

ANNEX II - THE KEY 2027-2033 INTERMEDIATE TARGETS

Restoring and protecting the water cycle

By 2030, restoration measures will be put in place on at least 30% of the EU's coastal and freshwater habitats that are not in good condition (*Nature Restoration Regulation*).

By 2030, at least 30% of species and habitats not currently in favourable status are in that category or show a strong positive trend (*EU biodiversity strategy for 2030*).

By 2030, at least 25 000 km of rivers in the EU will have to be restored into free-flowing rivers (*EU biodiversity strategy for 2030*).

By 2027, Member States shall protect, enhance and restore all bodies of surface water and groundwater with the aim of achieving good status (*Water Framework Directive*).

Building a water-smart economy that leaves no one behind, supports EU competitiveness and attracts investors

By 2030, the most water-intensive sectors will have adopted and enhanced water-efficient practices, including the following sectors, based on existing EU legislation:

- Energy: national building renovation plans, due by 2026, will start being deployed in each Member State to achieve the progressive renovation of existing buildings into highly energy-efficient and decarbonised buildings by 2050, including through approaches and programmes addressing water treatment (*Energy Performance of Buildings Directive*).
- Industry: water use will start being tangibly reduced across the EU's largest industrial and livestock farming production processes (*Industrial Emissions Directive*).

In addition, with respect to agriculture, by 2027 the CAP Strategic Plans have provided support for practices (beyond mandatory requirements) to improve soil health (and thus improve water retention and limit erosion) on 47% of the EU's agricultural area. Support for practices for the sustainable use of pesticides and improved nutrient management will cover 27% and 15% of EU's agricultural area respectively (CAP support and CAP Strategic Plans).

By 2030, Member States with water supply leakage levels exceeding the EU-wide threshold – to be set by 2028 – will present an action plan with measures to reduce leakages across their supply networks (*Drinking Water Directive*).

By 2030, the Commission and the Member States will promote the reuse of treated urban wastewater for all appropriate purposes beyond agriculture and assess the feasibility and appropriateness of setting an EU target for water reuse across economic sectors (*Water Reuse Regulation*).

Securing clean and affordable water for all, empowering consumers and other users

By 2027, Member States will set up transparent drinking water and wastewater bills, to increase consumers' awareness of their consumption and the real price of water, as well as surveillance systems for monitoring public health parameters in urban wastewater in case of emergencies (*Drinking Water Directive, Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive*).

By 2029, Member States will inform the Commission about measures taken to improve access to drinking water and sanitation for all, including vulnerable and marginalised groups, and will start updating the Commission every six years on the matter (*Drinking Water Directive and Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive*).

By 2030, the EU will support the access of 70 million individuals to an improved drinking water source and/or sanitation facility (*EU commitment to the Water Action Agenda*).

By 2033, all EU cities above 100 000 inhabitants will set up integrated urban wastewater management plans prioritising nature-based solutions and green/blue infrastructures (*Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive*).