry out an **internal environmental audit**

After the EMS is established an environmental audit should be carried out. The audit assesses in particular if the management system is in place and in conformity with the organisation's policy and programme.

The audit also checks if the organisation is in compliance with relevant environmental regulatory requirements.

## 5. Prepare an **environmental statement**

The organisation needs to provide a public statement of its environmental performance. The environmental statement lays down the results achieved against the environmental objectives and the future steps to be undertaken in order to continuously improve the organisation's environmental performance.



## 6. Independent verification by an EMAS verifier

An EMAS verifier accredited with an EMAS accreditation body of a Member State must examine and verify the environmental review, the EMS, the audit procedure and the environmental statement.

# 7. **Register** with the Competent Body of the Member State

The validated statement is sent to the appropriate EMAS Competent Body for registration and made publicly available.

## 8. Utilize the **verified environmental statement**

The environmental statement can be used to report performance data in marketing, assessment of the supply chain and procurement.

The organisation can use information from the validated statement to market its activities with the EMAS logo, assess suppliers against EMAS requirements and give preference to suppliers registered under EMAS.