

The European Training Foundation (ETF) is an Agency of the European Union. Its mandate is to contribute, in the context of EU external relations policies, to human capital development in partner countries by delivering high-quality and timely support to the EU's external policies and actions and providing relevant policy advice and targeted direct technical support to partner countries. This aims to facilitate their development towards the adoption and implementation of policies that support the improvement of education and training systems and lifelong learning-oriented policies.

The ETF vision is to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals following the EU approach¹ and to promote environmental protection and sustainable development to optimize the use of resources by both reducing their use as much as possible and using renewable resources.

In order to contribute to environmental protection and to implement the above-mentioned vision, the ETF has established an Environmental Management System, which complies with the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)². Within the overall regulatory framework, the ETF is committed to:

- Protecting the environment and minimize pollution through a sustainable use of resources;
- Complying with the relevant environmental legislation, regulations and other compliance obligations;
- Creating, maintaining and continuously improving the Environmental Management System and its environmental performance;
- Ensuring awareness of environmental issues and the active participation of all staff, with a view to reduce the ETF environmental impact;
- Encouraging suppliers and external stakeholders to abide by the environmental protection principles established by the ETF.

With the help of its Environmental Management System, the ETF pursues the following strategic environmental goals:

1. Shifting towards the use of renewable energy sources and reducing overall energy consumption;
2. Reducing the general use of resources and materials (incl. paper, plastics, gadgets, office equipment & furniture, stationery and other supplies);
3. Reducing greenhouse/polluting gas and particulate matter emissions resulting from ETF-related travels (incl. commuting by staff, staff missions, travels of event participants and contractors);
4. Reducing water consumption;
5. Reducing and effectively managing waste;
6. Shifting towards more sustainable events;
7. Raising awareness among staff on environmental issues.

The ETF makes available the resources necessary to implement its Environmental Policy and to achieve its strategic environmental goals. The ETF commits itself to carry out all planned activities in an effective and efficient manner. The ETF defines specific performance indicators and targets and reports annually on achievements in the ETF's Annual Activity Report. The ETF aims to obtain EMAS certification in 2020 and renew it in the years thereafter.

The ETF Environmental Policy is public. The policy applies to all staff or external persons and activities related to ETF activities and performed on or off-site.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/international-strategies/sustainable-development-goals/eu-approach-sustainable-development-0_en

² https://ec.europa.eu/environment/emas/index_en.htm