

Upcoming event

# EIA General Assembly & gathering

15 Jun 2023 – 15 Jun 2023 | 16:30 – 18:00 | Mas d'Entremont  
and online



Quality Irrigation Water Savings  
**EUROPEAN IRRIGATION  
ASSOCIATION**



# Agenda

## 1. Opening of the meeting

- Call to order, competition law
- Verification of quorum
- Adoption of minutes of previous General Assembly meeting (14 December 2022)
- Adoption of agenda

## 2. Report on EIA activities

- Update by President and Working Group leaders
- Application of European Taxonomy to the irrigation industry, by Francesco Dubini, consultant at the European House, Ambrosetti.

## 3. Financial matters and articles of the Association

- approval of EIA financial results 2022 – for vote
- approval of EIA budget 2023 – for vote
- Articles of the Association: amendments – for vote

## 4. Closure of the meeting

# Code of Conduct

## Prohibited topics

- Sale prices, rates, price adjustments
- Division/sharing of the market
- Exchanging market information
- Restriction of production or sales
- Boycotting specific suppliers or customers
- Publishing average prices



## Topics that might present a problem

- General terms and conditions of sale and delivery (if certain rules are not respected)
- Restrictions on participating in trade fairs
- Schemes for recognition/membership criteria
- Certain statistics systems



## List of topics that do not present a problem

- General cyclical economic data & business climate
- Lobbying activities (general interests)
- Labour law and social issues
- Legal and standardisation issues
- Safety, health and environmental issues
- Lobbying activities (general interests)
- Labour law and social issues
- Legal and standardisation issues
- Safety, health and environmental issues



## Code of Conduct

EIA believes it is important that its activities are at all times carried out in accordance with the applicable law, especially competition law. EIA believes that business shall be conducted in an atmosphere of free competition, i.e. on the basis of price and quality. EIA recognises that competition law intends to stimulate free competition, something which has EIA's full support. EIA feels it is important to confirm this by adopting a Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct shall be binding on all members as well as on other participants when taking part in activities of EIA. The Code of Conduct aims at providing clear rules to EIA's members, thus reducing the risk of improper conduct and consequently of fines being imposed.

The following rules shall at all times be respected within EIA:

### CORE PROCEDURES

1. Meetings of a body, committee, working group or other form of cooperation within EIA shall only take place after the members have been invited to the meeting in writing. The notice inviting to the meeting shall also include the agenda of the meeting.
2. Minutes shall be kept of each meeting as referred to in 1, above, these shall be sent to all members of the relevant body, committee, working group or other form of cooperation. The minutes shall be kept in an organized form for a period of at least 7 (7) years.
3. Consultations and discussions in a body, committee, working group or other form of cooperation on the topics on the agenda and other topics, where these are related to the market (i.e. topics that may be of interest for the position and for determining the position of the individual members in competition), shall be limited to the official meeting, of which minutes will be kept. During the consultations as referred to in 3, above, it shall not be decided to discuss certain topics during the meeting subject to the condition that this will not be recorded in the minutes. If such condition is stipulated the chairman of the meeting shall refer to proceed to discuss the topic in question.
5. Each meeting of a body, committee, working group or other form of cooperation during which market-related topics are discussed, shall be attended by at least one staff member of the association. This staff member will monitor topics that are sensitive from a competition law point of view. If there are doubts about such sensitivities, the topic shall not be discussed until the advice of an expert in the field of competition law is obtained, and this advice is to the effect that the topic may be discussed without any objections, or until the limits to be observed during the discussion are clear.

#### A - PROHIBITED TOPICS

The following topics are prohibited and out of bounds during meetings of bodies, committees, working groups or other forms of cooperation within EIA, particularly as for information on these topics is exchanged between companies which might be considered as competitors:

- Sale prices, rates, (intended) price adjustments, recommended prices, discounts, mark-ups and other price-related topics concerning products or services of member companies;
- Division/sharing of the market, e.g. by allocating a specific geographical area, specific customers or specific groups of customers to specific members;
- Restriction of production or sales;
- Pre-consultations with respect to responses to invitations to tender of potential clients;
- Changing or offering costs of competitors in one's own office;
- Exchanging market information by the individual members, i.e. information about production, turnover, rates, investments, investments, R&D expenses and other information, as far as this is related to specific (homogeneous) products or services, that may be regarded as commercially sensitive information;
- Publishing of the average price or of the price bandwidth within the sector;
- Exchanging specific members to represent producers and importers;
- Boycotting specific suppliers or customers;
- Any other topic that would lead to coordination of market behaviour restricting competition;
- Pre-consultations between competitors when responding to invitations to tender (in tender procedures with both public and private purchasers);
- Agreeing that all competitors will a surcharge to their bid (which would then be used for "compensating" the bidding costs of those companies that would not win the tender).

#### B - TOPICS THAT MIGHT PRESENT A PROBLEM

The following topics might, under certain circumstances, present a problem from a competition law point of view, but especially in a highly concentrated, oligopolistic market (i.e. a market with only few players). This means that these topics shall at all times only be discussed within the context of EIA as proper consultation with an expert in the field of competition law.

- General terms and conditions of sale and delivery if these parties to sensitive competition parameters (e.g. prices, rates, manner of induction, re-charge specific costs) or if the use of the conditions is mandatory, the competition authorities may object;
- Restrictions on participating in trade fairs. In a general rule, each company should be free to participate in any trade fair it likes and companies should not be asked to boycott any trade fair. Restrictions to this freedom to participate are only allowed under specific conditions. Collective boycotting by the members of EIA to obtain a better price or other conditions from the trade fair organisation does not constitute a problem under competition law;
- Schemes for recognition/membership criteria. For as long as recognition or membership of EIA does not play a decisive part for the potential customer when choosing a product or service, there are no objections to this from a competition law point of view. It is up to the customer then that this requirement, however, these schemes must satisfy specific criteria;
- The secretariat of EIA is allowed, in principle, to collect commercial information about individual companies and to make this information available to the members in an aggregated manner. It must in any case be demonstrably proven that the information on individual companies can be deduced from this aggregated information. In some countries the national competition authorities will only allow such statistics systems if the collected information can be qualified as sufficiently historical, e.g. depending on the circumstances permitting data of at least one year before, and/or if the information is made publicly available.

#### C - TOPICS THAT DO NOT PRESENT A PROBLEM

The following topics constitute the core business of most of EIA's activities and discussions and consultations on these topics do normally not present any problem under A, nor under B, provided that the topics mentioned under A, are not treated as such:

- General cyclical economic data and business climate, as long as discussions on these topics do not relate to any individual company's behaviour. These discussions focus on the macro level and do not affect any company's behaviour in the market;
- Lobbying activities relating to general interests in the sector and concerning on legislation and other public issues which may affect the sector;
- Labour law and social issues. These issues are considered to be irrelevant under competition law;
- Legal issues. These issues are by definition of a general nature, so these will affect any company's business in the same manner;
- Standardisation issues. If (i) the standard setting procedure is transparent open for participation by any interested party, (ii) there is an obligation to comply with the standard, (iii) access to the standard is provided on fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory terms, and (iv) any discussions within the standard setting procedure are restricted to technical aspects. Standardisation is aimed at compatibility of products and of technical progress; this will normally be for the benefit of the end user;
- Safety and health issues. EIA has an interest in enhancing safety and health with respect to the use of the sector's products;
- Environmental issues. EIA has an interest in enhancing protection of the environment with respect to the use of the sector's products.



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# Report on EIA activities

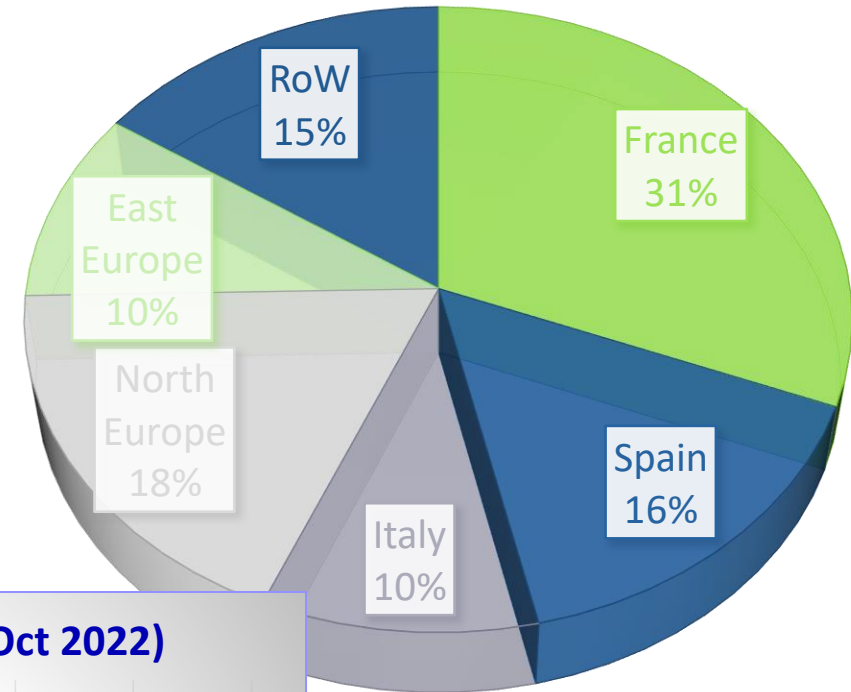
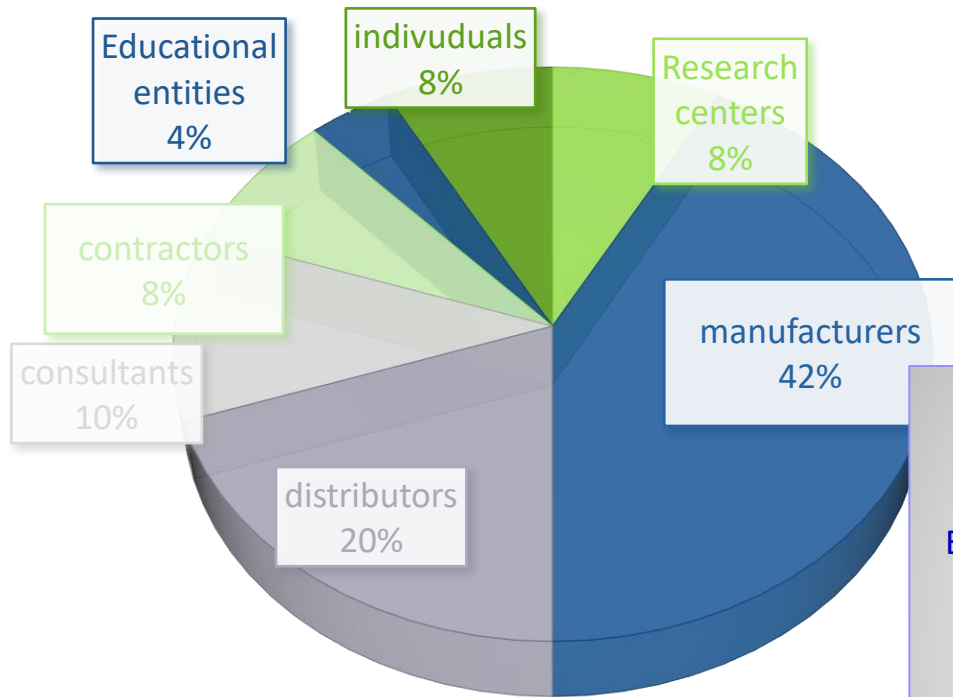
## Agenda item 2 - Report on EIA activities

- Introduction by the President, Moshi Berenstein
- Update on the Working groups, by the 6 Working groups leaders
- Application of European Taxonomy to the Irrigation Industry, by Francesco Dubini, consultant at the European House, Ambrosetti.

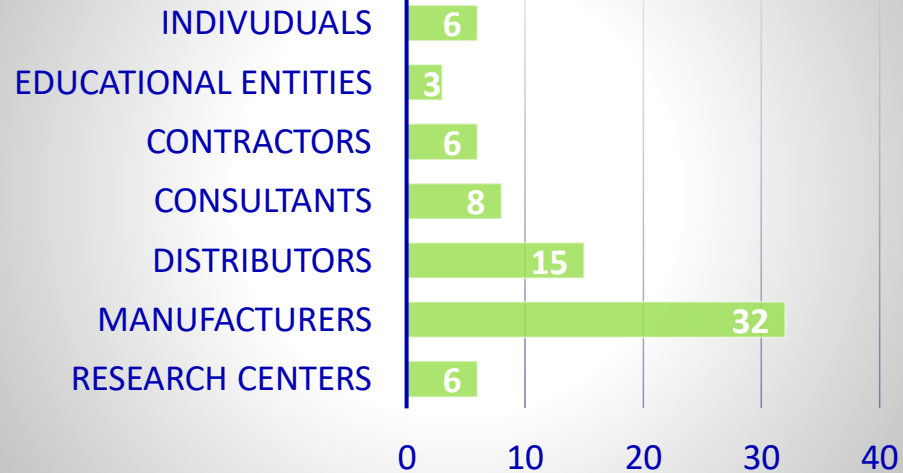
# 82 EIA Members as of June 2023

12 new members joined in 2022

11 new members joined since the beginning of 2023



**EIA members by profile (Oct 2022)**



# EIA members



## EIA 2022 – 2023 summary of main activities

- 02 /2022 Bruno Molle has been appointed Executive Advisor of the EIA.
- 03/2022 The foundation of the Working Group "sustainable plastic use in irrigation" led by Ido Raanan
- 03/2022 Spring Irrigation Forum : [Wastewater reuse in irrigation](#)
- 04/2022 Participating in the call of European project : WATERNET4AGRI
- 06/2022 Summer Irrigation forum : [Sat-Irrig tool/Agri-voltaism](#)
- 07/2022 EIA membres' Survey
- 10/2022 Autumn Irrigation Forum : [Sustainability 4.0 / IOT and Machine Health](#)
- 11/2022 EIA Cocktail & Gathering , EIMA Bologna Italy
- 11/2022 General Assembly, online
- 01/2023 Winter Irrigation Forum : [Advancing regenerative agriculture, carbon science, and ecosystem service markets](#)
- 03/2023 Spring Irrigation Forum : [Irrigated Urban vegetation to mitigate heat waves in cities](#)
- 5/2023 French Senate - fact-finding mission "Sustainable water management" - invitation to a hearing (Bruno, Moshi)
- 05/2023 Signature of the contract with European house Ambrosetti on European Taxonomy project.
- 06/2023 EIA General Assembly and Gathering, in Aix-en-Provence, France



<https://irrigationeurope.eu/en/>

# EIA 2022 – 6/2023 in numbers

- 5 online irrigation forums
- 21 meetings were conducted through the work of 6 Working Groups
- 8 Board Meetings
- 2 new board members : Javier Juárez, AZUD; Michel Fayaud, URBASENSE
- 2 General Assemblies
- 2 face-to-face networking events
- Dozens of volunteering Hours invested in the Taxonomy project
- 23 new members
- Termination of 4 EIA membership due to non-payment of fees



<https://irrigationeurope.eu/en/>



# Report on EIA activities

- Strengthening our activity in the context of environmental and climate transition, we wish to promote sustainable irrigation and to raise awareness around its benefit in the face of major challenges, drought and demography.
- Focus on sustainability around:
  - agriculture & urban
  - Certification (customers behavior)
  - Taxonomy (Regulations)
  - Technological innovations
- Develop vocabulary which doesn't exist today under the umbrella of Taxonomy, promote best practices, expanding our presence, strengthening our right to lead with newcomers to the association which add confidence and competences, lobbying,

# EIA Working Groups – updates



Sustainability in agriculture



Urban Landscape



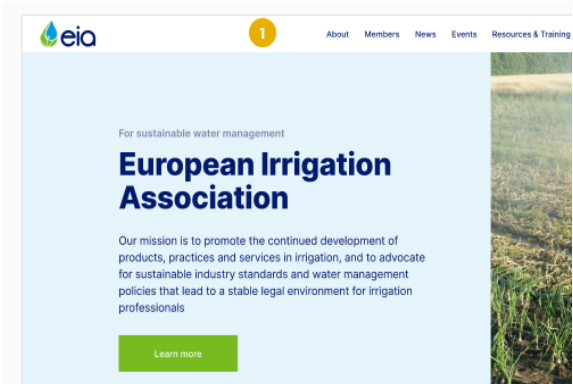
Standardization



Training



Wastewater Reuse



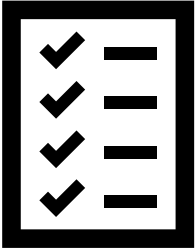
Communication



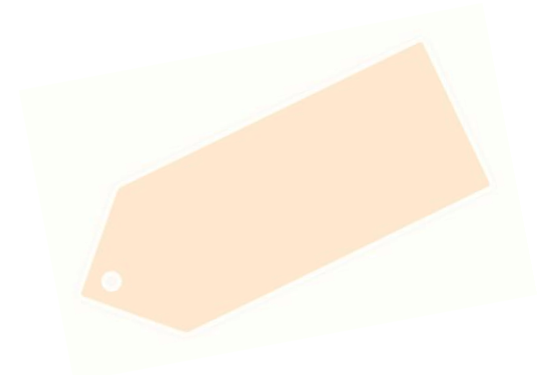
<https://irrigationeurope.eu/en/working-groups/>

**Promotion and activation of projects that pursue the sustainable development goals, with a particular focus on irrigation in agriculture**

- 1. Certifying sustainable irrigation (labels on farmer's products)**
- 2. Plastic recycling**
- 3. EU taxonomy**



## CERTIFYING SUSTAINABLE IRRIGATION



- 1) Finalizing the **definition of sustainable irrigation**
- 2) Providing a **definition of each of the 5 priorities**: water saving, energy saving, fertilizer saving, CO2 saving, emission uniformity
- 3) Defining the **metrics** (i.e. data range) for the levels of each priority for each type of irrigation
- 4) Identifying **certification agency**
- 5) Working with the certification agency to define the **requirements**
- 6) Creating a sustainable irrigation **logo and claim** placed on the final farmer's product
- 7) Defining **pricing for farmers and/or food companies**



## PLASTIC RECYCLING

The plastic team, led by Ido Raanan, is investigating opportunities to collaborate with existing collection schemes to allow solutions for the most challenging barriers to circularity.

When the volumes are low, the materials are heterogeneous and packing shipment is inefficient, we must get creative.

Specifically, we wish to allow the irrigation market clients a proper solution of closing the irrigation accessories' loop.

Filters, valves, connectors fittings, etc.- all need a collection scheme that is probably more efficient for all companies together than individual solutions.

We are checking how the EIA can join an APE (Agriculture Plastics Environment) collection pilot that will start running this summer.

We will update you as the project proceed.



## EU TAXONOMY

EIA's project with the objective of positioning the irrigation industry in the EU Taxonomy for sustainable activities. This will allow our members to anticipate the final disclosure requirements and seize the opportunities offered by the capitals made available by Sustainable Finance.

**Thank you for your attention**

# EIA Working Group “URBAN LANDSCAPE”

**Leader : Santiago Casanella, Hunter**

**Participants :**

**Xavier Botrel – Rain Bird**

**Lorenzo Arcangeli - Hunter**

**Ramunas Rederis – Consultant**

**Paul Van Breda - Irri-spec**

**Joao Florido – Norma Group**

**Rafael Diaz – Riego Turf**

**Damir Čizmek – In Aqua**

**Rob Hoogeveen – Certified Irrigation**

**Designs**

**Dorothea Sulzbacher – Lite soil**

**Coralie Tavassoli – Urbasense**



Picture courtesy of Valencia Parque Central Alta Velocidad 2003 SA.



# Key benefits of urban green spaces

- Exposure to nature
- Protection of urban biodiversity
- Reduced pollution and noise
- Enhanced population well-being and health
- Reduced urban heat island
- Development of recreational activities
- Heritage value

# Adaptation to climate

- Optimizing water allocation
- Controlling irrigation
- Being prepared to scarcity episode
- Adapting to low water uses
- Maintenance and retrofitting

# Achieving better landscapes with less water: basics of irrigation system efficiency

- Water sourcing and water quality
- Filtration of the system.
- Irrigation system design and product selection
- Irrigation system installation
- Irrigation scheduling, system operation and
- Retrofit and improvement of existing irrigation systems

# Irrigation industry solutions for improved irrigation efficiency and water conservation in urban areas

A large range of technologies and products are developed and available on the market to improve water conservation:

- Pressure compensated drip, check-valve drip, responsive drip.
- Xerigation solutions.
- Pressure regulated spray heads, check valve on spray heads, multi stream multi-trajectory rotating nozzles, matched precipitation rate nozzles.
- Rotor nozzle efficiency, rotors with pressure regulated systems.
- Pressure regulation benefits and solutions for valves, flow sensors.
- Smart controllers, controllers with flow management capacity and weather forecast adjustments.
- Multi-site irrigation management software and platforms.
- Weather and soil sensors.

# Solutions for big cities managing multiple green areas to simplify and optimize maintenance by using new technologies such as centralized and integrated systems (smart cities).

- Benefits of centralized system scheduling.
- Benefits of system flow management.
- Optimizing maintenance costs with central control systems.
- Improving water use accountability through central control systems.



Thank you!



## WG 3 : Standardization

The vision: to influence on the preparation of standards in both key areas of our industry's activities.

- Participate in two Technical Committees of the CEN, the European Standardization Committee:
    - the CEN/TC 334 linked with ISO TC23/SC18 (Irrigation techniques)
    - the CEN/TC 144 (Tractors and machinery for agriculture and forestry including hose reels machines, center pivots and lateral move systems).
  - Published recent EU publications on **Standardization in wastewater reuse and Guidelines for treated wastewater use for irrigation projects**
- Survey findings** : about half of EIA members are aware of some standards and ready to contribute, frequent confusion is made between standards and guidelines



**Leader** : Michel Histel, Specialist European Standards

**Participants** : Jean-François Cornacchia, Irrifrance ; Bruno Molle EIA;  
Romeo Dragan, Rivulis, ; Alessandro Calanna, Irritec

# EIA WG4 ; Training and Knowledge Transfer

- GROUP MEMBERS:** Damir Cizmek – [damir@inaqua.hr](mailto:damir@inaqua.hr) (group leader) / Joao Florido - [joao.florido@normagroup.com](mailto:joao.florido@normagroup.com) / Rafael Diaz – [rafaeldiaz@riegoturf.com](mailto:rafaeldiaz@riegoturf.com)  
Romeo Dragan – [romeo.dragan@rivulis.com](mailto:romeo.dragan@rivulis.com) / Paul Van Breda – [paul@irri-spec.com](mailto:paul@irri-spec.com) / Rob Hoogeveen – [certifieddesignsinc@gmail.com](mailto:certifieddesignsinc@gmail.com)
- PROJECT:** Organization of **EIA TRAIN-THE-TRAINER COURSE** for development of a panel of verified EIA trainers across Europe able to teach the course „**BASICS OF LANDSCAPE AND SPORTS FIELDS IRRIGATION**” in their own countries and their native languages.
- OBJECTIVES:**
- Promote competence in landscape irrigation among professionals involved in planning, installation, operation, and maintenance of irrigation systems.
  - Promote EIA through widening the network of irrigation professionals able to deliver EIA verified irrigation training across Europe in native languages.
  - Disseminate important information about proper design, installation, operation, and maintenance of landscape and sports fields irrigation systems to landscape architects, contractors, municipal green teams, facility managements, greenkeepers, plumbers, and other professionals.
- SCHEDULE:**
- Develop training materials (150 pgs. booklet, .ppt trainig presentation, product sample kits) – through Autumn 2023
  - Develop arrangements with Paul Van Breda about booklet translation and distribution – through Autumn 2023
  - Develop course implementation and administration procedures – through Spring 2024
  - Organize first event by autumn 2024
- STATUS:**
- Awaiting English translation of the training booklet (Paul Van Breda)
  - Next WG meeting in early July 2023



## WG 5 : Wastewater Reuse

The vision: to rationalize water use and the necessary evolution towards a circular economy of resources.

Main activities in 2022 / 2023 :

- Sharing info on the **EU regulation on safe wastewater reuse in agriculture** : published in 2020, enforced from 2023
- Text for turf and landscape to come further
- Recent EU publications on **Standardization in waste water reuse (ISO 16075 part 1 to 6)**

**Survey results :**

- More than half of the respondents were confronted to Reuse in their activity
- One third only consider them as aware of Reuse issues and are ready to contribute
- Two third are expecting training and knowledge transfer on this topic



- **Leader :** Bruno Molle /ex INRAE - Research Institute
- **Participants :** Sophie Gendre, Arvalis Institut du vegetal, Sebastian Shifris, Netafim, Damir Čizmek, In-Aqua

## WG 6 : Communication

### The vision:

- To pass the knowledge on **water saving technologies, innovation in irrigation efficiency** and **best water conservation practices**.
- To build necessary **communication tools** to promote all varieties of irrigation.
- To promote the **activities of the association** through web-tools.

**Leader** : Fleur Martin, Irrigazette



### Participants :

**Pilar Uretta**, Regaber

**Keith Bellin**, Irritec

**Céline Palvadeau**, Netafim,

**Oriol Torrano**, ITC

**Bruno Perroni**, Lindsay

**Vicky Barbouti**, Rivulis

# WG 6 : Communication

## Main activities :

1. Increase visibility of the EIA on our **website** and **social media**, and on **Irrigazette magazine (both print and web)**.

1. **Redesign of the EIA brochure in 4 languages.**

2. **Direct e-mailings to members**, keeping them up to date with EIA activities and events, and WGs progress.

1. **Organization and promotion of EIA Events** among members and non-members :

- **4 online irrigation forums** per year.
- **One face-to-face event** per year.

1. **Editorial committee** for the publication of articles on EIA platforms in both agriculture and lawn and landscape.

1. Active search for **new members**, follow-up and welcome.



The European House  
Ambrosetti

THINK TANK | MANAGEMENT CONSULTING | LEADERS' EDUCATION | SUMMIT

# Leveraging EU Taxonomy

*Challenges and opportunities of  
applying the European Taxonomy  
for Sustainable Finance to the  
irrigation industry*

EIA General Assembly  
Aix-en-Provence, 15 June 2023



# Who we are: The European House-Ambrosetti Sustainability

The European House – Ambrosetti is named in the category “Best Private Think Tanks” the no. 1 Think Tank in Italy, the no. 4 in the EU and among the most respected independents in the world out of 11,175 since 2013\*

We provide strategic and managerial consulting services, strategic scenarios, policy-making and advocacy activities (over 200 a year), local development programs for regional governments and major local players (over 50 initiatives in the last 3 years), high-level training programs and political and entrepreneurial leadership forums (over 500 meetings a year involving over 3,000 experts from around the globe)



The European House – Ambrosetti Sustainability is the practice that guides and supports companies and organisations in their transition towards a business model both integrated with sustainability and capable of creating value in the long term

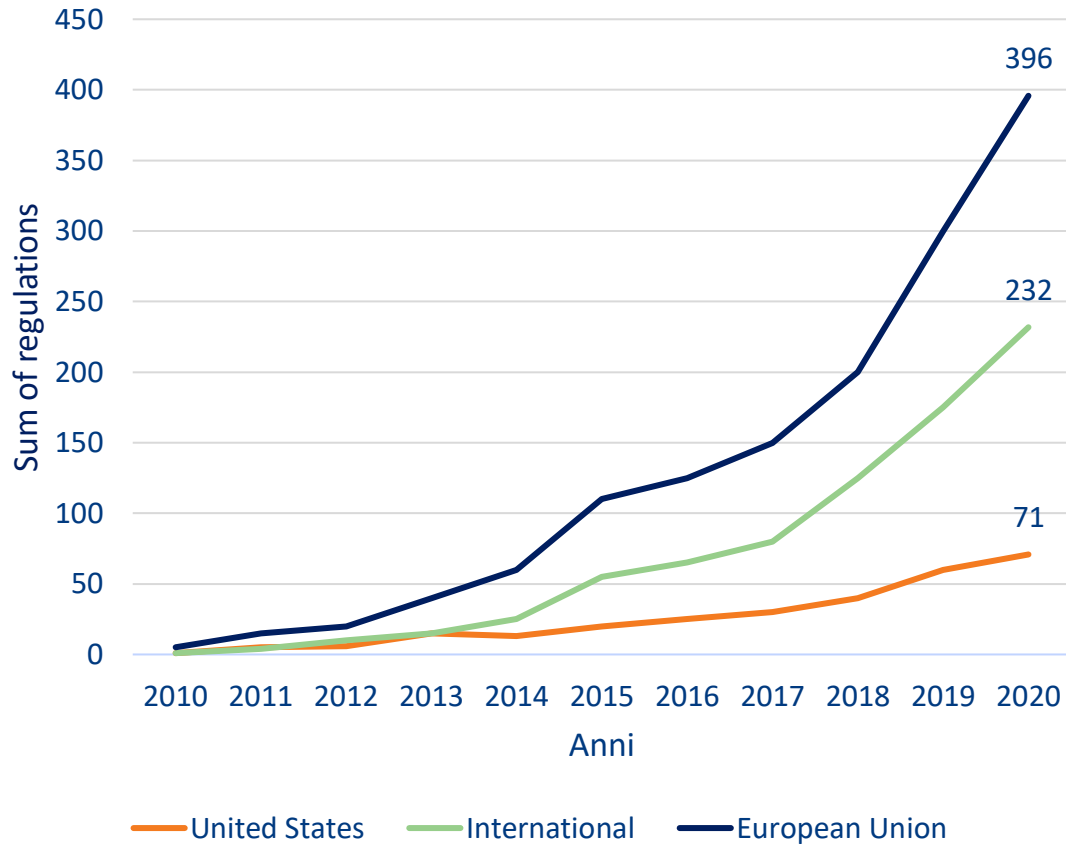
## Key message 1

### **Sustainability is no longer an option:**

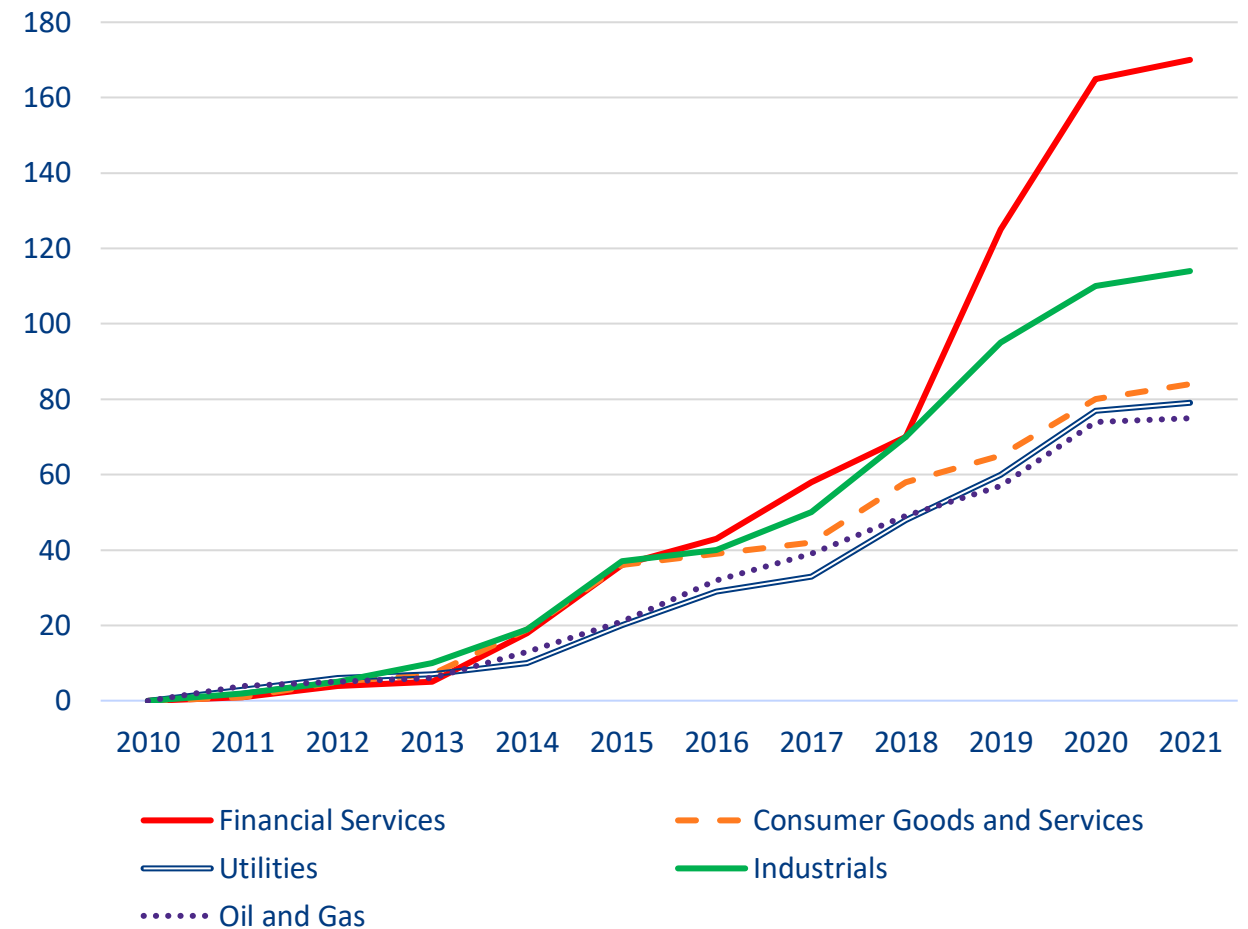
**Europe is driving the change by leveraging the production of better-quality information on the real sustainability of companies and their product/solutions, enabling Investors and Member States to make decisions that can concretely drive the sustainable transition of the economic system.**

# Institutions are pushing finance to lead the sustainable transition

The increase in regulatory activity on climate change by region

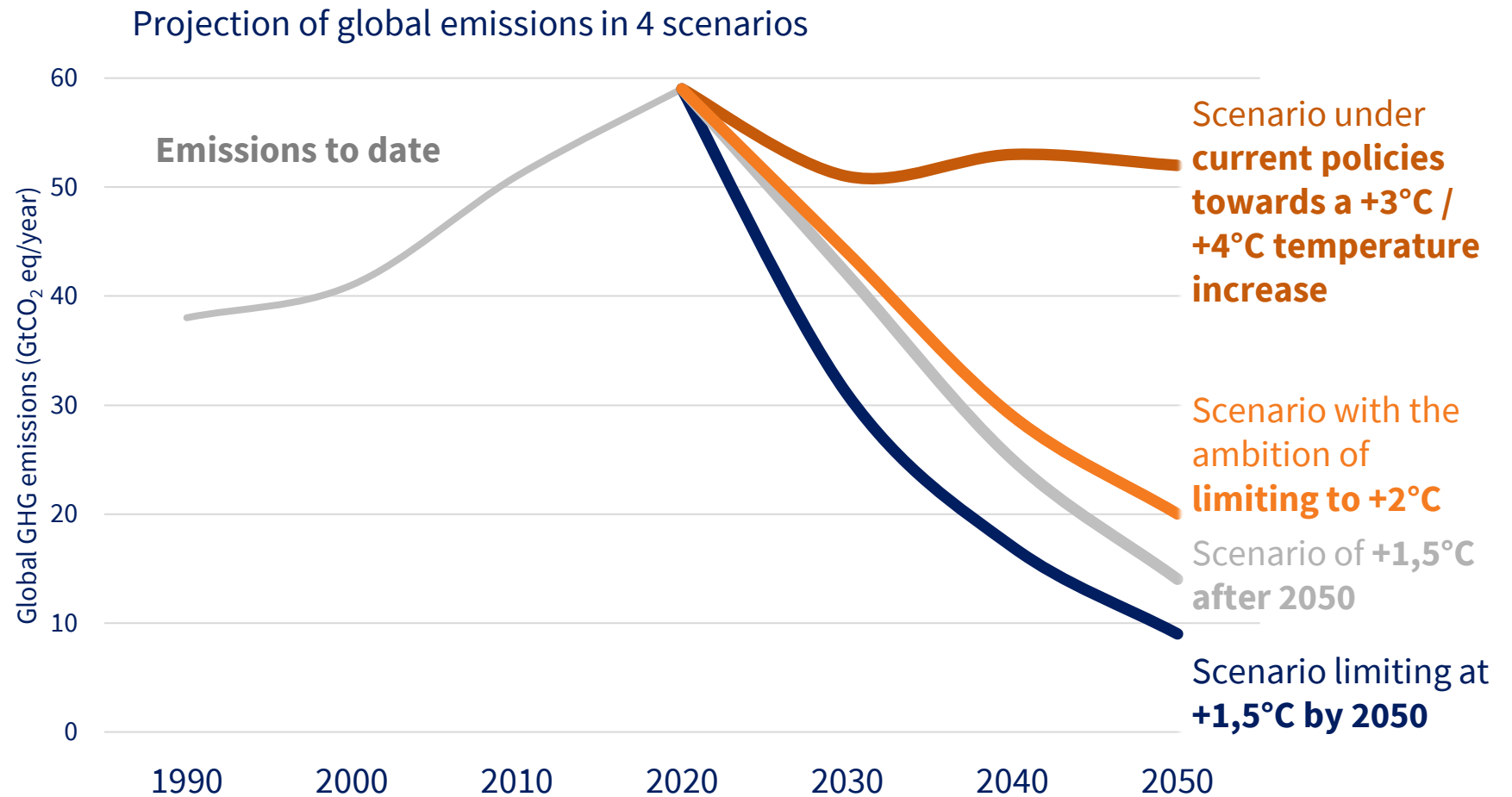


Distribution of regulation on climate change by sector



# Current policies will not allow to reach the 2050 objectives for the reduction of climate change

The goals and actions from current policies lead the economic system into a scenario where the temperature increase threshold set at +1.5° will be exceeded, for an **estimated temperature increase of +3°C/+4°C by 2050.**





# \$125 trillions needed to avoid the most dramatic impacts of climate change, \$32 trillions in the next 10 years

\$32 trillions in the next 10 years **by sector**

Electricity	Transports	Buildings	
\$16,00T	\$5,40T	\$5,20T	
	Industry	Low emission fuels	Agriculture and forestry
	\$2,20T	\$1,50T	\$1,50T

\$32 trillions in the next 10 years **by region**

Asia-Pacific	Europe	North America		
\$13,60T	\$6,60T	\$5,90T		
	Africa	Central and South America	Middle East	Eurasia
	\$1,70T	\$1,5...	\$1,2...	\$0,9...
				\$0,6...

# How? There is a problem: today's sustainability ratings used by investors do not give consistent and quality information

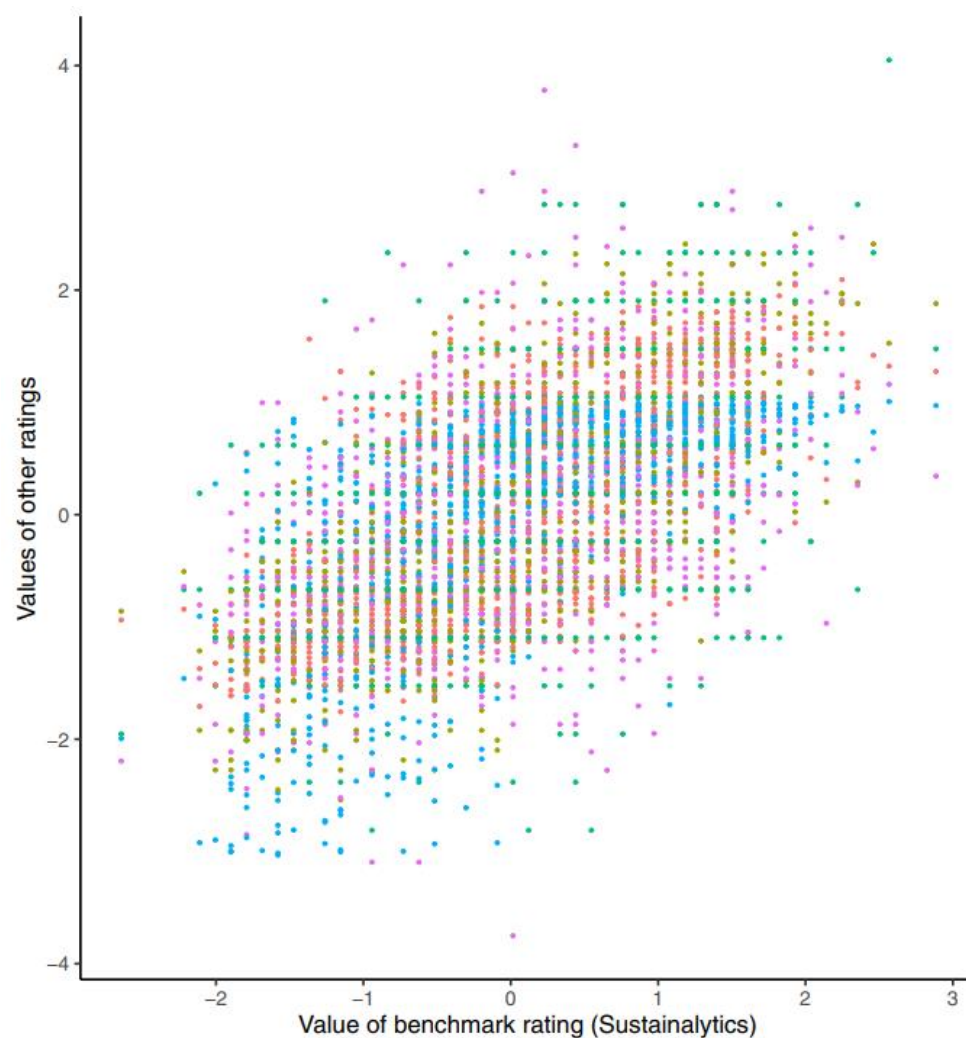
# 0,54

**the average correlation between ESG ratings of the major agencies.**

By comparison, Moody's and Standard & Poor's (non-ESG) credit ratings have a correlation of 0,92.

The ambiguity of ESG ratings creates serious problems for investors seeking for both financial and social returns.

Source: MIT, Aggregate Confusion: The Divergence of ESG Ratings.



The x-axis shows the value of Sustainalytics's rating as a benchmark for each company. The values of other evaluators' ratings are represented on the y-axis with different colors.

- Rater
- S&P Global
  - Moody's ESG
  - KLD
  - Refinitiv
  - MSCI

# An old saying says that anything that can be measured can be managed

It is necessary to produce higher quality information on corporate sustainability to empower investors and policymakers to make concrete decisions to trigger a smoother transition to a low-carbon economy.

# 58%

of EU investors see the absence of quality ESG data as the main obstacles to initiating decarbonization.

Robeco, Global Climate Survey Report, 2022.



Mark Carney

Canadian economist.  
Governor of the Bank of  
England from 2013 to  
2020. From 2011  
President of the G-20  
Financial Stability Board.

# EU Strategy: 3 levers to finance the sustainable transition

## EUROPEAN TAXONOMY

First international classification system that delineates which activities can be defined as sustainable. By defining technical thresholds, it allows to identify which activities are already environmentally sustainable, contributing both to the growth of low-carbon sectors and to the decarbonization process of the most emissive ones.

## DISCLOSURE

Disclosure requirements addressed to companies and financial institutions to increase market transparency and enable investors to make sustainable investment choices. Above all:

- **EU Taxonomy Regulation**
- Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation
- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive

## INSTRUMENTS

Set of investment instruments aimed at promoting the alignment of market strategies with EU environmental objectives.

These include the **EU Green Bond Standard**, a new European standard to support Green Bond issuance, and the EU Ecolabel for **financial products**, both linked to the Taxonomy.

## Key message 2

**Irrigation is not recognized for its sustainability potential:** the EU Taxonomy, the sustainability measurement system that guides investment choices, does not cover the entire real economy yet. The irrigation industry to date is only partially covered and this may represent a risk both in terms of access to financial capitals and of competitiveness on the market.

# EU Taxonomy: objectives and structure...

## THE 6 OBJECTIVES



Climate change mitigation



Climate change adaptation



Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources



Transition to a circular economy



Pollution prevention and reduction



Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems

## 3 CONDITIONS TO DEFINE AN ACTIVITY «SUSTAINABLE» (OR ALIGNED TO THE TAXONOMY)...

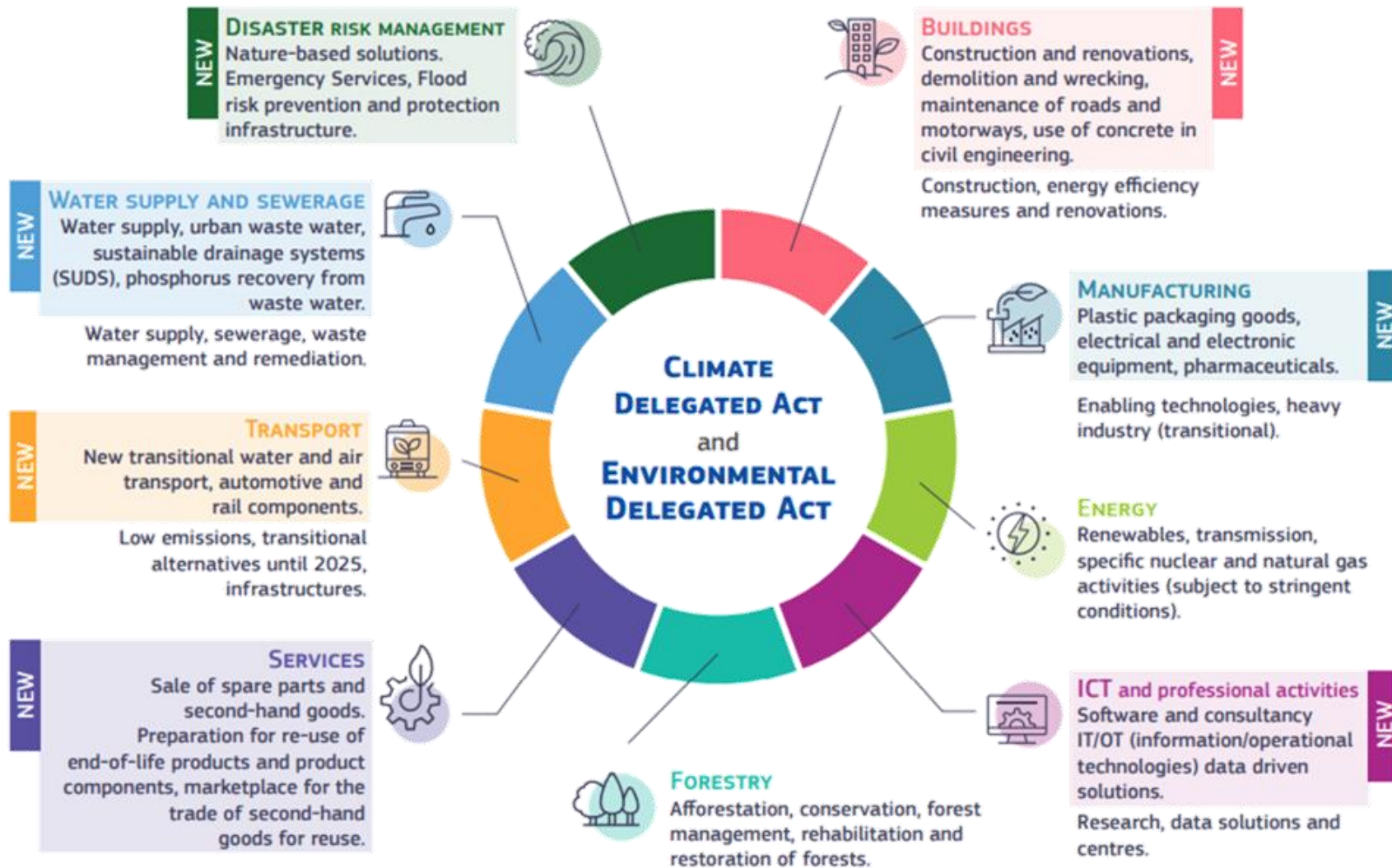


Respects the technical screening criteria set by the Commission

...MEASURING 3 KPIs:

**TURNOVER, CAPEX AND OPEX** ELIGIBLE AND ALIGNED TO THE REGULATION.

# ...up to date EC adopted 156 activities for 9 main sectors



- THE 6 OBJECTIVES**
- Climate change mitigation
  - Climate change adaptation
  - Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources
  - Transition to a circular economy
  - Pollution prevention and reduction
  - Protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems

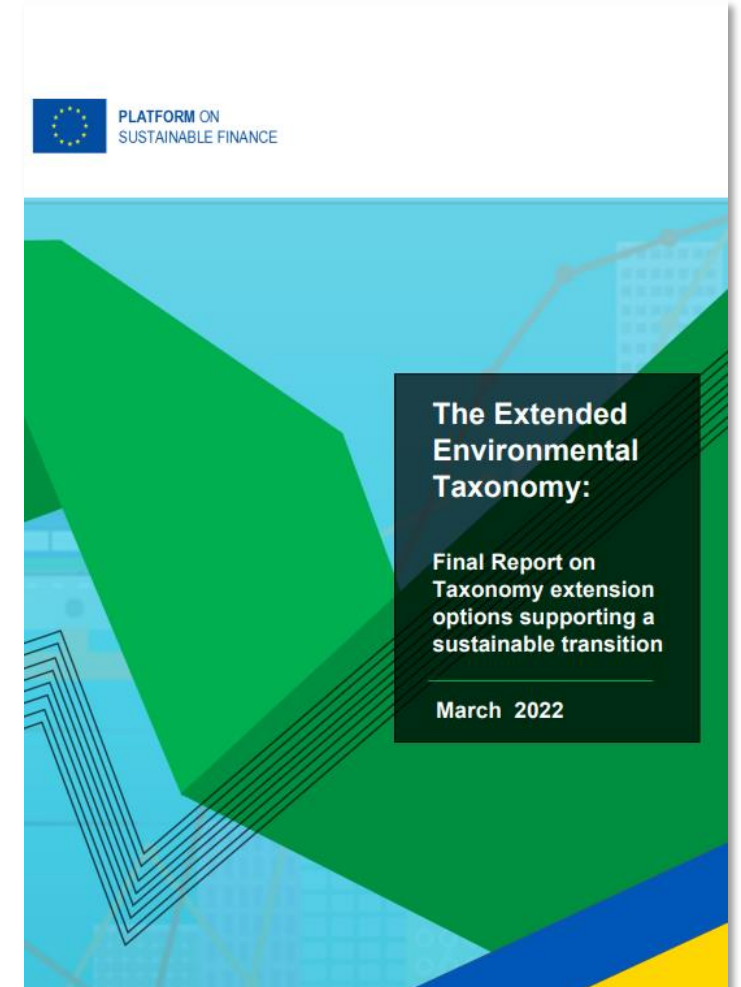
# Today in Europe there are 11.000 companies required to make disclosure with respect to Taxonomy, by 2025 will be > 50.000

	<b>Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive - CSRD</b>	<b>European Taxonomy Regulation EU 2020/852</b>
<b>Scope of application</b>	<p>From 2026 (FY25), the EU non financial reporting directive* will expand its scope from 11.000 (large listed companies) to over 50.000 companies, that meet <b>at least 2 of these 3 criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— <b>Net revenues: &gt;€40 million</b></li> <li>— <b>Balance sheet: &gt;€20 million</b></li> <li>— <b>Employees: &gt;250</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>All companies that already fall (11k) and will fall under the scope of the CSRD (&gt;50k), together with financial institutions declaring that they adopt sustainability strategies, and EU Member States.</b></p>
<b>Type of disclosure</b>	Sustainability performances subject to external assurance.	Revenue, CapEx e OpEx aligned to the EU Taxonomy.
<b>When</b>	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2025 (FY24)	January 1 <sup>st</sup> 2022

Source:  
Elaboration by  
The European  
House-Ambrosetti  
from EC (2021).

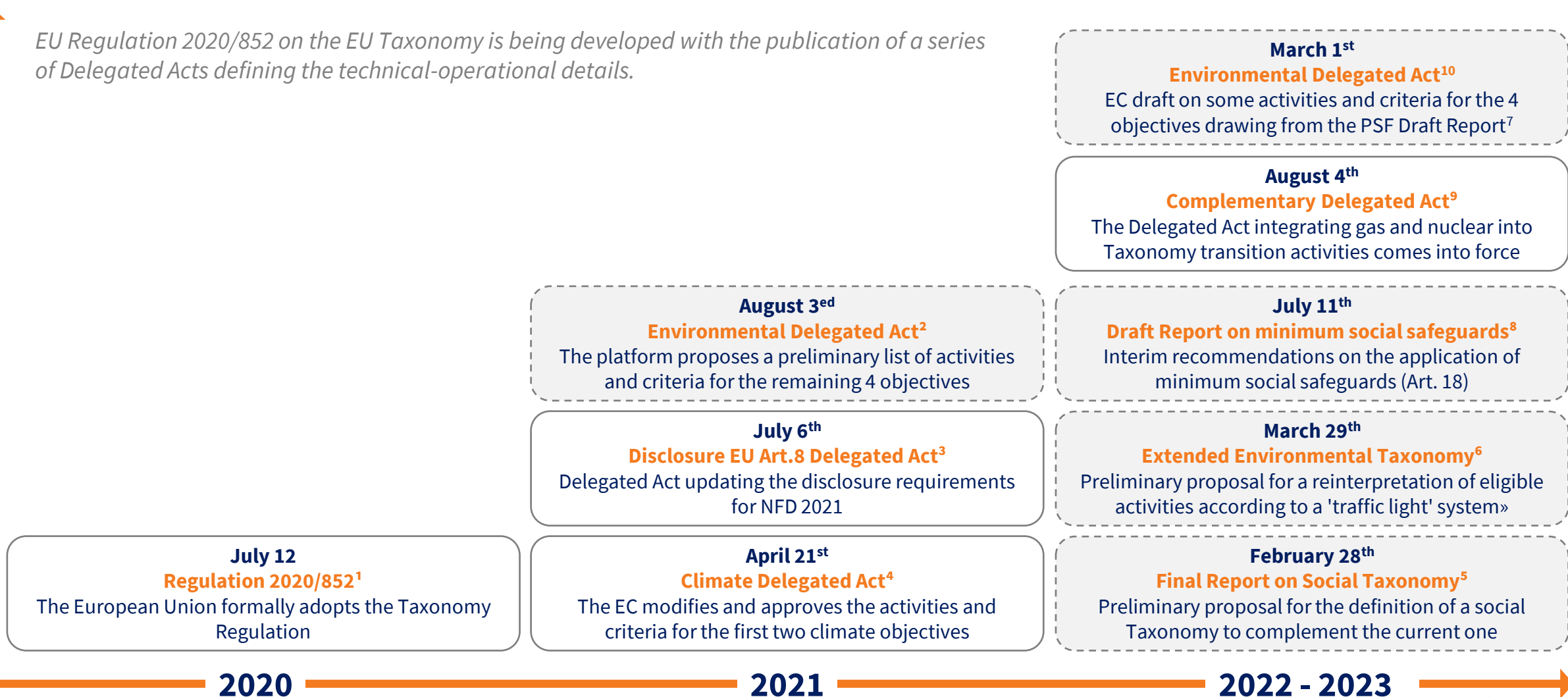


# Taxonomy evolution: 4 Objectives, «Social» and «Extended»



# A Regulation in continuous evolution

EU Regulation 2020/852 on the EU Taxonomy is being developed with the publication of a series of Delegated Acts defining the technical-operational details.



### **Key message 3**

**EIA decided to take action to influence the rules:**

**the association launched a project aimed at promoting a greater representation of the irrigation sector in the EU Taxonomy.**

**Member companies can seize the opportunities coming from the financial sector to meet the challenge of the sustainable transition.**

# Leveraging EU Taxonomy: the project goal

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The project, designed to have both a technical and a strategic dimension for the future development of the sector, will allow EIA and its member companies to:



identify the key messages for a structured communication and advocacy held by the Association towards Institutions and other stakeholder categories;



develop a future-proof process guideline for the EU Taxonomy application, to the benefit of all EIA's companies that, beyond regulatory requirements, will be interested in measuring themselves against the Regulation.

# Leveraging EU Taxonomy: the project expected results



## 1. IRRIGATION vs TAXONOMY: THE STATE OF THE ART

Measure to what extent the economic activities of EIA's companies are eligible to the current EU Taxonomy and how challenging meeting the relative technical screening criteria is.

*May '23 – June '23*



## 2. SUSTAINABLE IRRIGATION: ACTIVITIES AND CRITERIA

With the support of the Working Group and the Advisory Board, we will identify the activities and technical criteria that, according to the EIA, will be necessary to define sustainable irrigation.

*July '23 – September '23*



## 3. VOICE OF THE INDUSTRY: POSITION PAPER & ADVOCACY

Elaborate a Paper synthesizing the key aspects between the EU Taxonomy and irrigation industry and that will serve the EIA a potential long-term use both internally and externally in advocacy terms.

*September '23 – October '23*

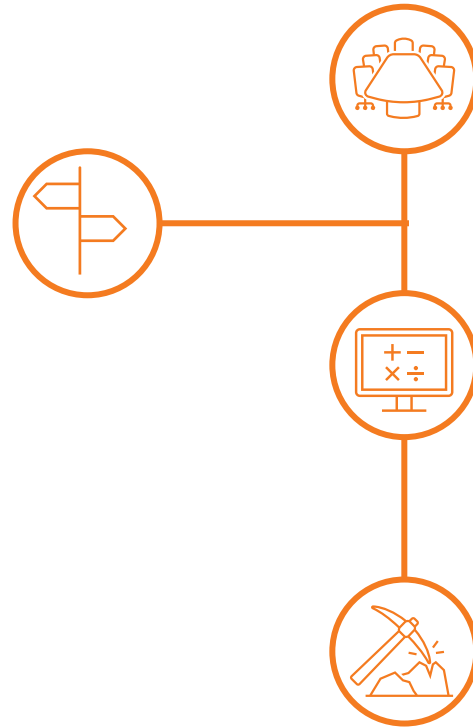
## APPLICATION OF THE TAXONOMY: ACTION ON INDIVIDUAL COMPANIES

Individual application of the EU Taxonomy to all the member companies that, voluntarily or in response to regulatory requirements, are interested in applying the Regulation to seize the derived opportunities.

For the future

# Roles and responsibilities for the project's implementation: competitor companies, within EIA, are working together

**Advisory Board**  
Composed by 3 external high-level experts identified and managed by the EIA. The role of this Board is to strategically direct and validate the recommendations of the Position Paper.



## Steering Committee

Composed by 15 top management figures who will guide the project and approve the results of the Position Paper which will be the base for the advocacy activities.

## Working Group

Composed by around 15 technical figures of member companies who will provide technical insights and data which will be the base for recommendations of the Position Paper.

## Project Team

Composed by 8 EIA's people. The Project Team represents the reference point for the consulting activities and will facilitate the implementation of the project.

# Takeaway messages

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## **Seizing a significant opportunity for the competitiveness of the sector and its companies**

The goal is to achieve the inclusion of the irrigation industry within the tool that investors and Member States use to integrate sustainability into decision-making processes; a failure to recognize the sector's sustainability profile can be a major constraint to business growth.



## **The true essence of products and their role in the sustainability transition**

Irrigation is more than only water supply, and the Position Paper will seek to change this perception of the irrigation industry by highlighting the strategic role of its products in the sustainability transition of the agri-irrigation sector and landscape management.



## **Creating a common vocabulary for the industry, finance and policymakers**

The inclusion of the sector within the European Taxonomy will be the opportunity to define a common ground to describe the irrigation industry and to measure its sustainability profile, useful for the dialogue both within the sector but also with investors and regulators.

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*The European House - Ambrosetti was nominated in the "**Best Private Think Tanks**" category - 1st Think Tank in Italy, 4th in the European Union, and among the most respected independent think tanks in the world out of 11,175 globally in the latest edition of the University of Pennsylvania "Global Go To Think Tanks Report."*

*The European House - Ambrosetti was recognized by Top Employers Institute as one of 131 **Top Employer 2022** companies in Italy.*

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# EIA Financial matters

## Agenda item 3 - Financial matters

### 1. **Financial matters** – *for vote*

- approval of EIA financial results 2022
- approval of EIA budget 2023
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### 1. **Articles of the Association: amendments** – *for vote*

- The new Belgian Code for Associations and Companies requires a general review of the 'Articles of the Association', also called 'EIA statutes' by December 2023.
- A series of changes in the 'Articles of the Association' are now proposed for approval by the General Assembly (see detailed about changes in the working documents).
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