The mission of the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), defined by the EU Space Programme Regulation, is to be the user-oriented operational Agency of the EU Space Programme, contributing to sustainable growth, security and safety of the European Union.

In the light of EUSPA’s role and mandate and of the priorities established by the European Commission with the European Green Deal as a cornerstone, also the Agency has undertaken the commitment towards reaching climate neutrality by 2050. This is reflected in the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA) co-signed by EUSPA, the European Commission and European Space Agency (ESA), which also provides indications on the common modalities to reach such goal and define a collaborative way forward to tackle climate change and significantly ease the Agency’s environmental footprint.

This document sets the basis for the consolidation of EUSPA’s environmental strategy and detailed action plan, based on the methodology proposed by the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), which will address the key environmental aspects identified by the process and tackle the main priorities defined by the Agency.

EUSPA is also actively collaborating with the Commission on green ambitions applied to space, to ensure not only a specific focus on the environmental impact of its core business but also to set the grounds for a long-term commitment from the perspective of continuous improvement.

EUSPA has established a framework to initiate its process of implementing an Environmental Management System, in particular complying with the Commission’s Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). Moreover, EUSPA has decided to commit to the process of reducing its environmental impacts, optimizing resource (and energy) consumption and decreasing its overall carbon footprint. In the perspective of continuous improvement the initiative will be structured with a series of studies, analysis and measurements that will enable a gradual implementation of EMAS.

Regarding the regulatory framework in force, EUSPA has identified a set of elements that lay the groundwork for this environmental policy, based on an optimal and conscious use of resources.

Alongside ensuring that EUSPA complies with the relevant EU environmental legislation and regulations and adhere to its national regulations as per Hosting Agreements, EUSPA aims to:

- Develop, implement, maintain and continuously improve the Environmental Management System and ensure regular monitoring of EUSPA’s environmental performance;
- Encompass in its mission the continuous improvement of its environmental performance;
- Promote a more environmentally friendly corporate travel policy and explore options for a sustainable programme for accommodation of staff on mission;
- Monitor and control regular consumptions with focus on an efficient and more sustainable use of resources;
- Ensure increased internal awareness of environmental issues and foster an active participation of staff in green initiatives and in the adoption of best practices;
• Promote green initiatives and contribute to an effective internal and external communication campaign;
• Endorse elements of green procurements.

The transfer to new premises of the Headquarters and other evolutions of the sites of EUSPA, are a particular opportunity for making our operations become sustainable and climate friendly. With a special focus on this, EUSPA will renew and reinforce its commitment to ensure greater awareness of the use of resources.

EUSPA commits to the implementation of its environmental policy with a particular focus on continuous improvement, in line with its quality standards and Integrated Management System (IMS), hence via an accurate monitoring of its current performance, its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and the consolidation an awareness-raising campaign involving all staff and users of EUSPA sites.

EUSPA will work towards the following outcomes:

• Increased awareness of EUSPA staff and users of EUSPA sites with regards to sustainability and environmental footprint of our operations;
• An optimal use and allocation of EUSPA’s resources;
• Improved practices to achieve the EU Green Deal targets.

To achieve these goals, the joint effort and commitment from EUSPA staff and users of EUSPA sites is necessary. Furthermore, the policy principles will be shared to relevant third parties operating within EUSPA’s perimeters.

Once the EUSPA Environmental policy will enter into force, it will start to be applied transversally and in a progressive and gradual manner to staff and users of EUSPA sites and the overall Agency activities as foreseen in its mandate.