



ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2018

2017 data



Council of the European Union

Notice

This publication is produced by the General Secretariat of the Council and is intended for information purposes only. It does not involve the responsibility of the EU institutions or the Member States.

For further information on the European Council and the Council of the European Union, see the website:

www.consilium.europa.eu

or contact the Public Information Service of the General Secretariat of the Council:

Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175

1048 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

www.consilium.europa.eu/infopublic



More information on the European Union is available on www.europa.eu.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, December 2018

Previous editions: 2016, 2017, April 2018

Print	ISBN 978-92-824-6504-2	ISSN 2443-8154	doi:10.2860/471951	QC-AQ-18-002-EN-C
PDF	ISBN 978-92-824-6506-6	ISSN 2443-8170	doi:10.2860/71269	QC-AQ-18-002-EN-N

Cover photo: Jeanne-Marie Doreau, one of two winners on behalf of the General Secretariat of the Council in the competition 'Our home, our planet' organised on the interinstitutional EMAS day on 8 June 2017

© European Union, 2018

Reproduction is authorised provided the source is acknowledged.



ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2018

2017 data

CONTENTS

1. Foreword	5
2. Introduction	7
2.1. The European Council.....	7
2.2. The Council of the European Union.....	7
2.3. The General Secretariat of the Council.....	7
3. Environmental management at the General Secretariat of the Council.....	9
3.1. The environmental management system	9
3.2. Scope.....	9
3.2.1. The Justus Lipsius building.....	10
3.2.2. The Lex building.....	11
3.2.3. The crèche building	11
3.2.4. The Europa building	11
3.3. Significant environmental aspects.....	12
3.4. Environmental policy.....	14
3.5. Roles and responsibilities.....	16
3.6. Applicable regulatory requirements.....	17
4. Environmental programme.....	19
4.1. Energy	19
4.1.1. Background.....	19
4.1.2. Environmental performance indicators.....	19
4.1.3. Objectives and action.....	25
4.2. Water.....	27
4.2.1. Background.....	27
4.2.2. Environmental performance indicators.....	27
4.2.3. Objectives and action.....	29
4.3. Waste	29
4.3.1. Background.....	29
4.3.2. Environmental performance indicators.....	30
4.3.3. Objectives and action.....	31
4.4. Greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants.....	33
4.4.1. Background.....	33
4.4.2. Environmental performance indicators.....	33
4.4.3. Objectives and action.....	36
4.5. Paper-based resources.....	38
4.5.1. Background.....	38
4.5.2. Environmental performance indicators.....	38
4.5.3. Objectives and action.....	40

4.6. Mobility	41
4.6.1. Background	41
4.6.2. Environmental performance indicators	41
4.6.3. Objectives and action	42
4.7. Sustainable public procurement	45
4.7.1. Background	45
4.7.2. Objectives and action	45
4.8. Biodiversity	46
4.8.1. Background	46
4.8.2. Environmental performance indicators	46
4.8.3. Objectives and action	46
4.9. Health risks	48
4.10. Communication and awareness-raising	48
4.10.1. Background	48
4.10.2. Environmental performance indicators	48
4.10.3. Objectives and action	48
5. Verification data	53
Environmental verifier’s declaration on verification and validation activities	53
6. Variables used to calculate environmental performance indicators	55
6.1. Degree days	55
6.2. Number of people	55
6.3. Heated or air-conditioned surface area (in m ²)	56
Annex	57
Extract from the calculation of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the activities of the GSC, based on 2016 data	57
A.1. Introduction	57
A.2. Emissions considered	57
A.3. Overall results	58
A.4. Results expressed in tonnes of CO ₂ e per full-time equivalent staff member	58

1. FOREWORD

On 25 January 2016, the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union (GSC) obtained EMAS ⁽¹⁾ registration, validating the quality of the environmental management system in place since 2010.

This statement contains an update on the GSC's environmental performance up to 2017. The continued implementation of an effective environmental management system has enabled us to go even further in reducing our energy consumption (by 19 % between 2010 and 2017) and to continue to reduce the amount of paper used annually per person (by 62 % between 2010 and 2017). These positive results bolster the credibility of the environmental initiatives which have been in place at the GSC for a number of years, and which have been validated by the EMAS registration. Our environmental management system makes it possible not only to measure and monitor the impact of our activities so that they can be better controlled, but also to continuously improve our performance. One of the main aims of environmental management is to raise awareness among our staff of how to integrate sustainable development principles into their day-to-day work. The GSC has thus been exemplary in its application of the environmental policies adopted by the Council of the European Union.



*The Secretary-General
of the Council of the European Union
Jeppe Tranholm-Mikkelsen*

⁽¹⁾ EMAS, Eco-Management and Audit Scheme, means the Union's eco-management and audit scheme as defined by Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 of the Commission.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1. THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

The European Council is an institution that defines the general political direction and priorities of the European Union. It sets the EU's policy agenda, traditionally by adopting conclusions during European Council meetings, which identify issues of concern and actions to take. However, it is not one of the Union's legislating institutions, so does not negotiate or adopt EU laws.

The members of the European Council are the Heads of State or Government of the 28 European Union Member States, the European Council President and the President of the European Commission. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy also takes part in European Council meetings.

The European Council meets at least twice every 6 months. Its meetings, often referred to as 'EU summits', are held in Brussels. Meetings are chaired by the European Council President, who can convene extraordinary European Council meetings when needed.

2.2. THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The Council of the European Union, commonly referred to as the 'Council', is a key European Union decision-maker. The Council is the institution that represents the governments of the Member States, in which the national ministers of all EU countries meet to:

- negotiate and adopt legislative acts, in most cases together with the European Parliament through the ordinary legislative procedure, also known as 'co-decision' – in these cases, the Council legislates on the basis of proposals submitted by the European Commission;
- coordinate Member State policies in areas such as economic and budgetary policy, education, culture, youth and sport, and employment policy;
- define and implement the EU's foreign and security policy, which is based on the guidelines set by the European Council – together with the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Council ensures the unity, consistency and effectiveness of the EU's external action;
- conclude international agreements;
- adopt the Union's budget, together with the European Parliament.

2.3. THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL

The General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) ensures that the European Council and the Council of the European Union operate smoothly and gives them all the necessary assistance so that they can perform the missions conferred on them by the treaties to further the development of the European Union. The GSC provides advice and support to the European Council and its president, the Council of the European Union and its

rotating presidency in all areas of activity, as well as in the context of ministerial meetings and intergovernmental conferences.

The GSC provides logistical support and handles the practical organisation of meetings (including the management of meeting rooms, document production and translation).

In addition, the Council Legal Service assists the European Council, the Council and its preparatory bodies, the rotating Presidency, and the GSC, in order to ensure the legality and the drafting quality of legal acts. The Legal Service also represents the European Council and the Council of the European Union in proceedings before the Courts of the European Union.

The GSC is based in Brussels, where the European Council and the Council of the European Union usually meet. GSC staff work in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings and, since January 2017, in the Europa building. All of these buildings are located on rue de la Loi/Wetstraat. The GSC also manages the Council crèche, situated on avenue de la Brabançonne/Brabançonnellaan in Brussels.

All of these activities have an impact on the environment, which the GSC endeavours to reduce through high-quality environmental management. For that reason the GSC is also a part of the 'Eco-dynamic Enterprise' certification scheme in the Brussels-Capital Region. The Lex building and the Council crèche received three-star certification in February 2015. In January 2016, the EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification were further official recognition of the GSC's high-quality environmental management.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AT THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL

3.1. THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The environmental management system set up at the GSC complies with the EMAS environmental management system. EMAS aims to improve the environmental performance of organisations by helping them to control the effects of their activities on the environment.

This environmental management system is implemented continuously in the following phases:

1. The GSC carries out an environmental review in order to identify the effects of its activities on the environment, and then to evaluate these effects according to their severity, frequency and control, or on the basis of any applicable regulatory requirements. This environmental review is regularly updated and allows significant environmental aspects to be identified.
2. The environmental policy of the GSC is then established or confirmed. This involves an undertaking to comply with applicable environmental regulations, and the willingness to continually improve and communicate to interested parties the objectives and results of the environmental management system.
3. The environmental policy is transformed into an environmental programme which aims to control significant environmental aspects and to improve environmental performance. This programme includes working instructions and thematic action plans accompanied by objectives to achieve within reasonable time frames. Great importance is placed on raising awareness and active participation by staff.
4. Independent internal auditors periodically verify the progress of the implementation of the environmental programme, compliance with regulatory requirements and the environmental management system's compliance with EMAS requirements. The efficiency of the environmental programme and the conclusions of these audits are analysed at the Environment Steering Committee during periodic management reviews.
5. The objectives and results of the environmental programme are set out in the environmental statement, which is published on the Council's website and made available to interested parties.

3.2. SCOPE

The environmental management system applies to the GSC's activities in the three buildings it occupies in the Brussels-Capital region (Justus Lipsius, Lex and the crèche).

As well as office space and meeting rooms, the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings house the following services: kitchens, restaurants, archiving, printing, reprographics, IT rooms, sports rooms, waste disposal areas, loading bays, sick rooms, libraries and

technical rooms, amongst others. The Justus Lipsius, the Lex and the crèche also have some green areas.

The following buildings and their principal uses are included in the scope of environmental management:

BUILDING	LOCATION	SURFACE AREA (m ²)	HEATED SURFACE AREA (m ²)(*)	STATUS	PRIMARY USE
Justus Lipsius	Brussels	206 205	145 134	Owned	Offices, training and conference rooms, catering, archives, storage of materials
Lex	Brussels	75 562	62 775	Owned	Offices, training and conference rooms, catering
Crèche	Brussels	5 363	4 457	Owned	Offices, crèche, catering

(*) The air-conditioned or heated surface area is taken into account in certain environmental performance indicators.

A fourth building is occupied by the GSC in Brussels: the Europa building. It will be included in the scope of the environmental policy once ownership has been transferred from the Belgian state to the Council of the European Union.

The activities of the European Council President and of his closest aides, as well as those of the Council of the European Union and the Member States, are excluded from the scope of the environmental management system. These include processes independent of the functioning of the GSC, over which it has no influence.

3.2.1. The Justus Lipsius building

The Justus Lipsius building was the headquarters of the Council of the European Union and its General Secretariat until 2016. Its official address is rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175, 1048 Brussels. The building stands on a 4-hectare plot bordered by rue de la Loi/Wetstraat, rue Froissart/Froissartstraat, chaussée d'Etterbeek/Etterbeeksesteenweg and the Residence Palace. The building consists of three distinct but closely linked parts: the Conference Centre, the Secretariat and the substructure.

The Conference Centre looks out onto rue de la Loi/Wetstraat and consists of four wings surrounding a large atrium. It can accommodate up to 5 000 people.

The Conference Centre is comprised of rooms intended for meetings of the European Council, the Council and its preparatory bodies, accommodation for the Presidency and delegations from the Member States, and space for related activities.

On the lower floors, it contains accommodation for the press and restaurants; the VIP entrance is below and behind the main entrance.

The Secretariat part is built around four large patios over 11 levels, forming a terraced construction which extends from rue Froissart/Froissartstraat down to chaussée d'Etterbeek/Etterbeeksesteenweg. It houses the offices of various departments of the GSC, including workshops and archives.

The substructure consists of six levels below ground, descending from rue de la Loi/Wetstraat to chaussée d'Etterbeek/Etterbeeksesteenweg. It has a total area of about 83 000 m² and comprises 1 871 parking spaces, general storage areas, various other storage rooms, archive space and an unloading bay.

3.2.2. The Lex building

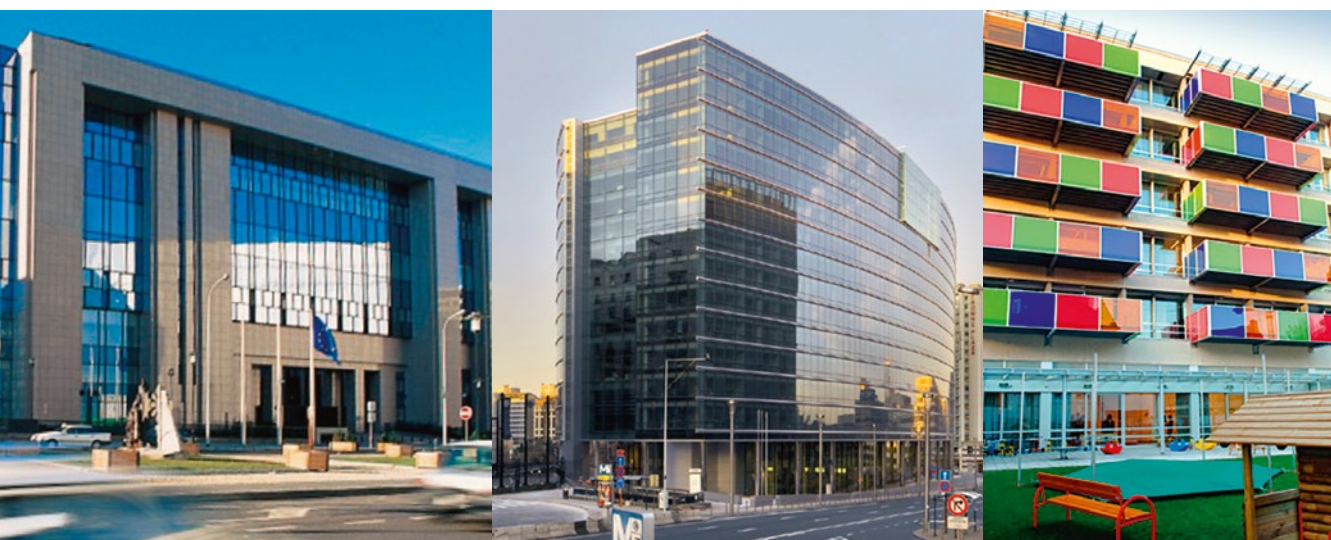
Since 2007, the Lex building has been home to the GSC's Translation Service and since 2009 to the Directorate for Quality of Legislation. Its official address is rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 145, 1048 Brussels. In total, around 1 200 people work in the building, which comprises offices, conference rooms, multipurpose rooms, a cafeteria, a restaurant and 199 parking spaces.

3.2.3. The crèche building

The Council crèche is located at avenue de la Brabançonne/Brabançonnelaan 100, 1030 Brussels. The building was inaugurated in 2006 and provides appropriate accommodation for up to 180 children. The crèche offers an open-air play area, a covered play area, multipurpose rooms and rooms for teaching and support staff. It also has indoor and outdoor parking spaces.

3.2.4. The Europa building

The Europa building, which consists of the former Residence Palace block A and an additional structure built inside it, is located at rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 155, 1048 Brussels. It is the new home of the European Council and the Council of the European Union. Since January 2017 a small number of GSC staff, Member States' permanent representations, the President of the European Council and the Secretary-General have worked in the building. There are approximately 250 offices and 10 meeting rooms in the renovated section of the Residence Palace. The modern structure, meanwhile, houses meetings of the European Council and the Council, as well as certain meetings of preparatory bodies. It includes a press room, three large meeting rooms with enhanced interpreting facilities, a number of reception rooms, a restaurant and a cafeteria.



Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings

3.3. SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

An environmental review is a fundamental part of an environmental management system. It involves the 'identification of all direct and indirect environmental aspects with a significant impact on the environment, qualified and quantified as appropriate'. 'Environmental aspect' means an element of activities, products or services that has, or can have, an impact on the environment. The review takes into account:

- on the one hand, direct environmental aspects associated with the activities, products and services of the organisation itself over which it has direct management control;
- on the other hand, indirect environmental aspects that may result from the interaction of an organisation with third parties, which can to a reasonable degree be influenced by the organisation.

Once all the environmental aspects and impacts have been identified, criteria are established for assessing the scale of the impacts and determining which are significant. The weighting of the aspects is carried out using an approach to determine the severity of the environmental impact, the actual or potential frequency of the aspect and the level of control over it. The weighting based on those criteria provides a quantitative result, making it possible to identify the GSC's main priorities for environmental programming. An environmental aspect is deemed significant if there is an applicable environmental regulation or if the mathematical product of the severity, frequency (or probability) and operational control of the aspect exceeds a set threshold.

This review process, first carried out in October 2012, has been updated regularly (December 2014, September 2015, June 2016 and September 2017). The following table summarises the significant aspects related to the GSC's activities and their origin:

TOPIC	SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	ACTIVITIES, PRODUCTS OR SERVICES
Air	Emissions of pollutants (NO _x , CO, VOCs)	Air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of heating and cogeneration installations • Movement of people • Transport of goods and merchandise
	CO ₂ and fluorinated greenhouse gas emissions	Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement of people • Transport of goods and merchandise • Gas consumption (heating, cogeneration, etc.) • Air-conditioning in buildings and cooling for catering purposes
	HCFC emissions	Ozone layer depletion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old cooling units

TOPIC	SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	ACTIVITIES, PRODUCTS OR SERVICES
Biodiversity	Choice of food and its origin	Weakening of ecosystems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production of meals and catering products • Construction and renovation works • Cleaning of premises; maintenance of equipment and green areas • Purchasing policy for goods • Pest control measures
	Choice of materials and products		
	Choice of building sites and types	Destruction of natural habitats, topography; visual pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings policy
Waste	Waste production, storage and end-of-life treatment	Air, water and soil pollution; threats to biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management policy • Policy on withdrawing equipment from service and reusing withdrawn equipment • Equipment maintenance • Fitting out/refit of premises, renovation, construction • Office activities • Catering
Water	Discharge of waste water	Risk of eutrophication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitary installations, cleaning, technical installations • Storage of hazardous products and waste • Catering
		Water and soil pollution	
Resources	Use of paper and supplies	Depletion of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office activities • Printing
	Water consumption		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitary systems • Production of meals • Technical equipment
	Energy consumption		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heating, air-conditioning and ventilation of premises • Purchasing policy for goods, consumables, materials and IT equipment • Operation of electrical and IT equipment • Lighting • Movement of people and transport of goods • Policy on the use of office space • Practices in the use of technical kitchen equipment • Management of data centres
Public procurement	Environmental performance of contractors	Miscellaneous environmental impacts caused by third parties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of electricity • Leasing of official cars • Renovation or construction projects • Waste management • Catering • Maintenance of technical installations • Purchase of (IT) equipment, etc.
	Sustainability and impacts of chosen products and services		
Environmental and health risks	Malfunctioning, leaks, spillage of hazardous products, waste, etc.	Air, water and soil pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery, storage, use of hazardous products for the maintenance of technical installations • Design and management of technical installations containing oil, fuel or other fluids • Storage of gas bottles (welding workshop) • Waste management and storage • Detection gate
		Health risks	
	Dust and noise	Noise and air pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renovation and maintenance of buildings • Transport of goods and movement of people
		Health risks	

3.4. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

In 2013 the Secretary-General of the Council of the EU adopted an environmental policy formalising the GSC's commitment to become actively involved in a high-quality environmental management initiative. This policy was updated in 2017. The resulting environmental programming entails improvements as regards, for example, more rational use of energy and natural resources, and waste management, while also covering other environmental topics such as mobility and sustainable public procurement. The GSC's environmental commitment is thus enshrined in the environmental policy set out below:

The General Secretariat of the Council (GSC) is aware of the growing importance of environmental issues and has been taking steps to improve the environmental performance of its activities for many years. Recognising the positive contribution it can make to the sustainable development of society, the GSC aims to enshrine the principles of sound environmental management in its day-to-day work. As a result of the environmental management programme put in place as from 2011, it was awarded the three-star 'Eco-dynamic Enterprise' label for the Lex and crèche buildings (on 10 February 2015). The GSC subsequently obtained certification (on 25 January 2016) that its environmental management system for the three buildings — the Justus Lipsius, the Lex and the crèche — complies with EMAS as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 and with ISO standard 14001:2004. Determined to continuously improve the environmental performance of its activities and to ensure compliance with the applicable environmental legislation and rules, the GSC undertakes to:

- incorporate the Europa building into its environmental management system while maintaining the latter's compliance with EMAS;
- prevent pollution by reducing the environmental impact of its activities and by ensuring efficient use of energy, water, products, consumables and materials;
- include environmental criteria in the relevant public procurement procedures and in the rules on events organisation;
- avoid producing waste, encourage the reuse of written-off material resources and promote the recycling of end-of-life materials;
- ensure appropriate management of hazardous products and waste in line with the applicable legislation;
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from its operations and activities;
- encourage environmentally friendly behaviour in all its staff, contractors and visitors through training, information and awareness-raising;
- promote transparency in communication and dialogue with the public and other interested parties;
- apply the above to all its activities in its buildings in the Brussels-Capital Region.

The Environment Steering Committee will adopt environmental objectives, targets and action plans, supervise all activities relating to the environmental management system and make provision for the necessary resources. The Environment Coordinator will take charge of the day-to-day administration of the environmental management system and coordinate the implementation of environmental programming at the GSC.

Brussels, 8 February 2017.

*The Secretary-General
of the Council of the European Union*

3.5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The various actors involved in environmental management at the GSC are set out below:



The Secretary-General lays down the GSC's environmental policy and determines the organisational structure for the establishment of the environmental management system (EMS).

The Environment Steering Committee adopts environmental objectives, targets and action plans, supervises all activities relating to the EMS and makes provision for the necessary resources. It adopts the environmental statement and the action programme. It is chaired by the Director-General for Administration and consists of the directors and heads of the departments involved in environmental management.

The Environment Coordinator is responsible, with their colleagues, for putting in place the methodology and procedures of the EMS, managing environmental permits and coordinating environmental programming. The Environment Coordinator and their colleagues make up the Green Office environmental management team, and are responsible, among other things, for environmental regulations, energy policy, environmental indicators, green procurement, mobility, awareness raising and communication.

Environmental officers are appointed in the departments most involved in environmental management. They are well acquainted with the workings of their departments. They monitor environmental issues in their own departments, liaise with the Environment Coordinator and support the implementation and operational monitoring of the environmental management project.

Eco-coaches are the key contact persons in the directorates and units of the GSC. Their incorporation in the organisational structure of the environmental management system ensures an approach which is in touch with the grass roots, and aims to get staff involved in implementing the environmental programme.

In total, this is a cross-departmental organisation of almost 80 people working permanently or regularly on environmental management.

3.6. APPLICABLE REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

The GSC is committed to ensuring compliance with the environmental legislation and regulations in force in the Brussels-Capital Region.

The Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings and the crèche are each covered by an environmental permit issued by Bruxelles Environnement/Leefmilieu Brussel, the region's environmental authority. The monitoring of legislation and regulations is ensured by the establishment and updating of a comprehensive register of applicable regulations and by regular compliance audits. The register is updated on a monthly basis for the various environmental activities concerned.

The GSC monitors environmental permits and compliance and informs the operational departments of regulatory developments so that they can adapt the relevant work processes where necessary.

In the event of an accident or incident entailing environmental or health and safety risks, the GSC will immediately inform Bruxelles Environnement/Leefmilieu Brussel and the relevant local authorities.



Thermal image of the facade of the crèche building showing heating loss (energy audit began in March 2017)

4. ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME

The GSC has established a multi-faceted and constantly developing environmental programme which adheres to the guidelines laid down in the environmental policy. The measures developed within this programme aim to reduce environmental impacts and are gradually leading to improved control over significant environmental aspects. The environmental programme is organised by topic or by environmental aspect.

The GSC employs some 3 000 officials and, on average, receives 2 000 people from outside the GSC each day, including the members and experts of the national delegations, journalists, staff of outside firms, visitors, etc. Changes in environmental impact are weighted in some cases by the surface area of the buildings or by the average number of people working in them.

For ease of reading, the graphs in the following paragraphs illustrating year-by-year trends in various environmental aspects do not include the years 2011 to 2013. The year 2010, in which several multiannual plans were started, is kept as the reference year. All indicators relating to a number of people are calculated in proportion to the occupants of the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings, with the exception of data relating to paper use, waste and mobility, which for technical reasons also include those working in Europa.

4.1. ENERGY

4.1.1. Background

Energy is used in several forms and entails the consumption of natural resources.

Gas is mainly used for the heating of buildings and sanitary hot water production, and for cogenerating electricity and useful heat in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings.

Electricity is mainly used for the air conditioning and ventilation of buildings, active cooling in certain areas (such as the data centre), lighting, catering services, activity relating to the press centre and visitors, the operation of lifts, IT infrastructure, etc.

Annual consumption of gas and electricity in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings is also influenced by the number and type of events which are held there (summits, multilateral conferences, Council meetings, etc.).

4.1.2. Environmental performance indicators

Primary energy consumption (see point 4.1.2.3) is an indicator used to measure the environmental impact of obtaining energy and transporting it from its source to the GSC buildings.

4.1.2.1. Gas

Figure 1 shows actual gas consumption in the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings (2010-2017). The fluctuation in this annual consumption is closely linked to heating requirements in a given year. This 'climatic' effect can be evened out by normalising gas consumption linked to the heating requirements of the building, thus making it

possible to compare developments from one year to the next. The normalisation of consumption is explained in Section 6.1.

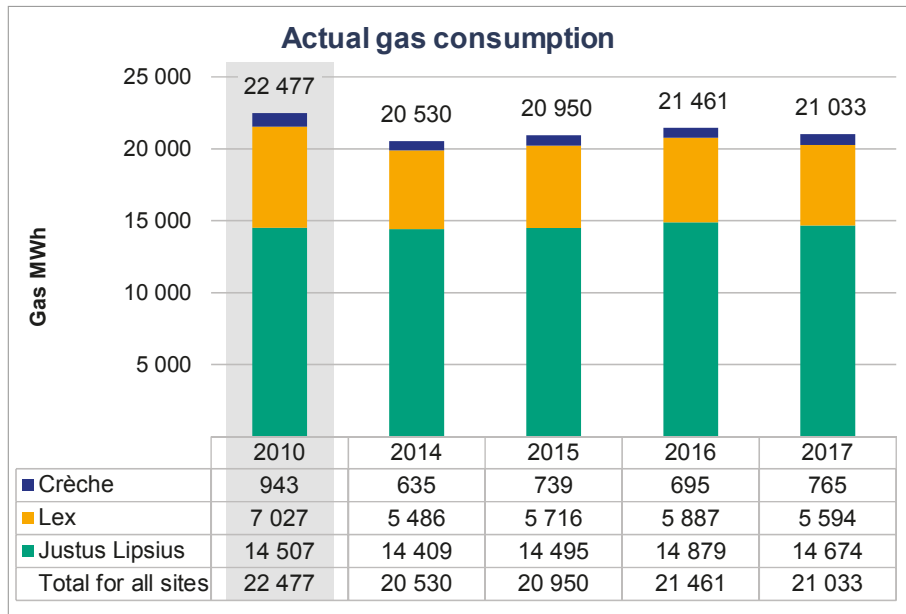


Figure 1: Actual gas consumption in the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings (2010-2017)

Figure 2 shows normalised gas consumption for the heating of buildings, excluding normalisation of the share of gas used for production of cogenerated electricity and sanitary hot water. The normalised consumption of gas increased by 4.34 % in 2017 (21 866 megawatt hours (MWh)) compared to 2010 (20 958 MWh). Between 2014 and 2017 it fell by 10.1 % (a difference of 2 465 MWh).

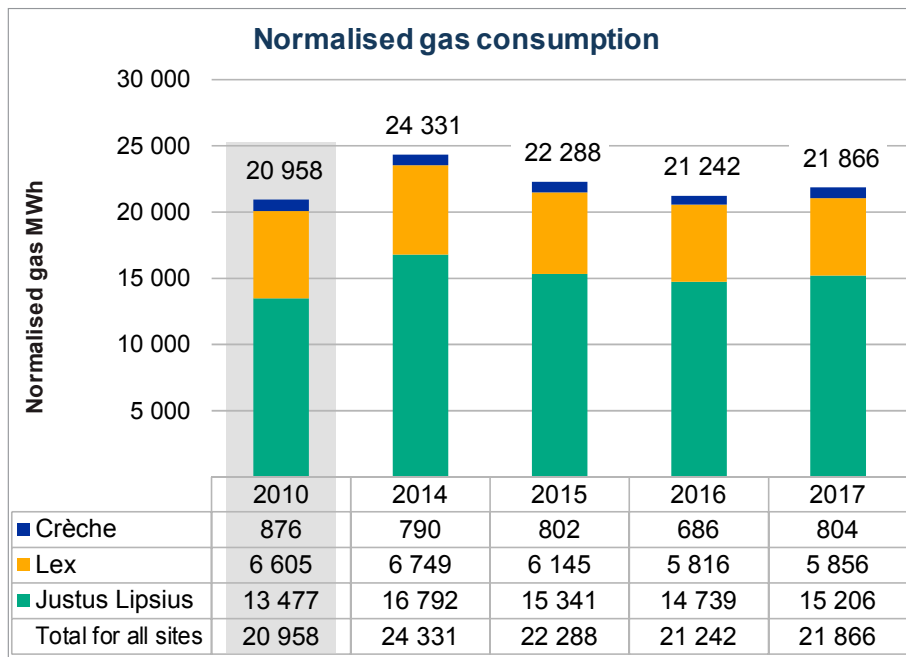


Figure 2: Normalised gas consumption in the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings (2010-2017)

The increase in normalised gas consumption between 2010 and 2017 is mainly due to the use of high-efficiency cogeneration of heat and electricity, which produces useful heat at a lower yield than a boiler but leads to a structural reduction in the consumption of primary energy required for the proper functioning of the buildings (see point 4.1.2.3).

The increase in gas consumption in Justus Lipsius between 2010 and 2014 is mainly due to the cogeneration system which became operational in that building in 2011. The fall in consumption that can be seen in the same building and in the Lex between 2014 and 2017 is due to optimisation of the general operation of installations in these two buildings.

4.1.2.2. Electricity

Total electricity consumption fell by 18 % between 2010 (30 069 MWh) and 2017 (24 652 MWh) as shown in Figure 3. The consumption shown includes purchased electricity and electricity produced by photovoltaic installations and cogeneration plants in all the buildings.

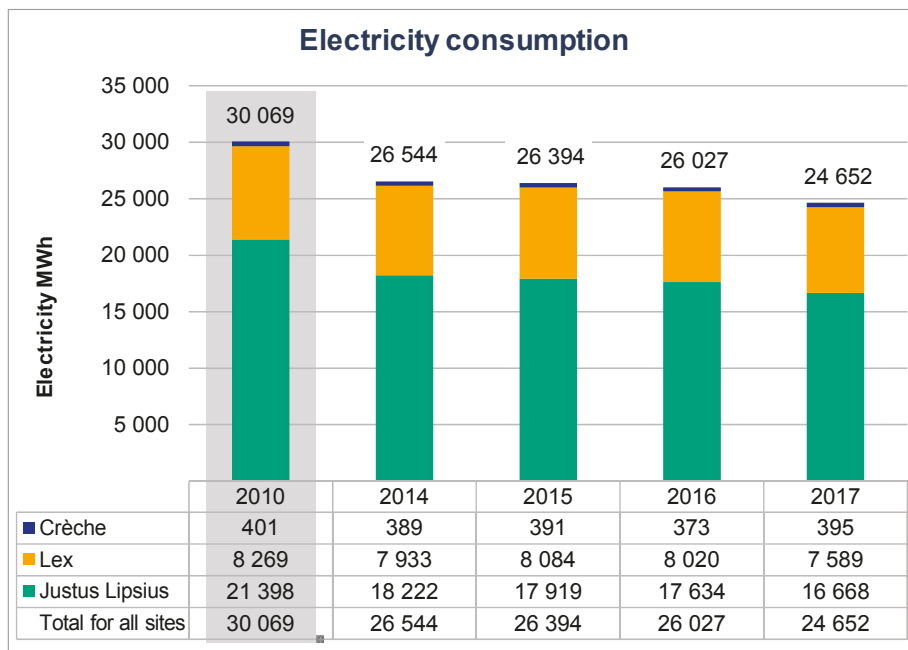


Figure 3: Electricity consumption in the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings (2010-2017)

Figure 4 shows the trend in electricity production by cogeneration plants in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings and by the photovoltaic installations on the Justus Lipsius building. This production accounted for 12 % of consumption in 2017.

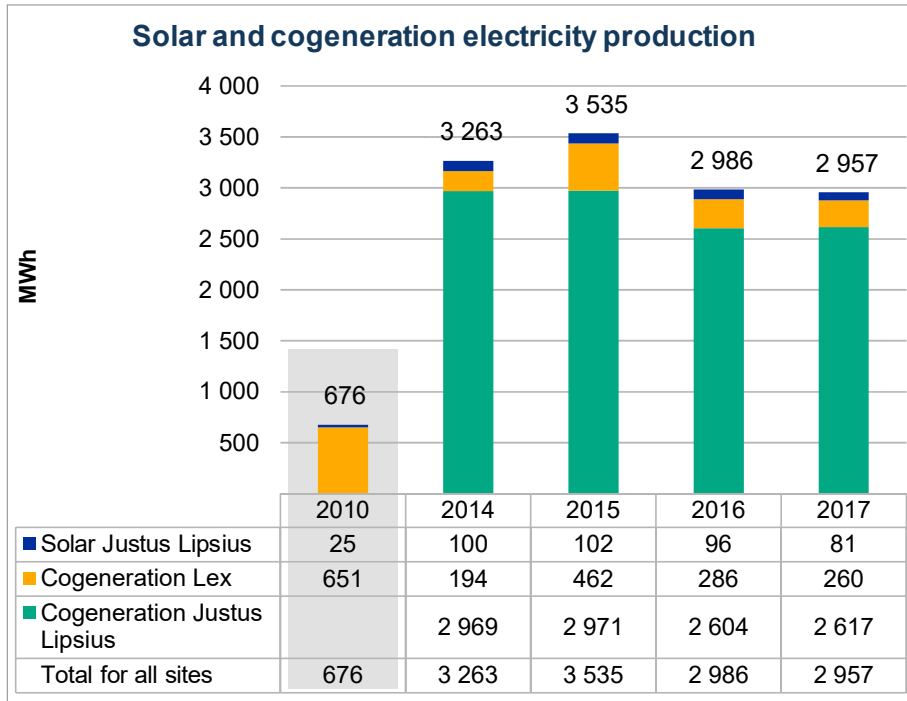


Figure 4: Solar and cogeneration electricity production in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings (2010-2017)

The drop in 'green' electricity production in the Lex in 2017 is partly explained by the fact that the cogeneration system was working inefficiently during the first half of 2017 and was then shut down for technical reasons.

Between December 2014 and January 2015, work was carried out on the cogeneration plant in the Justus Lipsius to improve modulation. The plant operated continuously during this period and consequently electricity production was higher, as shown by the figures for 2014 and 2015. Electricity production by cogeneration was lower in 2016, due to a better adjustment of the modulation to the real demand of the building (particularly for heating).

The slight drop in solar electricity production in Justus Lipsius was partly caused by a technical intervention carried out in June 2017.

4.1.2.3. Primary energy

Primary energy is the 'raw' form of energy available (for example gas, coal, wood, etc.) before conversion into useful energy (such as electricity, heat, etc.). The consumption of electricity and gas in the Council buildings can thus be expressed in terms of primary energy. Electricity bought from the grid is converted into primary energy using a conversion factor ^(?).

^(?) In accordance with the energy performance certification protocol for public buildings in the Brussels-Capital Region, a theoretical yield of 40 % is used to convert electricity bought from the grid into primary energy.

The energy performance of a building is generally measured in primary energy. This approach makes it possible to include the effect of high-efficiency energy conversion systems such as cogeneration on the consumption of non-renewable natural resources.

Normalised primary energy consumption in the Council buildings fell by 19.4 % between 2010 (94 439 MWh) and 2017 (76 102 MWh), as shown in Figure 5.

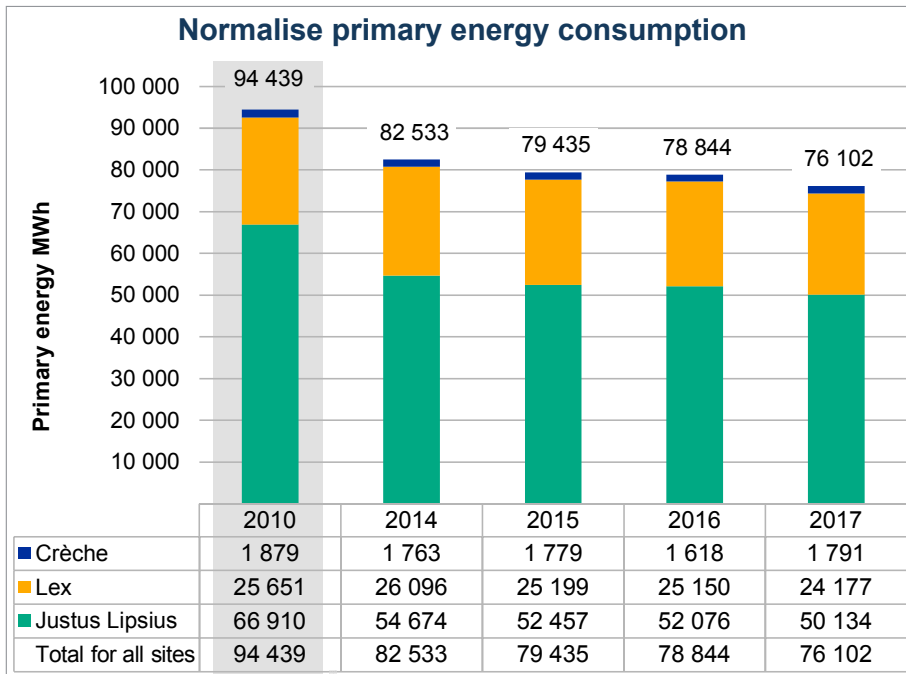


Figure 5: Trend in primary energy consumption in the crèche, Lex and Justus Lipsius buildings (2010-2017)

This translates into an improvement in the average energy performance for all sites from 444 kWh/m² in 2010 to 358 kWh/m² in 2017, as shown in Figure 6.

In the crèche, the building automation system malfunctioned for a sustained period in 2017 keeping the building fully operational, i.e. lighting, ventilation, heating and cooling on, even during holiday periods. That explains the increase of the building's consumption to a great extent.

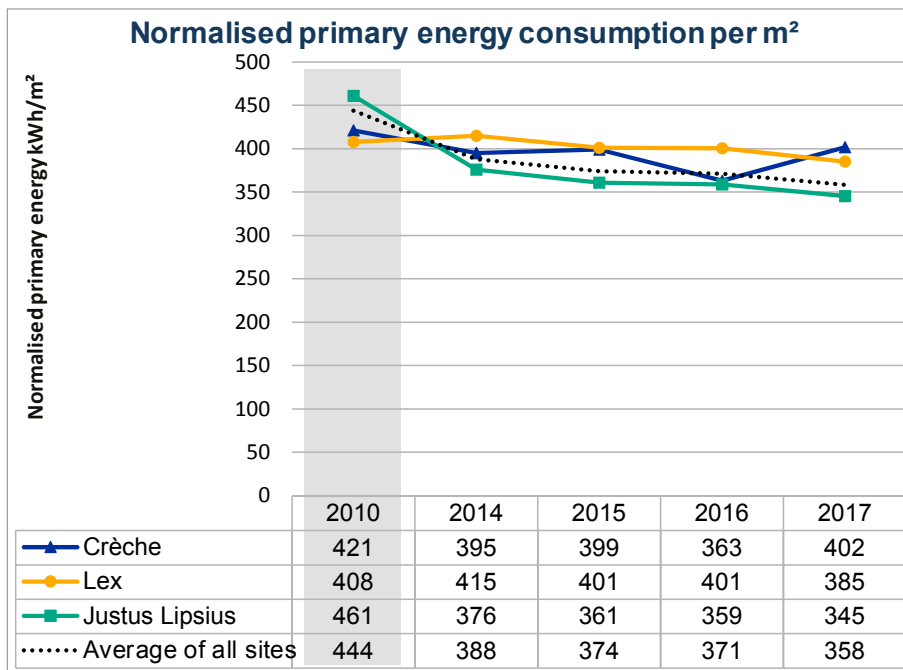


Figure 6: Trend in specific primary energy consumption in the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings (2010-2017)

Figure 7 shows the trend, by year, in actual and normalised primary energy consumption per occupant of the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings. Consumption has thus been corrected by an occupancy factor which reflects the intensity of the Council's activities. Normalised primary energy consumption per occupant fell by 17.1 % between 2010 (19 352 kWh) and 2017 (16 034 kWh).

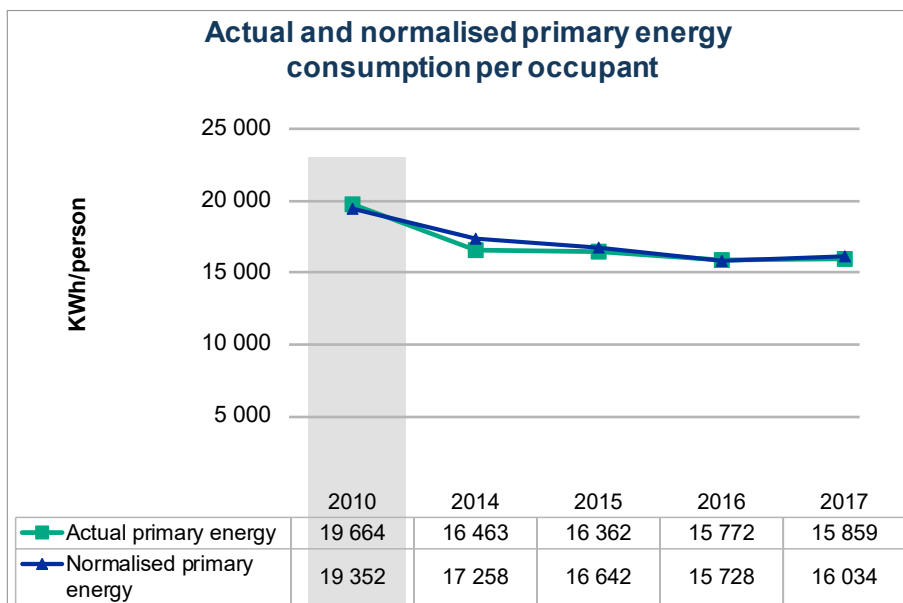


Figure 7: Trend in actual and normalised primary energy consumption per occupant (2010-2017)

It can therefore be concluded that the overall energy performance of the Council's buildings improved significantly between 2010 and 2017.

4.1.3. Objectives and action

4.1.3.1. Objectives

Directive 2012/27/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on energy efficiency came into force on 4 December 2012. The directive establishes a common framework of measures to promote energy efficiency in the Union in order to achieve the Union's major objective of a 20 % increase in energy efficiency by 2020 and to pave the way for further energy efficiency improvements beyond that date.

The Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission jointly stated on 2 October 2012 that, due to the high profile of their buildings and the leading role they should play in the field of energy performance, they would, without prejudice to applicable rules on budgeting and public procurement, subject the buildings they own and occupy to the same requirements as are applicable to the buildings of Member States' central governments under Articles 5 and 6 of the directive.

The GSC is thus committed to ensuring that energy is used efficiently in all Council buildings. The target increase in efficiency for the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings together for the 2010-2020 period is shown in the table below:

YEAR	NORMALISED CONSUMPTION	ENERGY SAVING COMPARED TO 2010	RELATIVE DECREASE COMPARED TO 2010
	in MWh	in MWh	in %
Reference: 2010	94 439	n.a.	n.a.
Outcome: 2017	76 154	18 337	- 19.4
Objective: 2020	72 728	21 711	- 22.9

Note: n.a. = not applicable.

2020 energy efficiency objective for the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings.

The GSC undertook to cut its normalised primary energy consumption by 15 % between 2010 and 2020 in the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings. That objective was achieved and surpassed, with an energy saving of 19.4 % in 2017 compared to 2010. The GSC also undertook to improve its energy performance by an average of 1.5 % per year between 2010 and 2020. The 2020 objective has been reviewed taking into account a 1.5 % reduction of the primary energy consumption per year from the year 2017. This objective equates to a reduction of 102 kWh_{primary energy} per m² in the average energy consumption of all buildings in 2020 compared to 2010.

The overall energy consumption reduction objectives as from 2020 will be reviewed on the basis of the outcome of the completed and ongoing energy audits, as illustrated in the following two points.

4.1.3.2. Action taken

The GSC has put in place concrete measures which resulted in a structural improvement in energy performance between 2010 and 2017. This improvement is visible in the primary energy consumption, both as an absolute figure and in relative terms per occupant or unit of surface area of the buildings. The action taken includes the following policies and measures (non-exhaustive list):

- the settings for heating during the winter and air-conditioning during the summer are monitored continuously in order to optimise consumption;
- lighting control by motion detection has been introduced in common areas;
- LED technology is now used for lighting when fitting out areas;
- the server park in the data centre has been optimised by means of virtualisation (approximately 60 % of servers have already been virtualised);
- energy performance criteria are systematically incorporated in procurement procedures for IT equipment;
- there are regular awareness-raising campaigns targeted at the occupants of the buildings to encourage them to use energy more rationally, and energy performance certificates are displayed every year at the entrances to the buildings;
- the energy audits of the Justus Lipsius building in 2015 and the Lex building in 2016 have helped to identify the cost-effective energy performance potential and to devise an energy action plan for each of the two buildings;
- in 2017 an energy audit of the crèche was started, which will enable an energy action plan to be drawn up for this building also.



Recurrent campaign to encourage staff to reduce energy consumption

4.1.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will undertake the following actions:

- ensure the continued implementation of the existing measures described in point 4.1.3.2;
- identify the cost-effective energy performance potential through an energy audit of the crèche (scheduled for 2017-2018);
- implement and periodically evaluate the energy action plans for all the buildings;
- establish new overall energy consumption reduction targets as from 2020.

4.2. WATER

4.2.1. Background

In the Council buildings, water is used primarily in the kitchens, toilets and showers, as well as to clean the premises and to humidify the air in the offices and conference rooms. The GSC uses mains water in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings and in the crèche, but also rainwater in the Lex building.

4.2.2. Environmental performance indicators

Figure 8 shows the trend in mains water consumption between 2010 and 2017 for the Justus Lipsius, Lex and crèche buildings.

The sudden increase in water consumption in the Lex building in 2015 was linked to a technical incident due to a faulty valve in the rainwater collection system which caused continuous filling with mains water.

A leak which occurred in October 2017, during renovation work in the Justus Lipsius building, is reflected in the overall figure.

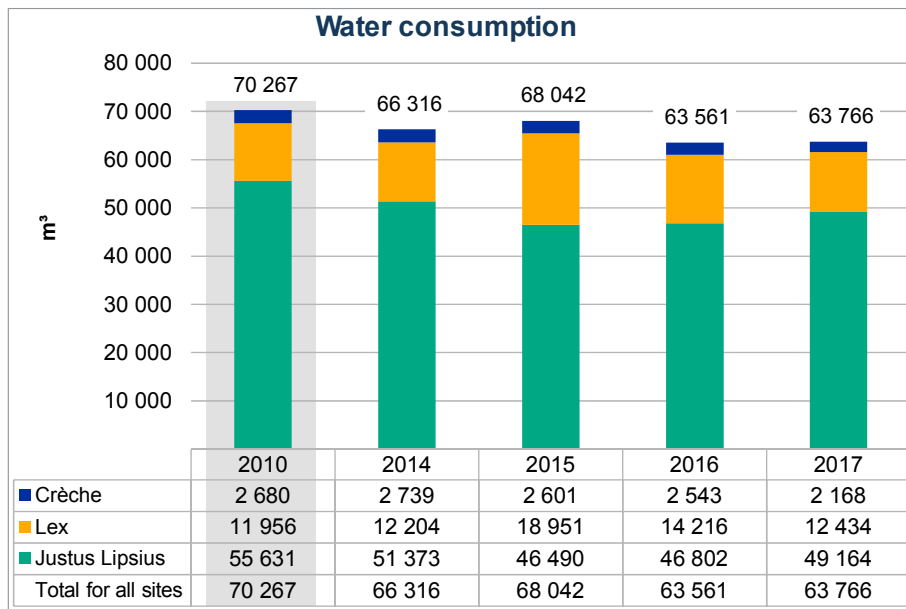


Figure 8: Trend in mains water consumption by building (2010-2017)

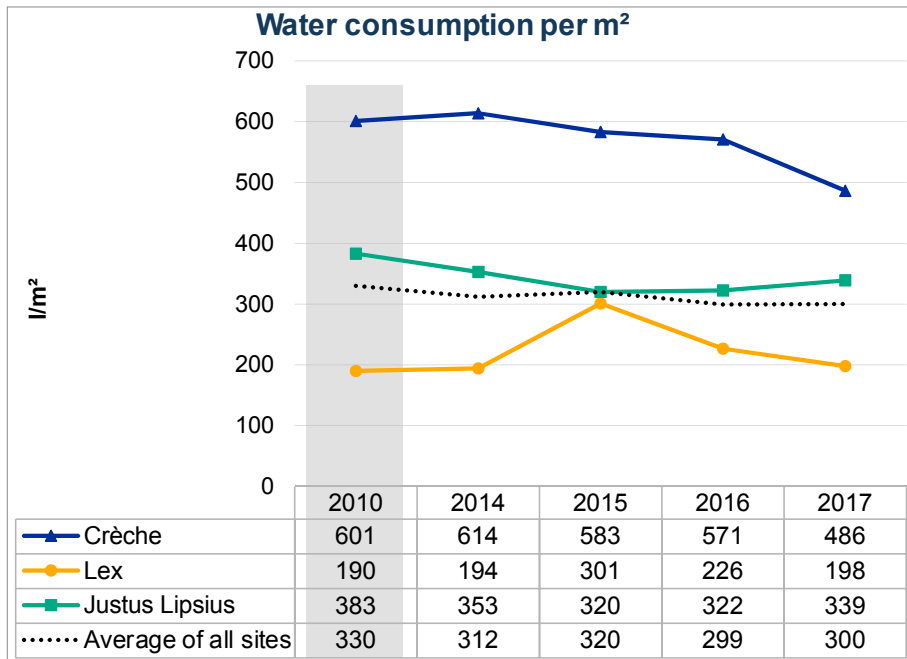


Figure 9: Trend in mains water consumption per m² by building (2010-2017)

Figure 9 shows the mains water consumption per m² for each of the buildings. Water consumption in the crèche is relatively high and is linked to its activity of providing childcare.

Figure 10 shows the trend in mains water consumption per day and per occupant. Consumption has thus been corrected by an occupancy factor which reflects the intensity of the Council's activities. Water consumption per occupant per day was essentially identical for each year between 2010 and 2017, with a general downward trend.

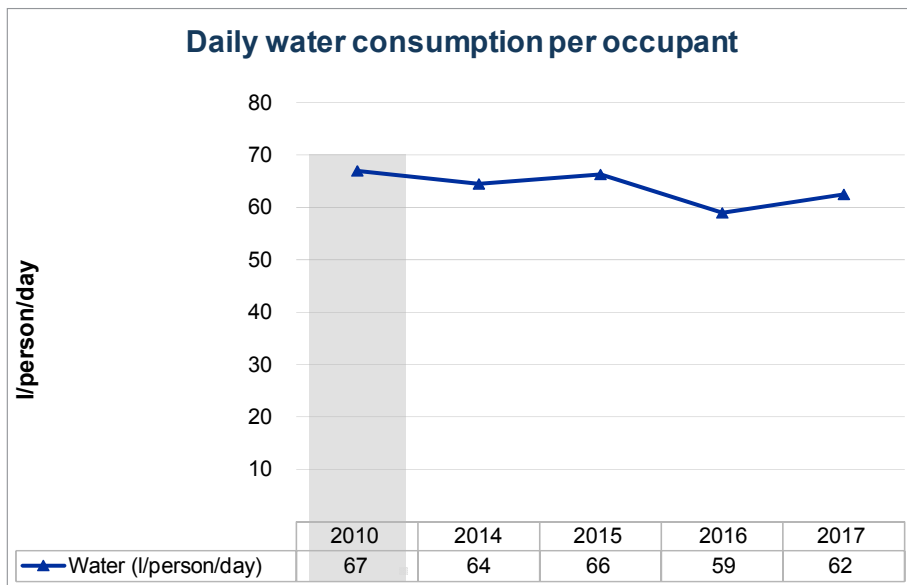


Figure 10: Trend in mains water consumption per person per day (2010-2017)

4.2.3. Objectives and action

4.2.3.1. Objectives

The GSC is committed, in line with its environmental policy, to an approach of preventing pollution while ensuring the efficient use of water.

4.2.3.2. Action taken

The GSC has implemented the following measures:

- a rainwater collection system with a total capacity of around 200 000 litres has been installed in the Lex building to supply water to flush the toilets;
- in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings, toilets have been fitted with a dual flush button and urinals with a proximity sensor;
- awareness-raising campaigns encourage users to report any water leaks to the Buildings Unit, which is also responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the facilities;
- awareness-raising campaigns encourage the occupants of the buildings to use water rationally;
- regular checks are carried out on the valve in the rainwater collection system in the Lex building.

4.2.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will implement the following measures:

- renovation of the toilet facilities, including recovery of some rainwater in the Justus Lipsius building;
- installation of spray taps with water brake in the Lex toilets to limit the flow rate to 50 %;
- inclusion of a heading on water consumption in the energy audit of the crèche scheduled for 2017-2018.

4.3. WASTE

4.3.1. Background

Given the very great diversity of its activities, the GSC produces many different types of waste, some of which are classified as hazardous. The GSC's waste mainly comes from the fitting-out and maintenance of its premises and technical installations, from catering and from the daily activities of its staff. The types of waste collected within the GSC buildings are:

- hazardous waste (neon tubes, cans which contained hazardous products, waste oils, electronic waste, waste from the medical service, printer ink cartridges, etc.);
- PMC (plastic bottles and containers for liquids, cans and foil packaging, and drinks cartons);
- glass;
- metal;
- paper and cardboard;
- organic waste (from the catering service);
- general waste (from offices and meetings, packaging, etc.);
- refurbishment and renovation waste, building waste;
- equipment withdrawn from service (IT, furniture, etc.).

For technical reasons, the data set out below are for waste collected in all the buildings occupied by the GSC in Brussels (including the Europa building, which has not yet been incorporated in the scope of EMAS) and for all staff. For the crèche building, data are available only since 2015, the year from which the contractor responsible for the management of the building began to supply data to the GSC.

4.3.2. Environmental performance indicators

Figure 11 illustrates the changes in combined waste generation for all buildings between 2010 and 2017. Improving the quality of sorting has made it possible to collect a larger proportion of PMC and glass, the collection of which has been organised more systematically since 2012.

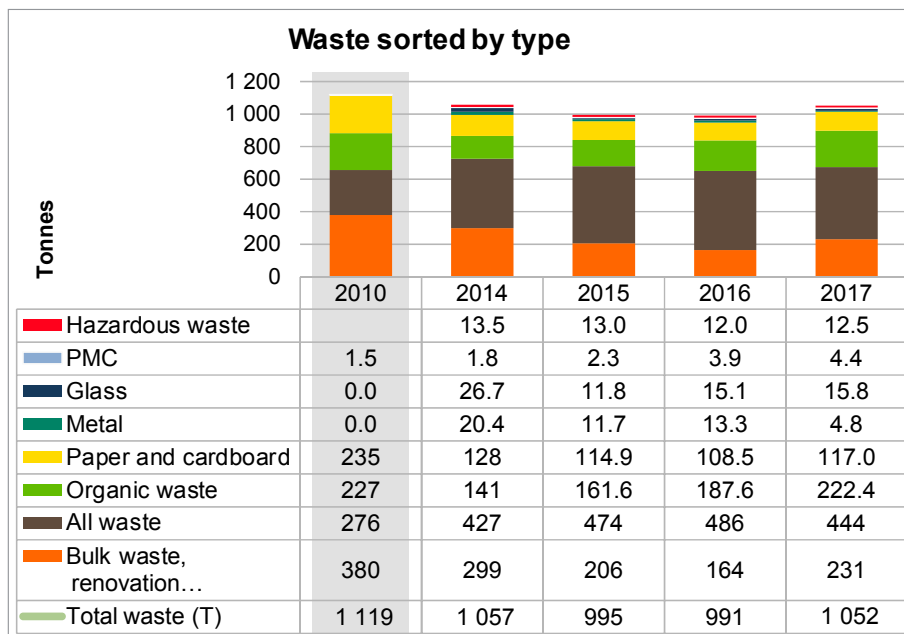


Figure 11: Waste production by type (2010-2017), including PMC, general waste, paper and cardboard from the crèche

The total amount of waste decreased by 6 % between 2010 (1 119 tonnes) and 2017 (1 052 tonnes).

The increase in bulk waste in 2017 is partly explained by the extensive fitting-out work undertaken in the Europa building.

Cabling waste is included under the heading 'Hazardous waste' for the first time in 2017, which explains the increase in that category.

Figure 12 shows the trend in the amount of waste produced annually per person. All occupants of all buildings are taken into account; waste from the Europa building is not recorded separately, but together with waste from the Justus Lipsius building. Between 2010 and 2017, the annual quantity of waste per person fell overall, from 229 kg to 201 kg, a reduction of 12.4 %.

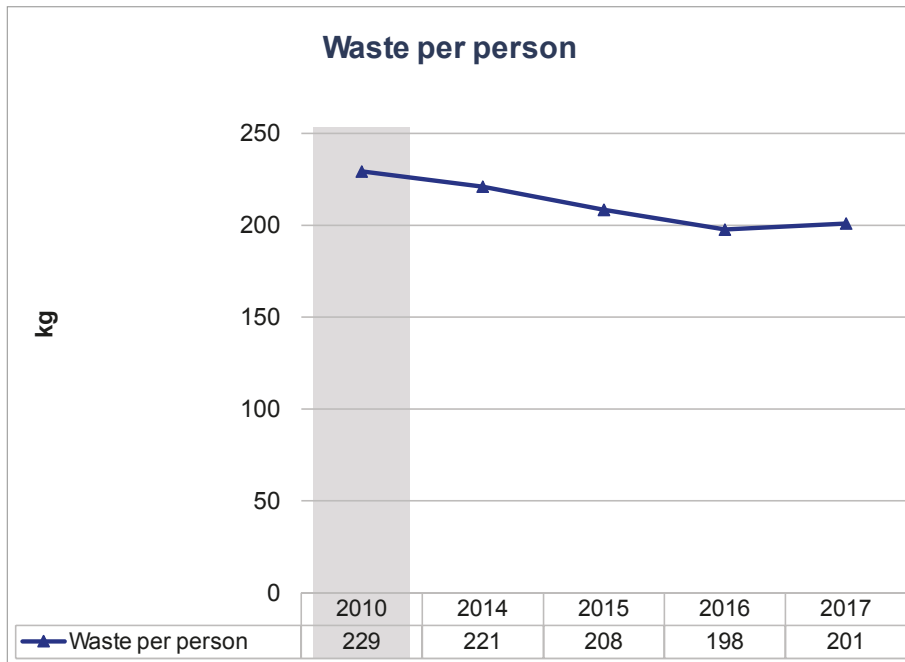


Figure 12: Total waste production per person (2010-2017), including PMC, general waste, paper and cardboard from the crèche

4.3.3. Objectives and action

4.3.3.1. Objectives

The waste action plan was updated for the period 2016-2020. Its objectives are to continue to improve the waste management system and, between 2012 and 2020, to stabilise and if possible reduce the quantity of waste, and particularly non-recyclable waste, generated per person.

The GSC also continues to ensure that hazardous products and waste are managed appropriately.

4.3.3.2. Action taken

To improve the sorting and, therefore, the recycling of waste, the following steps have been taken:

- providing waste-paper baskets in the conference rooms, interpreting booths and offices;
- setting up the collection of glass at certain points in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings;
- standardising the waste collection points in the buildings by:
 - identifying each bin by means of a sticker;
 - putting up bilingual explanatory posters (in English and French) illustrating how to sort waste correctly;
- drawing up a waste sorting guide;
- installing signs giving better information on sorting at the loading bay, for contractors and external providers;
- periodically measuring the quality of sorting and awareness-raising among staff;

- reusing some of the furniture withdrawn from service;
- biomethanisation of organic waste: food unfit for consumption and kitchen waste from the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings are collected and processed in specialised processing centres which produce biogas or use such waste for animal feed or compost;
- recycling packaging and recovering IT equipment through reuse and recycling;
- introducing separate waste collection in the Lex building's catering areas;
- reviewing the technical specifications in the new waste management contract, including audits on the quality of waste sorting;
- installing an organic waste outlet near the vegetable area in the Justus Lipsius building;
- implementing the practice of sorting waste in the crèche on a daily basis (general waste, paper, cardboard and PMC) with the children's involvement and craft activities using recycled and recovered materials: yoghurt cartons, newspaper, scraps of fabric and wool or wallpaper, etc;
- introducing waste sorting at the secure access points to the car parks.



Glass sorting at the Justus Lipsius building

4.3.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will undertake the following measures:

- ensure the continued implementation of the measures taken under the previous action plan;
- draw up a new action plan;
- continue to raise awareness among staff;
- introduce separate waste collection bins for staff in the catering areas of the Justus Lipsius and Europa buildings;
- increase the use of recyclable or reusable office supplies as far as possible;
- continue and extend (if applicable) those contracts involving the reuse of some of the equipment withdrawn from service;
- replace the green bins with paper box bins;
- develop and evaluate a pilot project to reduce the number of – or even remove – general waste bins in offices and to replace them with separate waste collection bins;
- make contractors and subcontractors aware of the need to reduce wrapping and packaging, or compel them to do so by means of special clauses.

4.4. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND OTHER AIR POLLUTANTS

4.4.1. Background

All the following activities conducted by the GSC generate greenhouse gas emissions (non-exhaustive list):

- holding of meetings, conferences and summits;
- staff transport, travel and missions;
- public procurement contracts;
- operation of buildings and buildings policy;
- technical, construction and renovation projects;
- use of natural resources, incoming and outgoing materials;
- catering;
- freight.

It is not appropriate to monitor the annual emissions of air pollutants such as sulphur oxides (SO_x), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NO_x) or particulate matter (PM), given the tertiary activities carried out in the buildings. Direct emissions of these pollutants are not significant (PM and SO_x) or are controlled by means of adequate monitoring of technical installations (CO and NO_x).

4.4.2. Environmental performance indicators

The greenhouse gases taken into account in environmental programming are carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrous oxide (N₂O), methane (CH₄), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and perfluorocarbons (PFCs). The GSC is currently measuring the direct emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from the operation of its buildings. These direct emissions are among the performance indicators of the environmental management system. They are mainly related to the use of gas for heating and cogeneration, fuel for service vehicles and accidental emissions of refrigerants, the warming

effect of which is measured in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) ⁽³⁾. The GSC purchases green electricity, in respect of which greenhouse gas emissions are not taken into account as such electricity comes from renewable energy sources and high-efficiency cogeneration.

Direct emissions of greenhouse gases are shown in Figure 13 and include emissions from the boilers, the cogeneration systems, the service fleet and refrigerant leakages. These direct emissions fluctuate considerably from one year to another, owing mainly to variations in the demand for heating in winter but also to accidental leaks in refrigeration systems. In 2017, an important leak of refrigerant fluid happened in the Lex. Figure 14, by contrast, shows the indirect greenhouse gas emissions avoided thanks to the photovoltaic and cogeneration installations. In 2010 these made it possible to avoid releasing 69 tonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere ⁽⁴⁾. Between 2015 and 2017 the decrease in greenhouse gas emissions saved is due to the temporary shutdown of cogeneration in the Lex building for technical reasons and weather-related factors (colder winter in 2013 leading to increased cogeneration use). Cogeneration production in the Justus Lipsius was higher in 2014 and 2015 because of work being carried out on the modulation system. The figure for 2016 shows that production was better adjusted to demand.

An annex setting out the overall results of a comprehensive study on the carbon footprint of all Council activities, including emissions from on-site gas combustion and other activities such as travel and the use of goods and services, etc. is attached at the end of this statement.

⁽³⁾ The global warming potential (GWP) represents the combined effect of the differing times these gases remain in the atmosphere and their relative power of absorption of outgoing infra-red heat radiation, and is generally based on a 100-year time horizon. The GWP is used to translate the overall emissions of greenhouse gases into emissions of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e).

⁽⁴⁾ The CO₂ emissions avoided thanks to the solar panels were calculated in accordance with the Ministerial Decree of 24 July 2008 setting out the energy assumptions to be taken into consideration when carrying out technical and economic feasibility studies in the Brussels-Capital Region. The CO₂ emissions avoided thanks to the cogeneration systems were calculated by comparing the CO₂ emissions with those of equivalent heat production from a high-efficiency boiler (efficiency = 90 %) and with those of equivalent net electricity production from a gas steam power plant (efficiency = 55 %).

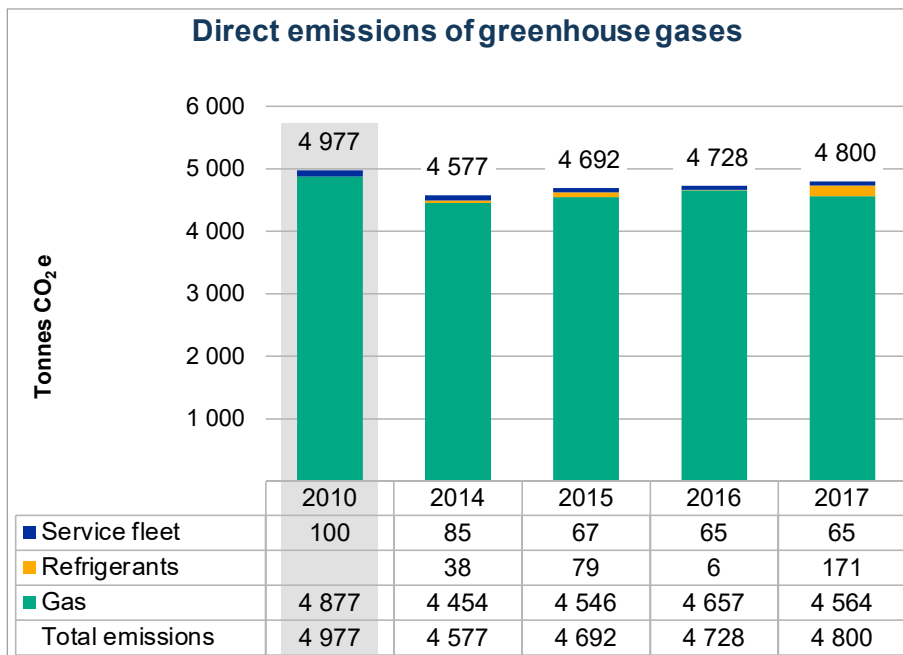


Figure 13: Direct greenhouse gas emissions (2010-2017)

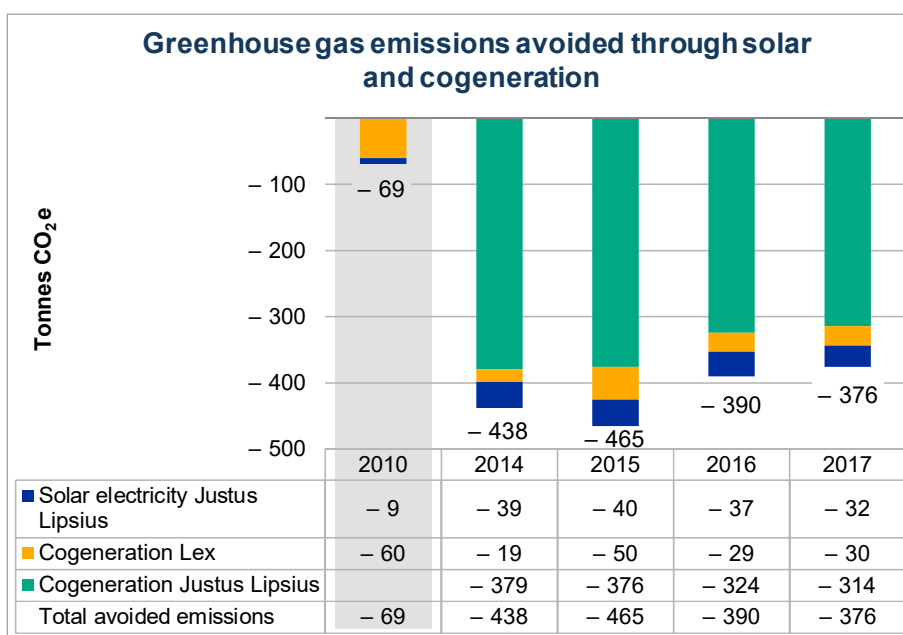


Figure 14: Greenhouse gas emissions avoided

Figure 15 shows the trend in direct greenhouse gas emissions, which fell from 1 019 kg of CO₂e per person in 2010 to 1 011 kg of CO₂e per person in 2017.

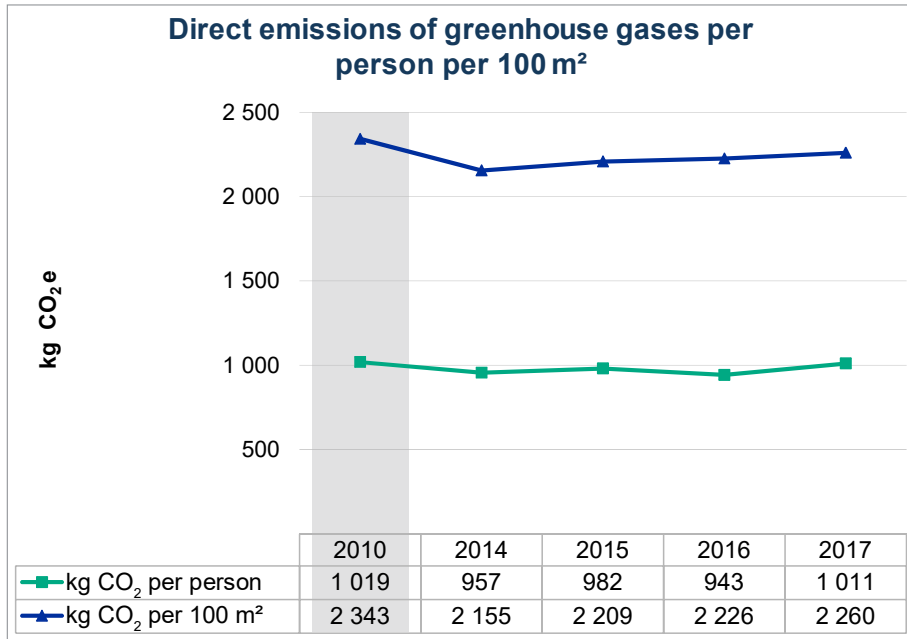


Figure 15: Direct greenhouse gas emissions per person and per 100 m² (2010-2017)

4.4.3. Objectives and action

4.4.3.1. Objectives

In accordance with its environmental policy, the GSC is taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions resulting from its operations and activities. To that end, the GSC will implement the recommendations set out in the conclusions of the Council of the European Union of 11 May 2015 on Special Report No 14/2014 by the European Court of Auditors: ‘How do the EU institutions and bodies calculate, reduce and offset their greenhouse gas emissions?’ This will mainly involve cooperating with the other EU institutions and bodies to establish:

- a harmonised approach to calculating, reporting and reducing the direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions of the EU institutions and bodies;
- a quantified overall reduction target for the year 2030 in line with the relevant EU targets;
- a common approach to the voluntary offsetting of the residual greenhouse gas emissions of the EU institutions and bodies.

4.4.3.2. Action taken

The GSC has taken the following steps to reduce the carbon footprint of its activities, extending the scope beyond that defined by gas consumption, fuel for service vehicles and refrigerants:

- optimising energy management (see Section 4.1 on Energy);
- promoting alternatives to car use (see Section 4.6 on Mobility);
- installing electric vehicle charging stations and making them available to staff free of charge;
- purchasing green electricity;

- offsetting emissions from the production of paper delivered to the GSC;
- setting up a more sustainable canteen which offers vegetarian dishes, with special emphasis on promoting seasonal vegetables and limiting food waste, and managing the footprint of disposable products (e.g. recyclable packaging);
- making video conference rooms available to reduce the amount of travel required and raising awareness among staff of the availability of videoconferencing;
- investing in hybrid vehicles and downsizing, which reduced the climate impact of the entire service fleet from 256 g of CO₂ on average per km in 2013 to 162 g of CO₂ per km in 2016 ⁽⁵⁾;
- carrying out a comprehensive study on the carbon footprint of all Council activities, including emissions from on-site gas combustion and other activities such as travel and the use of goods and services, etc.



Vegetarian meal in the restaurant in the Justus Lipsius building

⁽⁵⁾ Manufacturer's data, except for armoured vehicles.

4.4.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will undertake the following measures:

- complete the second carbon footprint study on its activities in 2017, based on a standardised approach to calculating, reporting and reducing its direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions, and to update this study periodically;
- draw up a climate action plan with a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target for 2030 in line with the relevant EU targets;
- define a common approach with the EU institutions and bodies to the voluntary offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions;
- involve the catering services in a 'Good Food' labelling scheme, emphasising local, seasonal and, if possible, organic products;
- plant vegetable patches with aromatic herbs in one of the patios of the Justus Lipsius building, initially for the GSC's kitchen preparing official meals.

4.5. PAPER-BASED RESOURCES

4.5.1. Background

The volumes of paper consumed primarily include the standard A4 office paper used by staff in printers and photocopiers, but also the publications and brochures produced internally and externally.

4.5.2. Environmental performance indicators

Total paper consumption fell from 355 tonnes in 2010 to 147 tonnes in 2017, as shown in Figure 16. Paper consumption per person fell from 73 kg in 2010 to 31 kg in 2017, as shown in Figure 17.

Overall, paper consumption decreased fairly steadily between 2012 and 2017, reaching an exceptionally low level in 2015. Given that the GSC's paper consumption is closely linked to the work of the European Commission, the decrease in the volume of documents produced in 2015 by the new Commission led to a fall in the GSC's paper consumption.

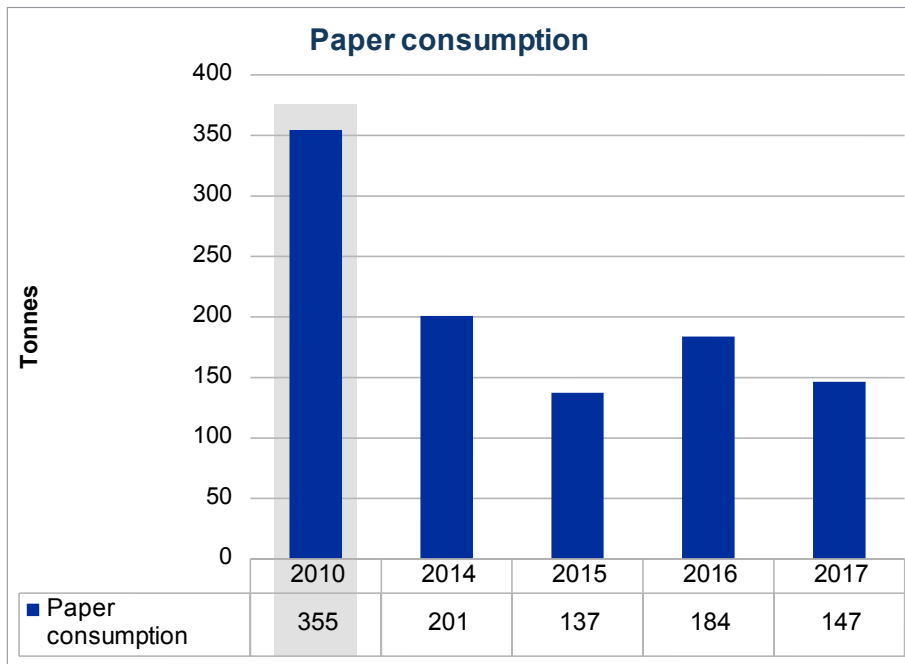


Figure 16: Total paper consumption per year (2010-2017)

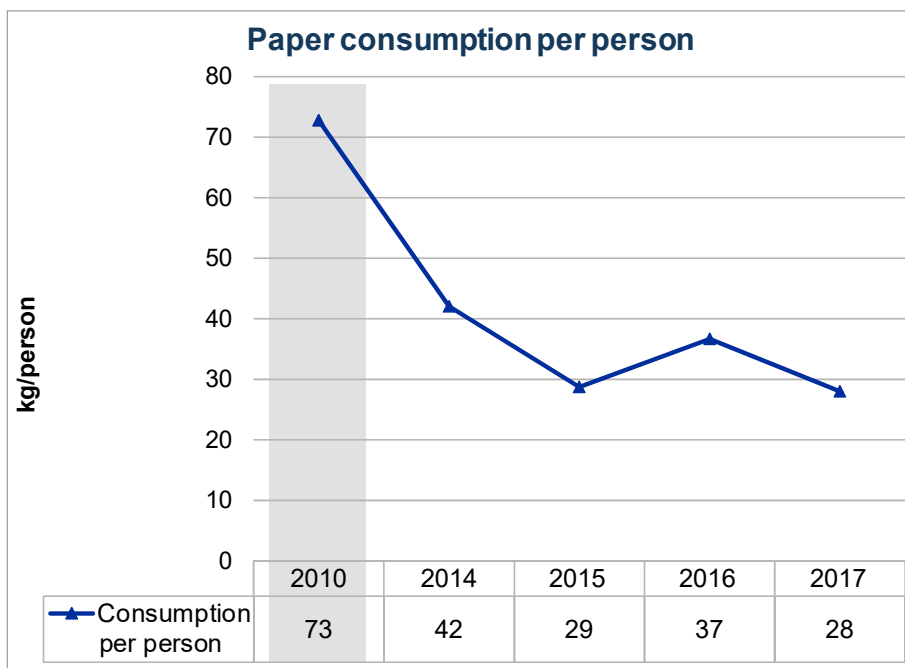


Figure 17: Paper consumption per person per year (2010-2017)

4.5.3. Objectives and action

4.5.3.1. Objectives

The action plan for paper, which was first adopted in 2012, has been updated for the period 2016-2020 with the following objectives:

- to reduce paper consumption per person by 10 % by the end of 2020 as compared with 2015;
- to sustain the environmental performance of the paper used, i.e. in 2020, 90 % of the paper should bear a European eco-label such as Nordic Swan, Blue Angel or equivalent.

4.5.3.2. Action taken

Paper consumption per person per year decreased by 61.5 % between 2010 and 2017 thanks to the numerous measures taken, the most significant of which are as follows:

- introducing a system enabling copying/printing to be activated by personal badges, thus reducing the number of printing errors and/or duplicate printing;
- monitoring the implementation of the policy to reduce the number of individual printers in favour of shared and network printers;
- gradually replacing a large proportion of desktop computers by laptop computers and installing Wi-Fi in the GSC's meeting rooms;
- new functionalities on the delegates' portal: a computerised meetings file, intended to replace the paper files prepared for meetings of the Council, is accessible on the delegates' portal, on which users can consult and/or save the agenda for meetings of the Council and of preparatory bodies — all documents relating to the computerised meetings file are synchronised with the respective delegates' diaries and marked for ease of navigation.

4.5.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The action plan for paper updated for the period 2016-2020 aims to reduce paper consumption per person by 10 % in 2020 as compared with 2015.

To reach this objective, the GSC will undertake the following measures:

- the introduction of a system which generates automatic reports showing paper consumption by department;
- the continuation of the gradual replacement of a large proportion of desktop computers by laptop computers and the installation of Wi-Fi in all the GSC's meeting rooms;
- the development of the Agora and Delegates Portal applications to optimise document management for the delegates with a view to an increased digitisation of documents.

Other measures under consideration aim at maintaining the environmental performance of the paper used and increasingly recycling it.

4.6. MOBILITY

4.6.1. Background

The GSC employs around 3 000 people who commute daily between their homes and workplaces (primarily the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings). In addition, work-related journeys are undertaken every day, mainly in the Brussels-Capital Region.

4.6.2. Environmental performance indicators

4.6.2.1. Commuting between home and work

The employee transport plan (*plan de déplacements d'entreprise/bedrijfsvervoerplan — PDE/BVP*) ⁽⁶⁾ is updated every 3 years. In this context, several mobility surveys have been carried out at the GSC, most recently in 2011, 2014 and 2017. The latest mobility survey had a high response rate of 53.3 % (1 729 respondents), giving a representative picture of how staff travel to work. Most members of staff live in the Brussels-Capital Region (66 %). Staff who live outside Brussels are mainly concentrated in Flemish Brabant (18 %) and Walloon Brabant (6 %).

Figure 18 shows how GSC staff commuted between home and work between 2003 and 2017. The proportion of staff travelling exclusively by car fell from 46.6 % in 2003 to 32.4 % in 2017, with a shift towards walking, cycling and public transport.

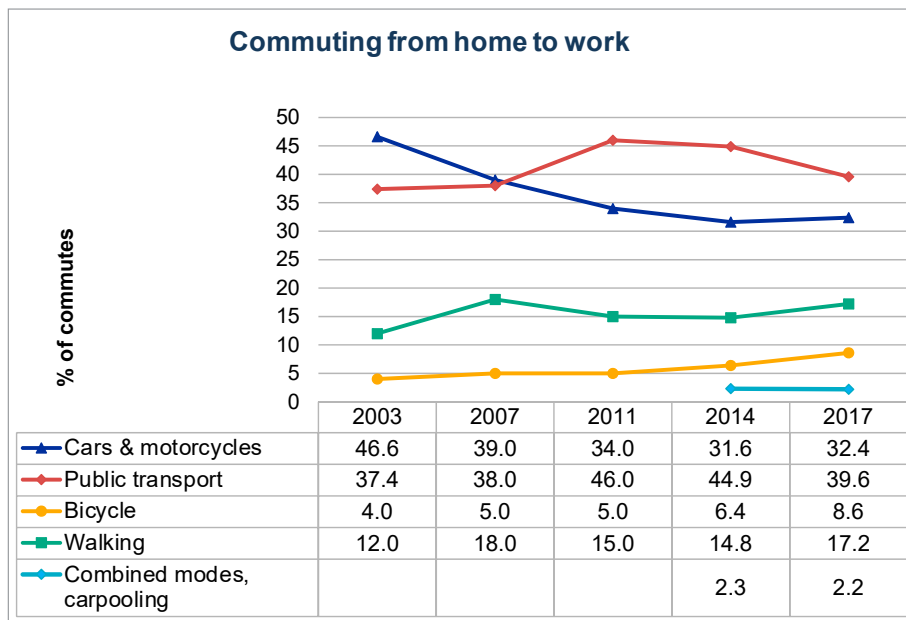
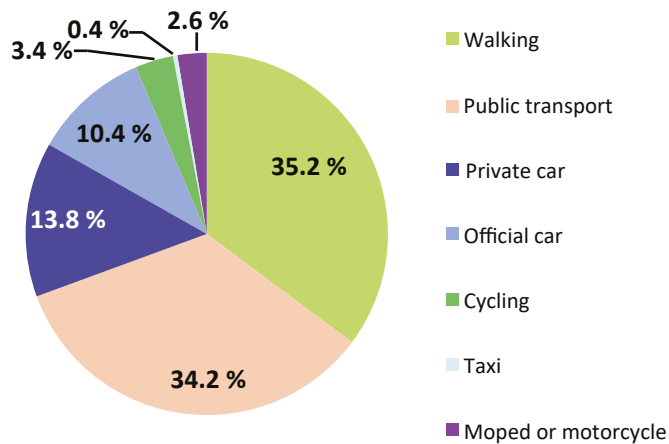


Figure 18: Commuting patterns

⁽⁶⁾ The employee transport plan involves examining, implementing, evaluating and updating measures to promote the sustainable management of work-related journeys (decree of the Brussels-Capital regional government on employee transport plans, updated June 2017).

4.6.2.2. Work-related journeys

The 2017 mobility survey showed that the GSC generates approximately 1 397 work-related journeys within Belgium per month, which is below the regional average, given the size of the institution. The 1 397 journeys in question involve only 16 % of staff, and nearly three quarters of those journeys take place within Brussels.



Source: 2017 mobility survey.

Figure 19: Modal split for work-related journeys.

4.6.3. Objectives and action

4.6.3.1. Objectives

The IRIS II regional mobility plan ^(?), approved in 2010, aims to reduce the number of cars on the road in Brussels by 20 % in 2018 compared with 2001. More people are expected to take public transport, cycle and walk over the same period. The main objectives of the GSC's employee transport plan are as follows:

- by 2020, have 75 % of staff use a form of transport other than driving to get to the GSC;
- ensure ease of access to GSC buildings;
- provide information to, and raise awareness among, staff about soft mobility;
- contribute to reducing CO₂ emissions related to GSC activities.

The changes in the modal split for journeys, based on the results of the 2017 mobility survey, are set out in the table below and are compared with the intermediate objectives set for 2017. The table shows that:

- the intermediate objectives for 2017 have been achieved and even exceeded for the active modes of transport — walking (17.2 %) and cycling (8.6 %). The intermediate objectives for the use of cars and public transport have not been achieved. Car use is more than 4 % above the objective set for 2017, and use of public transport is 7.4 % below the 2017 objective, mainly because of the share accounted for by metro, tram and bus;
- the objectives set for 2020 imply focusing on action to promote the use of public transport (+ 10.4 %) and cycling (+ 1.4 %), while seeking to reduce car use (– 7.4 %) and are also dependent on improved public transport provision.

^(?) IRIS II mobility plan, Brussels-Capital Region, November 2010.

Changes in transport habits, compared with the modal shift objectives, are illustrated in the table below:

Main mode of transport	Survey of GSC staff		Intermediate objective		Modal shift objective
	2014	2017	2014	2017	2020
Car	31.6 %	32.4 %	32 %	28 %	25 %
Public transport	44.9 %	39.6 %	47 %	49 %	50 %
Walking	14.8 %	17.2 %	15 %	15 %	15 %
Cycling	6.4 %	8.6 %	6 %	8 %	10 %
Combined modes, car sharing, etc.	2.3 %	2.2 %	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

Note: n.a. = not applicable.

4.6.3.2. Action taken

The GSC's mobility policy complies effectively with the Brussels-Capital Region's requirements for each of the following compulsory measures:

MEASURE	DESCRIPTION	GSC ACTION
Mobility coordinator	Have a contact person within the institution for the employee transport plan	Mobility coordinator post filled
Provision of information	Inform employees about travel and mobility policy	The GSC's intranet site contains a section on travelling between home and work
Awareness-raising	Make employees and visitors aware of sustainable modes of transport	Annual participation in European Mobility Week and the Bike Experience
Multimodal access plan	Provide employees and visitors with a multimodal access plan (giving details of all available forms of transport for getting to the site)	Access plan updated in 2016 available at the entrances to the buildings, on the mobility page of the Green Office intranet site and in the <i>Delegates' handbook</i>
Public transport	Encourage the use of public transport Maintain and improve the contribution system so as to make it more effective	An incentive is in place in the form of an annual contribution to the cost of season tickets for public transport and for the Villo! bicycle rental scheme. In 2015, the contribution system was renewed and improved to make it more effective, demonstrating that the GSC encourages the use of public transport (a regional obligation) and modal shift.
Bicycle parking	Install a secure, covered parking area for bicycles providing the legal minimum number of spaces	Parking areas for bicycles and facilities for cyclists are available
Ecoscore	Take account of the Ecoscore when purchasing or leasing vehicles (company cars and service vehicles)	The service fleet leasing policy takes account of criteria that are equivalent to the Ecoscore

MEASURE	DESCRIPTION	GSC ACTION
Pollution peak	Devise and implement a communication plan and a specific action plan in the event of a pollution peak	The procedure to be followed has been drafted and included in the EMAS Environmental Management System handbook
Electric vehicles	Draw up an internal policy on the recharging of electric vehicles	The policy has been drawn up and was signed by the Secretary-General on 2 June 2017.

An impact study on the use of the Justus Lipsius car parks was also carried out by a specialised consultancy under the Brussels Air, Climate and Energy Management Code in 2015.

In response to requests from cyclists, an audit of the bicycle facilities at the Justus Lipsius building was carried out in 2015. The planned construction work at the Etterbeek exit was put on hold and details were circulated to cyclists in 2016. Bicycle pumps have also been provided for cyclists in the bicycle parking areas at the Lex, Justus Lipsius and Europa buildings, as well as repair kits at the reception desks in the three buildings. Lastly, access to a bicycle parking area alongside the Lex building has been improved.

4.6.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will undertake the following actions:

MEASURE	DESCRIPTION	EXPECTED RESULT
Car parking management	Draw up a policy, for employees of external firms and visitors, on parking in the car parks	Parking spaces will be freed up in the Justus Lipsius and Lex buildings
Accessibility for bicycles	Carry out the construction work at the Etterbeek exit for cyclists. Provide new bicycle parking areas and improve the existing ones.	Maintain/increase the number of staff using bicycles
Accessibility for pedestrians	Ensure that the GSC's buildings are easily accessible for pedestrians	The percentage of staff walking to work will be maintained (15 %)
Communication/ awareness-raising	Hold annual awareness-raising events (Mobility Week, Vélo Mai), inform newcomers and existing staff about the mobility policy	The number of staff taking public transport, walking and cycling will increase and there will be greater awareness of mobility measures
Car sharing	Implement measures to encourage car sharing, especially personalised access to the Carpool platform	Car sharing will be used for journeys between home and work, and there will be a reduction in the number of cars

In accordance with the timetable for the Brussels-Capital Region, the GSC employee transport plan will be evaluated and updated in January 2021.



Electric service vehicle

4.7. SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

4.7.1. Background

By opting for environmentally friendly goods, services and works, the GSC is making an effective contribution to supporting sustainable consumption and production. Public procurement is sustainable when a public authority seeks to obtain goods, services or works which have less impact on the environment over their lifetime.

4.7.2. Objectives and action

4.7.2.1. Objectives

The GSC aims to ensure that environmental criteria are increasingly included in public procurement procedures wherever relevant.

4.7.2.2. Action taken

The GSC is actively involved in an interinstitutional working group which develops and shares best practice in the field of sustainable public procurement. The GSC has implemented the following measures:

- inclusion of environmental criteria in a number of public contracts: purchase of recycled, eco-friendly paper; disposal and recycling of waste paper, card and polystyrene; purchase of green electricity; building-cleaning services; purchase of highly energy-efficient IT equipment (computers, printers, servers, etc.); maintenance of technical installations; catering contract; leasing of service vehicles; running of the Council's crèche; finishing services;
- awareness raising as regards eco-friendly purchasing: the Green Office team is regularly involved in the formulation of environmental criteria for procurement procedures, where relevant;
- availability, on the Green Office's intranet site, of a webpage on 'green public procurement' for authorising departments.

4.7.2.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will undertake the following action:

- ensure the continued implementation of the measures in place and the inclusion of environmental requirements and criteria in procurement procedures, where relevant;
- develop the expertise of the departments concerned in the field of sustainable public procurement;
- define and implement a key performance indicator for the field of sustainable public procurement, making use of the interinstitutional helpdesk;
- disseminate within the GSC the content of presentations and training courses run by the European Parliament, via the dedicated interinstitutional helpdesk for sustainable public procurement;
- carry out a general review on eliminating single-use plastic and gradually reducing packaging;
- gradually implement the recommendations of the new financial regulation as regards the inclusion of environmental criteria.

4.8. BIODIVERSITY

4.8.1. Background

The GSC's direct impact on biodiversity may be judged from the way in which the land is occupied by the premises of the Council of the European Union, in particular the built area. Since a built area is sealed, it cannot in theory host any plant species and therefore will not contribute to biodiversity.

The use and management of hazardous products and paper resources and the organisation of catering services needed for the smooth functioning of the GSC may have a significant indirect impact on biodiversity.

4.8.2. Environmental performance indicators

The GSC has developed a number of internal spaces (patios) in such a way as to contribute to biodiversity. The table below shows, for each building, the total size of the plot, the built area, the surface area of the patios and the other areas (including the ground floor).

BUILDING	PLOT SIZE	BUILT AREA	SURFACE AREA OF PATIOS	OTHER AREAS
Justus Lipsius	39 375 m ²	19 356 m ²	4 753 m ²	15 266 m ²
Lex	6 879 m ²	4 454 m ²	568 m ²	1 857 m ²
Crèche	2 067 m ²	1 010 m ²	n.a.	1 057 m ²

Note: n.a. = not applicable.

4.8.3. Objectives and action

4.8.3.1. Objectives

The GSC undertakes to pay particular attention to preserving biodiversity in all activities which may have an impact on it.

4.8.3.2. Action taken

The GSC has taken the following measures to improve biodiversity:

- greening of the patios in the Justus Lipsius building;
- purchasing of eco-friendly paper bearing an EU eco-label and an FSC certificate ⁽⁸⁾;
- use, wherever possible, of eco-friendly cleaning products;
- holding of a seminar for staff entitled 'Urbanisation's impact on biodiversity: lessons and challenges' to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity, even in cities;
- establishment of sustainability criteria for the catering services, with a focus on local and seasonal products and fish from sustainable fisheries;
- installation of an insect hotel, mainly for solitary bees, and of nesting boxes for urban birds in the trees in the Justus Lipsius patios;
- redevelopment of one of the patios in the Justus Lipsius building into a wild flower garden;
- incorporating a green wall into the Europa building;
- organising a workshop as part of the interinstitutional EMAS week on 'Biodiversity in the city' (8 June 2017).

4.8.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC undertakes to:

- incorporate biodiversity protection criteria in relevant public procurement contracts;
- plant tubs of aromatic herbs in one of the patios of the Justus Lipsius building, for the GSC's kitchen.



Insect hotel, bird house and ducks in a courtyard of the Justus Lipsius building

⁽⁸⁾ Forest Stewardship Council certification.

4.9. HEALTH RISKS

Some activities that entail environmental risks may also constitute risks to human health. This includes the consequences of handling hazardous products and waste. The GSC has taken appropriate measures to minimise any repercussions, and has established response measures in the event of accidents. This has resulted in close cooperation between the health and safety department and the Green Office. Preparation and response exercises for dealing with emergency situations are organised periodically:

- 2015: accidental discharge of a large quantity of a hazardous product;
- 2017: petrol leak in a parking.

4.10. COMMUNICATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING

4.10.1. Background

The GSC employs approximately 3 000 officials and has an average of 2 000 visitors per day. The behaviour of GSC staff and visitors has an environmental impact, in terms of consumption of resources (such as water, energy and paper), waste management and air pollution arising from transport choices.

4.10.2. Environmental performance indicators

The results of communication measures — focusing on awareness of the EMS and a quality assessment of it — were measured in the mobility survey conducted in 2017. The survey showed that 60 % of the staff are aware of the environmental management programme and have either a good or a very good knowledge of the measures which comprise it. Among the measures, those relating to waste sorting are very well known (more than 70 % of staff have a good or very good knowledge of them), with a more mixed picture as regards the Green Office website: only 46 % consider that they have a good or very good knowledge of it, whereas 42.4 % of respondents feel that their knowledge of it is insufficient and 11 % had no knowledge of it.

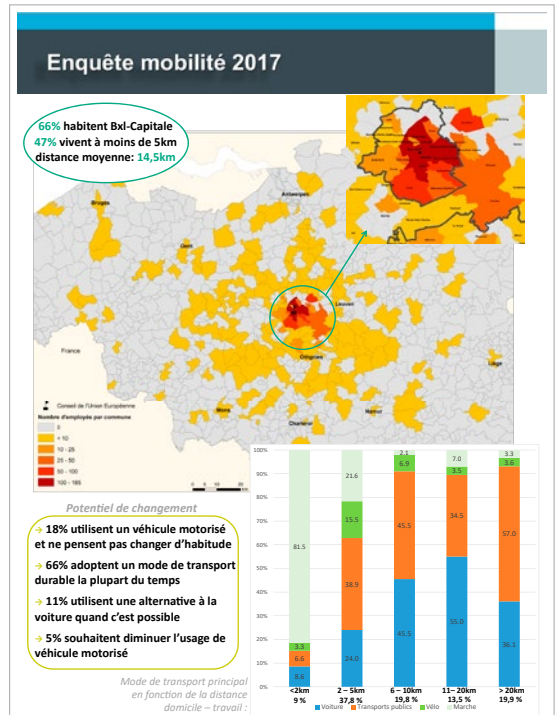
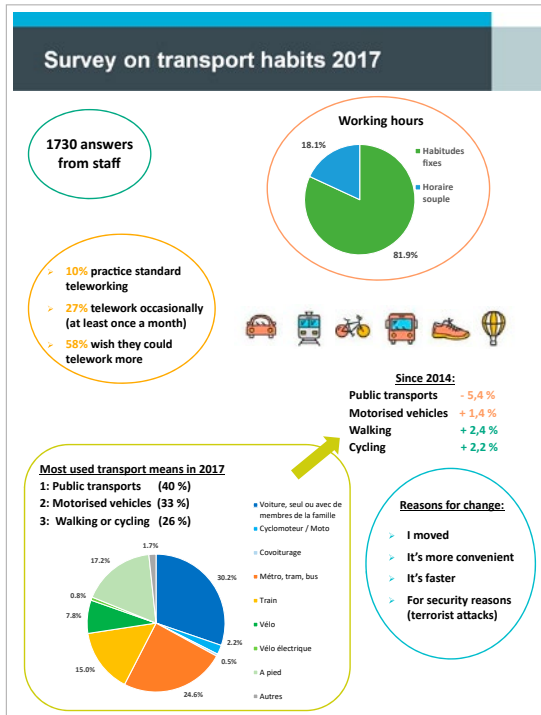
Since 2015, the number of visits per year to pages related to environmental management on the GSC's intranet and the read rate for articles published by the Green Office team for the attention of staff have also been monitored. Between 2015 and 2016, the number of visits to intranet pages related to environmental management increased by almost a quarter. Between 2016 and 2017, the number of pages visited increased again, by 7 %.

4.10.3. Objectives and action

4.10.3.1. Objectives

An annual programme entitled 'Communication and environmental awareness-raising' is being set up. It comprises both one-off and structural internal communication activities scheduled for the year in question. The communication programme's targets consist of planning, informing, raising awareness and promoting stakeholder participation, in particular:

- informing staff about environmental management targets and achievements;
- raising awareness of good practice and disseminating notable examples adopted in various departments and units;



Posters showing the results of the 2017 mobility survey (mobility week in September 2017)

- promoting staff involvement in, and commitment to, environmental management;
- consulting staff (on particular activities and themes);
- creating a sense of ownership;
- maintaining and encouraging mobilisation and motivation;
- planning awareness-raising campaigns and initiatives.

4.10.3.2. Action taken

The action can be divided into four main types:

- measures to promote ongoing awareness of the project using the GSC's intranet (Green Office website): articles, awareness-raising campaigns on European or local events such as Mobility Week, the European Week for Waste Reduction, etc.;
- campaigns for all staff on good practices to be adopted (energy, sorting waste, reducing paper consumption, etc.);
- mobilisation campaigns led by the environmental network and awareness-raising campaigns for newcomers and all staff;
- external communication initiatives, through the Green Office team's involvement in the 2012, 2015, 2016 and 2017 open days, in the Brussels-Capital Region's 'Eco-dynamic Enterprise' certification for the Lex and crèche buildings, and in the inter-institutional EMAS week organised in May 2016 and the interinstitutional EMAS day on 8 June 2017 with the EMAS teams from other EU institutions.

Training has also been prepared for specific target groups, based on their involvement in a particular environmental area, e.g. for people using hazardous products or for members of the environmental network.

Finally, awareness is being raised among staff and parents at the crèche by means of posters explaining the environmental management approach and encouraging everyone to get involved by taking practical, everyday steps (saving energy, sorting waste, etc.).

4.10.3.3. Action to be taken between 2018 and 2020

The GSC will continue to assess progress achieved on communication and awareness-raising.

The GSC will undertake the following actions:

- ensuring that environmental management remains in the spotlight by producing articles, participating in regional environmental campaigns and raising staff awareness of various environmental issues;
- organising training activities and conferences on relevant environmental issues;
- publishing and periodically updating the environmental statement;
- continuous updating of the Green Office intranet site;
- participating in the Vélo Mai campaign to encourage staff to cycle between home and work;
- participating in the open days;
- participating in the interinstitutional network of EMAS-registered European institutions in order to develop common communication campaigns.



Conference on 'Greening of EU buildings' on the interinstitutional EMAS day on 8 June 2017



Exhibition of artwork displayed in the competition 'Our home, our planet' organised on the interinstitutional EMAS day on 8 June 2017

5. VERIFICATION DATA

ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFIER'S DECLARATION ON VERIFICATION AND VALIDATION ACTIVITIES

Validation declaration

Community Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)

VINÇOTTE nv

Jan Olieslagerslaan 35, 1800 Vilvoorde, Belgium

Based on an audit of the organisation, visits of its site, interviews with its staff, and the examination of the documentation, the data and the information, documented in the verification report N° **60709083**, VINÇOTTE nv declares, in its capacity as environmental EMAS verifier with registration number BE-V-0016, accredited for the scope 1, 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20 (excl. 20.51), 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.2, 30.9, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 79, 80, 81, 82, . 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 93, 94, 95, 96, 99 (NACE-code), to have verified whether the whole organisation as indicated in the updated environmental statement year 2018 of the organisation

**Council of the European Union –
General Secretariat** with registration number **BE-BXL-000037**

located at

**Rue de la Loi 175
1048 Bruxelles
Belgium**

and used for:

Activities of the General Secretariat of the Council in the three buildings it occupies in the Brussels Capital region (Justus Lipsius, Lex and the crèche).

Meet all requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS), as amended by Regulation (EU) 2017/1505.

By signing this declaration, I declare that:

- The verification and validation has been carried out in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 amended by Regulation (EU) No 2017/1505;
- The outcome of the verification and validation confirms that there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable legal requirements relating to the environment
- The data and information of the updated environmental statement year 2018 reflect a reliable, credible and correct image of all the organisations activities, within the scope mentioned in the environmental statement.

This document is not equivalent to EMAS registration. EMAS registration can only be granted by a Competent Body under Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 amended by Regulation (EU) No 2017/1505. This document shall not be used as a standalone piece of public communication.

Declaration number: 16 EA 87a
Date of issue: 19 November 2018



For the environmental verifier:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eric Louys".



Eric Louys
Chairman Certification Commission

The publication of the next environmental statement is due in December 2019.

6. VARIABLES USED TO CALCULATE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

A ratio is used to calculate environmental performance, using appropriate variables for the operational context. The main variables used by the GSC are:

- degree days;
- average number of occupants per day;
- the heated or air-conditioned surface area of the buildings.

6.1. DEGREE DAYS

The concept of degree days may be used to assess the severity of the season in which heating is required. This enables a comparison of the heating requirements of different buildings or of the same building at different periods. A commonly used concept is '15/15 degree days'. The first 15 represents the average comfortable temperature in our climate over a 24-hour period and in a whole building, i.e. 18 °C, minus 3 °C, which is the average amount of heat conveyed by the sun and internal gains (lights, office equipment, people, etc.).

The second 15 represents the outside temperature below which there is deemed to be a need for heating, and which is consequently used to define the heating period. A more general benchmark may be obtained by standardising degree days. The most commonly used benchmark is 'normal degree days'. This figure represents the average number of 15/15 degree days over the last 30 years as calculated by the Belgian Royal Meteorological Institute (*sources*: www.energieplus-lesite.be; www.bruxellesenvironnement.be; energie.wallonie.be).

YEAR	NORMAL DEGREE DAYS	ACTUAL DEGREE DAYS
2010	2 087	2 309
2014	1 893	1 424
2015	1 902	1 704
2016	1 913	1 948
2017	1 902	1 780

6.2. NUMBER OF PEOPLE

The number of people is equal to the average number of occupants per day of all the buildings, based on the number of officials and people treated as such, the staff of external companies, visitors, members of delegations and journalists.

Once the Europa building became operational, a large number of activities were transferred there and staff moved to this new building. As a result, the average number of

occupants per day on the EMAS sites fell, as shown in the table below. By contrast, if all buildings are taken into account, the average number of occupants per day is higher than in previous years.

YEAR	AVERAGE NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS PER DAY (PEOPLE)	
	ON THE EMAS SITES: JL, LEX, CR	ON THE EMAS SITES INCLUDING THE EUROPA BUILDING
2010	4 880	-
2014	4 782	-
2015	4 773	-
2016	5 013	-
2017	4 746	5 236

6.3. HEATED OR AIR-CONDITIONED SURFACE AREA (IN M²)

Energy performance certificates are issued to the GSC based on the heated or air-conditioned surface area of its buildings; for this reason, that surface area has been used to calculate certain environmental performance indicators.

YEAR	TOTAL HEATED OR AIR-CONDITIONED SURFACE AREA (in m ²)	HEATED OR AIR-CONDITIONED SURFACE AREA OF THE JUSTUS LIPSIUS (in m ²)	HEATED OR AIR-CONDITIONED SURFACE AREA OF THE LEX (in m ²)	HEATED OR AIR-CONDITIONED SURFACE AREA OF THE CRÛCHE (in m ²)
2010	212 366	145 134	62 775	4 457
2014	212 366	145 134	62 775	4 457
2015	212 366	145 134	62 775	4 457
2016	212 366	145 134	62 775	4 457
2017	212 366	145 134	62 775	4 457

ANNEX

EXTRACT FROM THE CALCULATION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS RESULTING FROM THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GSC, BASED ON 2016 DATA

A.1. Introduction

The aim of this review is to calculate, based on 2016 data, the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from all the GSC's activities.

The review uses the Bilan Carbone® (carbon balance) method and complies with ISO 14064.

The degree of accuracy in determining the values and emissions factors varies from one item to another. In order to take into account the margin of error caused by less accurate data, elements of uncertainty have been included, while still complying with the method referred to above.

Emissions for some items are evaluated by order of magnitude.

In order to cover the entire scope of the GSC's activities, this review is not limited to the EMAS buildings (Justus Lipsius, Lex, the crèche), but also includes the Europa building, the Luxembourg site and the Overijse depot.

A.2. Emissions considered

This review considers gas emissions generated directly within our organisation (direct emissions), as well as gas emissions generated off-site through activities necessary for the proper functioning of the organisation, e.g. transport, the provision of services (indirect emissions).

Greenhouse gases such as methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O) or refrigerants (HFCs, PFCs, CFCs) have been translated into CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e) using coefficients defined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change according to their global warming potential.

A.3. Overall results

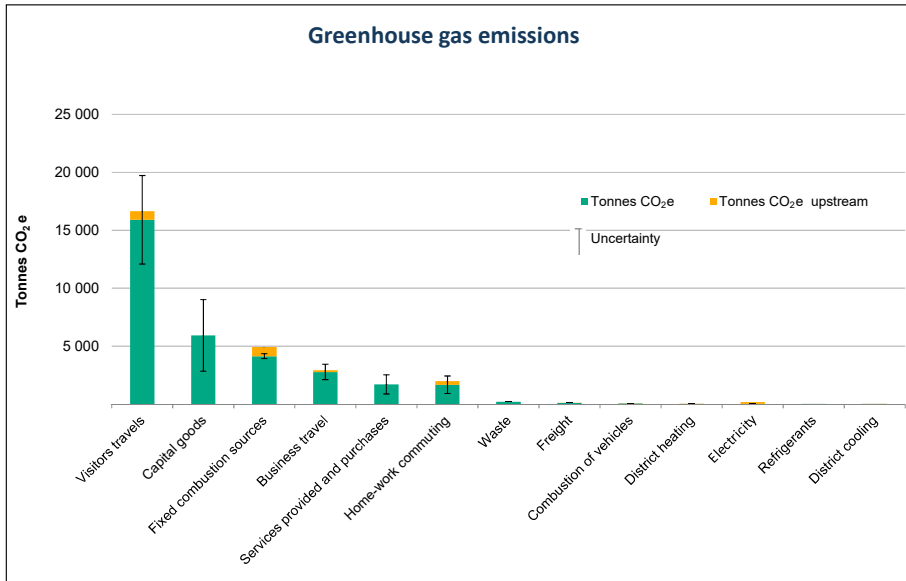


Figure A1: Emissions of CO₂e

Figure A1 shows the highest CO₂e emissions by category and 'upstream' emissions, i.e. emissions related to the production and transport of fossil fuels. It also shows the degree of uncertainty attached to each category.

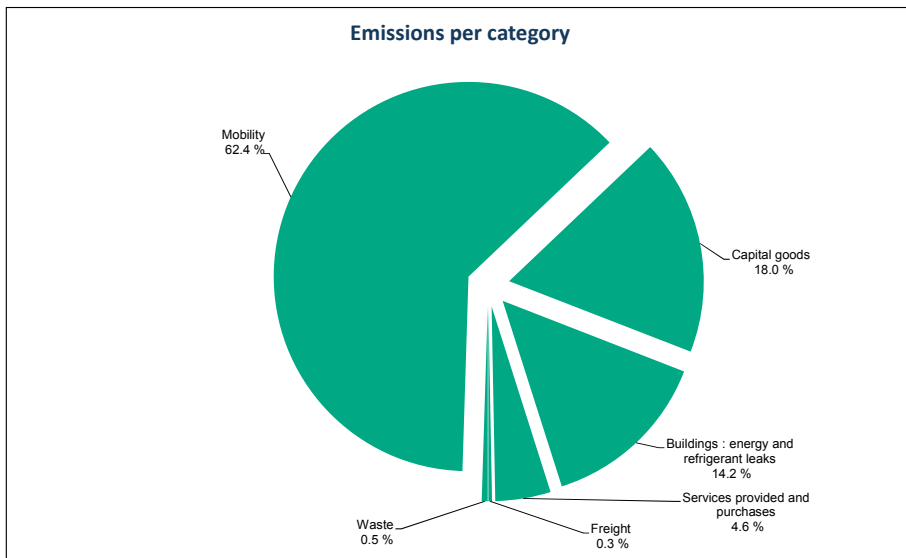


Figure A2: percentage breakdown by category

Emissions by category are expressed as percentages in Figure A2.

A.4. Results expressed in tonnes of CO₂e per full-time equivalent staff member

The table below shows emissions per item, the total in tonnes of CO₂e and the relative figure per full-time equivalent (FTE).

	CATEGORY	TONNES OF CO ₂ e 2014	TONNES OF CO ₂ e 2016	CHANGE 2014-2016 Tonnes	CHANGE 2014-2016 in %
1	Visitor transport	18 597 (*)	15 905	- 2 692	- 14 %
	Delegates by car	20	36	17	
	Delegates by plane	18 536	15 828	7	
	Delegates by train	34	34	6 995	27
	Other visitors	7	7	2 744	
2	Fixed assets	6 996	5 931	- 1 064	- 15 %
	Office space	2 744	2 744	82	
	Parking areas	432	432	3 571	
	Surface area restaurants	82	82	167	
	Computer equipment	3 571	2 495	4 010	15
	Office equipment	167	179	12	
3	Stationary combustion sources	4 010	4 137	127	3 %
	Diesel	12	12	3 792	
	Fuel oil	206	114	1 948	7
	Gas	3 792	4 011	1 034	
4	Purchases of goods and services	1 948	1 698	- 250	- 13 %
	External services	1 034	950	106	
	Food	549	398	259	
	Crèche	106	101	1 826	7
	Office supplies	259	249	1 810	
5	Missions	1 825	2 781	956	52 %
	Travel by air	1 809	2 746	1 610	6
	Travel by train	16	35	11	
6	Commuting between home and work	1 610	1 679	69	4 %
	Car sharing, walking, cycling	11	9	234	
	Car, motorcycle	1 365	1 533	184	1
	Public transport	234	137	2	
7	Waste	184	203	19	11 %
	Hazardous	2	2	11	
	General (incineration)	155	176	6	

	CATEGORY	TONNES OF CO ₂ e 2014	TONNES OF CO ₂ e 2016	CHANGE 2014-2016 Tonnes	CHANGE 2014-2016 in %
	Organic (methanisation)	11	15	10	
	Recycled or reused	6	5	111	0.4
	Bulk, building waste	10	5	4	
8	Freight	110	101	- 9	- 9 %
	Van hire	4	3	22	
	Food	59	59	13	
	Post	22	14	13	
	Office supplies	12	12	69	0.3
	Other	13	13	18	
9	Combustion (vehicles)	70	54	- 15	- 22 %
	Diesel	18	17	3	
	Petrol	49	28	43	0.2
	Hybrid	3	9	43	
10	Refrigerant leaks	43	6	- 37	- 86 %
	Refrigerant leaks	43	6	7	
11	Electricity	22 (*)	21	- 1	- 5 %
12	District heating	7	25	18	255 %
13	District cooling	4	6	2	56 %
	TOTAL	35 424 (*)	32 547	- 2 877	100
	Full-time equivalent	3 124 (**)	3 138	3 124 (*)	
	TONNES OF CO₂e/FTE	11.34	10.37	8.36	

(*) The criteria for some categories have been changed since the previous environmental declaration; for this reason, the overall figure has changed.

(**) Number of people employed by the GSC (excluding external staff, visitors, etc.).

Finding information about the EU

Online

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website at https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en

EU publications

You can download or order free and priced EU publications from EU Bookshop at <https://publications.europa.eu/en/publications>. Multiple copies of free publications may be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local information centre (see https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en).

EU law and related documents

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1951 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu>

Open data from the EU

The EU Open Data Portal (<http://data.europa.eu/euodp/en/data>) provides access to datasets from the EU. Data can be downloaded and reused for free, both for commercial and non-commercial purposes.



Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175
1048 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË
Tel. +32 (0)2 281 61 11
www.consilium.europa.eu



Publications Office

PRINT	PDF
ISBN 978-92-824-6504-2	ISBN 978-92-824-6506-6
ISSN 2443-8154	ISSN 2443-8170
doi:10.2860/471951	doi:10.2860/71269
QC-AQ-18-002-EN-C	QC-AQ-18-002-EN-N