



**RANEP**  
THE RUSSIAN PRESIDENTIAL ACADEMY  
OF NATIONAL ECONOMY  
AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



## 2021 G20 Rome Summit Interim Compliance Report

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**Feedback, as always, is welcome and is kept anonymous.**

**We encourage readers to send comments to**

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## 18. Environment: Natural Resources

“We will pursue our efforts to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.”

*G20 Rome Leaders’ Declaration*

### Assessment

	No Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil		0	
Canada			+1
China		0	
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Korea		0	
Mexico			+1
Russia		0	
Saudi Arabia			+1
South Africa		0	
Turkey			+1
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average		+0.60 (80%)	

### Background

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, issues of environmental protection first gained prominence as the leaders affirmed the responsibility “to secure our future through sustainable consumption, production and use of resources that conserve our environment and address the challenge of climate change.”<sup>3464</sup>

Similar commitments, highlighting the interplay of social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability, were made at the consequent summits, including the Cannes, Saint Petersburg, Brisbane, Hangzhou, Hamburg and Osaka meetings.

At the 2021 Rome Summit the G20 leaders recognized “the efforts made by a number of countries to adhere to the Leaders’ Pledge for Nature and to ensure that at least 30 per cent of global land and at least 30 per cent of the global ocean and seas are conserved or protected by 2030,” while encouraging more countries to make similar commitments.<sup>3465</sup> The leaders followed up with a pledge to “end overfishing, deliver on our commitment to end illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and combat crimes that affect the environment

<sup>3464</sup> G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit, 25 September 2009. RANEPa (Moscow). Access Date: 13 December 2021. <https://www.ranepa.ru/ciir/sfery-issledovaniy/gruppa-dvadsati/dokumenty-gruppy-dvadsati/italyanskoe-predsedatelstvo-2021/G20-ROME-LEADERS-DECLARATION.pdf>.

<sup>3465</sup> Leaders’ Pledge for Nature, 26 September 2020. Access Date: 13 December 2021. [https://www.leaderspledgefornature.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Leaders\\_Pledge\\_for\\_Nature\\_27.09.20-ENGLISH.pdf](https://www.leaderspledgefornature.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Leaders_Pledge_for_Nature_27.09.20-ENGLISH.pdf)

such as illegal logging, illegal mining, illegal wildlife trade and illegal movement and disposal of waste and hazardous substances.”<sup>3466</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment requires the G20 members to take actions aimed at conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

“Conservation” is defined as “the management of human use of organisms or ecosystems to ensure that such use is sustainable.”<sup>3467</sup>

“Environmental protection” refers to any activity to maintain or restore the quality of environmental media through preventing the emission of pollutants or reducing the presence of polluting substances in environmental media. It may consist of:

- changes in characteristics of goods and services,
- changes in consumption patterns,
- changes in production techniques,
- treatment or disposal of residuals in separate environmental protection facilities,
- recycling, and
- prevention of degradation of the landscape and ecosystems<sup>3468</sup>

“Sustainability” is defined as “use of the biosphere by present generations while maintaining its potential yield (benefit) for future generations.”<sup>3469</sup>

Thus, for the purposes of this assessment, the commitment is split into three sections:

- Environmental conservation,
- Environmental protection,
- Sustainable use of natural resources.

To achieve full compliance a G20 member must take strong action in all three sections.

Partial compliance is awarded if a G20 member takes action in one or two sections or weak action in all three sections. Failure to take action aimed at conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources results in non-compliance.

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<sup>3466</sup> G20 Rome Leaders’ Declaration, 31 October 2021. RANEPa (Moscow). Access Date: 13 December 2021.

<https://www.ranepa.ru/ciir/sfery-issledovanij/gruppa-dvadsati/dokumenty-gruppy-dvadsati/italyanskoe-predsedatelstvo-2021/G20-ROME-LEADERS-DECLARATION.pdf>

<sup>3467</sup> Conservation, OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 13 December 2021.

<https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=411>.

<sup>3468</sup> Environmental Protection, OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 13 December 2021.

<https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=836>.

<sup>3469</sup> Sustainability, OECD Glossary of Statistical Terms, OECD (Paris). Access Date: 13 December 2021.

<https://stats.oecd.org/glossary/detail.asp?ID=2625>.

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	The G20 member fails to take action aimed at conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.
0	The G20 member takes action in one or two of the following categories: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.
+1	The G20 member takes action aimed in all three of the following categories: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

*Compliance director: Alexander Ignatov*

*Lead analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 17 November 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries announced the launch of a national sustainable aquaculture development program which ensures sustainable use of resources (soil, water, aquatic organisms) and optimizes the economic benefits.<sup>3470</sup>

On 3 December 2021, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development organized wildlife conservation days which seeks to provide a space for the exchange of experience with the analysis of the challenges of public policies aimed at the construction of an integrated strategy.<sup>3471</sup>

On 22 December 2021, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development presented the National Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production that seeks to promote the decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation and resource-intensive use towards a just transition. Key strategic areas include resource efficiency; pollution reduction; sustainable consumption and lifestyles; innovation and knowledge; public leadership; and information and awareness.<sup>3472</sup>

On 5 January 2022, Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers Juan Manzur together with Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development Juan Cabandí and Minister of Energy Dario Martínez discussed the start of hydrocarbon exploration in the northern part of the Argentinean basin. This initiative aims to intensify the development of strategic activities in order to meet the growing demand for energy complying with all environmental protection standards.<sup>3473</sup>

On 18 January 2022, President Alberto Fernández led an event in the city of San Juan to establish the “National Renewable Energy Cluster.” This public private institution will promote the production of renewable energy goods, technologies and services to facilitate the country’s sustainable energy transition.<sup>3474</sup>

<sup>3470</sup> The National Programme for Sustainable Aquaculture Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (Buenos Aires) 17 November 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 7 March 2022.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-creo-el-programa-nacional-de-desarrollo-acuicola-sustentable>

<sup>3471</sup> Integrated strategy for wildlife conservation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 3 December 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 22 February 2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-organizo-un-encuentro-para-debatir-sobre-una-estrategia-integral-de-conservacion>

<sup>3472</sup> National Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 22 December 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 24 February 2022.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambiente-elaboro-la-estrategia-nacional-de-consumo-y-produccion-sostenible>

<sup>3473</sup> Start-up of hydrocarbon exploration in the Northern Argentina Basin, Head of Cabinet of Ministers (Buenos Aires) 5 January 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 5 March 2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/soberania-energetica-manzur-monitoreo-la-puesta-en-marcha-de-la-exploracion>

<sup>3474</sup> We are making it possible for the country to have renewable energy, made in Argentina by Argentines, Casa Rosada Presidency (Buenos Aires) 18 January 2022. Access Date: 3 March 2022. <https://www.caserosada.gob.ar/slider-principal/48396-alberto-fernandez-estamos-haciendo-posible-que-el-pais-tenga-energia-renovable-hecha-en-argentina-por-argentinos>

On 19 January 2022, Minister Cabandí, participated in the launch of the National Renewable Cluster to expand electricity supply and care for the environment. Forming a cluster to build future solar parks is said to increase the share of renewable energy in energy matrix as part of the commitment Argentina have made to the energy transition.<sup>3475</sup>

On 7 February 2022, Chief Mansur together with Governor of San Juan Sergio Uñac, and the President of Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales Pablo González, announced the launch of the Zonda solar park, which will have a capacity of 300 megawatts. The project is said to attract investments worth ARS90 million.<sup>3476</sup>

On 15 February 2022, Chief Mansur held a working meeting to monitor the implementation of the National Plan of Forestation. An initiative through which 100 million trees would be planted throughout the country aims to promote environmental care and awareness.<sup>3477</sup>

On 3 February 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development introduced a programme to support indigenous people who conserve natural ecosystems in their territories. It aims to build capacity and provide resources so that communities can be aware of the values of biodiversity in their territories, develop management plans for its conservation and sustainable use, as well as facilitate the commercialization of products and promote community tourism.<sup>3478</sup>

On 9 March 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, together with the National Parks Administration and the Federal Council for the Environment, held the Environment+Diverse meeting. It was designed to disseminate the environmental agenda with a gender and diversity perspective through six priority areas: biodiversity, native forests, protected areas, climate change, environmental education and circular economy and waste.<sup>3479</sup>

On 4 May 2022, the National Government formalized the creation of an 'Inter-institutional Roundtable on Offshore Activities in the Argentinean Sea', to coordinate actions on the various projects under study related to hydrocarbon exploration. It allows the country to expand its production capacity and boost its economy with an impact on its energy matrix in a sustainable manner.<sup>3480</sup>

Argentina has taken strong action in all three areas of the commitment: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources. The Government launched a number of programs aimed at sustainable use of soil, water resources, fight against pollution and deforestation, introduction of greener technologies in production and treatment or disposal of residuals in separate environmental protection facilities.

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<sup>3475</sup> National Renewable Cluster to develop energy from sustainable sources, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 19 January 2022. Translation provided by DeepL Translate. Access Date: 24 February 2022.

<sup>3476</sup> Work on YPF's first Solar Farm, Head of Cabinet of Ministers (Buenos Aires) 7 February 2022. Translation provided by DeepL Translate. Access Date: 5 March 2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/san-juan-manzur-y-unac-pusieron-en-marcha-las-obras-del-primer-parque-solar-de-ypf>

<sup>3477</sup> The progress of the National Forestry Plan, Head of Cabinet of Ministers (Buenos Aires) 15 February 2022. Translation provided by DeepL Translate. Access Date: 5 March 2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/manzur-superviso-los-avances-del-plan-nacional-de-forestacion>

<sup>3478</sup> Support indigenous peoples and farmers who conserve natural ecosystems in their territories, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 3 February 2022. Translation provided by DeepL Translate. Access Date: 25 February 2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-creo-un-programa-de-apoyo-pueblos-origenarios-y-campesinos-que-conserven-ecosistemas>

<sup>3479</sup> Environment+Diverse, the environmental portfolio's proposal to commemorate 8M, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Buenos Aires) 9 March 2022. Translation provided by DeepL Translate. Access Date: 17.06.2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/ambientediverso-la-propuesta-de-la-cartera-ambiental-para-conmemorar-el-8m>

<sup>3480</sup> Safe and active implementation of hydrocarbon exploration actions in the Argentinean Sea, Head of Cabinet of Ministers. Translation provided by DeepL Translate. Access Date: 17 June 2022. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/se-establecen-los-procedimientos-para-implementar-de-manera-segura-y-activa-las-acciones-de>

Thus, Argentina receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elena Alekseeva*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 8 November 2021, the government informed that AUD1 million would be allocated to ensure better protection of Gunnedah's koalas. The package would be spent to save koalas against drought and changing climate by means of ensuring access to water and bettering control of invasive weeds.<sup>3481</sup>

On 29 November 2021, the government announced that AUD1 million would be allocated to support land managers in Queensland's central region in replanting native vegetation, controlling weeds and improving grazing management.<sup>3482</sup>

On 14 December 2021, the government ordered to allocate AUD13.5 million to facilitate recycling in New South Wales region. Allocated funds would be distributed in the form of grants open for local applicants to develop innovative recycling solutions.<sup>3483</sup>

On 20 December 2021, the government released the updated 2050 Reef Plan. The Plan is designed as to protect the Grand Barrier Reef in accordance with the Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report 2019.<sup>3484</sup>

On 29 January 2022, the government allocated AUD50 million extra funds to provide better protection for koalas. The package includes restoration of koala habitat, improving monitoring of koala populations and personnel training.<sup>3485</sup>

On 9 February 2022, the Government announced that AUD11 million would be allocated as investments into recycling infrastructure in the Northern Territory region. New facilities would grant access to recycling opportunities in remote areas.<sup>3486</sup>

On 12 February 2022, the Government presented a new five-years Action plan designed as to protect endangered species. The Plan underpins recovery of 100 priority endangered species across 20 priority areas. Also, it gives a lead to citizen science and community actions aimed to improve endangered species management.<sup>3487</sup>

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<sup>3481</sup> Joint media release: \$1 million for Gunnedah koalas, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 8 November 2021. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/1-million-gunnedah-koalas>

<sup>3482</sup> Joint media release: \$1 million boost for Central Queensland Koalas, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 29 November 2021. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/1-million-boost-central-queensland-koalas>

<sup>3483</sup> Joint media release: \$13.5 million for NSW recycling, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 14 December 2021. Access Date: 28 March. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/135-million-nsw-recycling>

<sup>3484</sup> Updated Reef 2050 Plan released, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 20 December 2021. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/updated-reef-2050-plan-released>

<sup>3485</sup> Joint media release: Record \$50 million for Koalas, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 29 January 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/joint-media-release-record-50-million-koalas>

<sup>3486</sup> Joint media release: \$11 million boom for Northern Territory recycling, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 9 February 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/11-million-boom-northern-territory-recycling>

<sup>3487</sup> Action Plan to lead recovery for Australia's wildlife, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 12 February 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.awe.gov.au/ley/media-releases/action-plan-lead-recovery-australias-wildlife>

On 13 February 2022, the Government allocated another AUD50 million for the Emergency Response Fund as to improve local communities resilience against coastal natural disasters.<sup>3488</sup>

On 3 March 2022, Australia expressed public support of the adoption of the UN Environment Assembly resolution to get waste of plastic litter. An intergovernmental committee formed under the resolution would present an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution by 2024.<sup>3489</sup>

On 4 March 2022, the Government pledged to provide AUD5.5 million to protect the country's marine parks against illegal fisheries. Allocated funds would be spent on new electronic and vessel monitoring systems needed for commercial fishing boats to receive signals when encroaching sensitive marine areas.<sup>3490</sup>

On 8 March 2022, the Government claimed that AUD250,000 from the National Heritage Grant program would be allocated to protect the cultural and natural values of the country's most ancient regions including the Willandra Lakes region and Mungo National Park.<sup>3491</sup>

On 15 March 2022, the Government presented AUD128.5 million budget reform package to provide better environmental protection, stronger compliance and decision-making process. The package includes more funding to support 10 regional plans, streamlining assessment process and informed decision making.<sup>3492</sup>

On 20 March 2022, the Government established two new marine parks in the Indian Ocean – at Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands. The two new parks cover 744,000 square kilometers. The offshore part of the area would be placed under the highest possible level of protection. As to support initial works, the Government allocated AUD5.4 billion through the Ocean's Leadership Package.<sup>3493</sup>

On 21 March 2022, the Government announced allocation of AUD60 million extra funding to advance plastic recycling technologies boosting the Recycling Modernization Fund. The fund targets problematic plastics like bread bags and chip packets.<sup>3494</sup>

On 21 March 2022, the Government announced three grants worth AUD20 million to support protection of threatened fish species and improve connectivity in Farrer, the Canberra region.<sup>3495</sup>

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<sup>3488</sup> Joint media release: \$50 million from the Emergency Response Fund for coastal and estuarine resilience, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 13 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/50-million-emergency-response-fund-coastal-and-estuarine-resilience>

<sup>3489</sup> UN agrees to end plastic pollution, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 3 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/un-agrees-end-plastic-pollution>

<sup>3490</sup> Joint media release: Technology to enhance sustainable marine management, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 4 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/technology-enhance-sustainable-marine-management>

<sup>3491</sup> Protecting Indigenous heritage at ancient lakes, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 8 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/protecting-indigenous-heritage-ancient-lakes>

<sup>3492</sup> Joint media release: New package to advance environmental law reform, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 15 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/new-package-advance-environmental-law-reform>

<sup>3493</sup> Joint media release: Australia's Galapagos officially proclaimed and protected, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 20 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/australias-galapagos-officially-proclaimed-and-protected>

<sup>3494</sup> Joint media release: Plastic recycling solutions right for Australia, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 21 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/joint-media-release-plastic-recycling-solutions-right-australia>

<sup>3495</sup> Joint media release: Healthy Rivers grants building healthy communities across Farrer, the Hon Sussan Ley MP 21 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/joint-media-release-healthy-rivers-grants-building-healthy-communities-across-farrer>

On 21 April 2022, the Government imposed import restrictions aimed at protecting the local ecosystems against khapra beetle.<sup>3496</sup> Australia has taken steps on all three components of the commitment: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Australia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

### **Brazil: 0**

Brazil has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 31 October 2021, the government announced that it was committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030 with an ultimate goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2050 on the first day of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26). Brazil also shared its plans to eliminate illegal deforestation in the country.<sup>3497</sup> The explicit actions for the country to reach this goal are contained in the document “Guidelines for a National Strategy for Climate Neutrality,” presented at the event. The publication includes the “National Plan for the Control of Illegal Deforestation and Recovery of Native Vegetation 2020-2023.”<sup>3498</sup>

On 17 January 2021, the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Brazil affirmed the decision of the National Energy Policy Council (CNPE) to maintain the mandatory biodiesel content in diesel fuel at 10% throughout 2022. This policy is aimed at reducing CO2 emissions resulting from the use of diesel fuel and promote the clean bioenergy sector. It also acts as one of the staples of the Guidelines for a National Strategy for Climate Neutrality.<sup>3499</sup>

On 18 January 2022, the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Brazil published a report on the importance of the building sector for energy consumption. The report, titled “Implementing the Paris Agreement and Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Throughout the Life Cycle of Buildings: European Public Policies, Tools and Market Initiatives,” was prepared by the Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE) in partnership with the Ministry. The study presents public policies developed to assist in the adoption of strategies and reduce the environmental impact of the building sector.<sup>3500</sup>

On 31 January 2022, the government announced the investment of BRL6 billion (USD1.14 billion) in energy and infrastructure in Rio de Janeiro. The investment includes the construction of the country’s largest natural gas-fired power plant as well as the expansion of road, railroad and port infrastructure. The primary objective of the whole investment project is the construction of the GNA II Thermoelectric Plant (UTE), which is

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<sup>3496</sup> New import conditions to protect against khapra beetle, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (Canberra) 21 April 2022. Access Date: 22 June 2022. <https://www.awe.gov.au/about/news/media-releases/new-import-conditions-protect-against-khapra-beetle>

<sup>3497</sup> Brazil ends first week of negotiations with important advances, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 6 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/noticias/brasil-encerra-primeira-semana-de-negociacoes-com-importantes-avancos>.

<sup>3498</sup> Guidelines for a National Strategy for Climate Neutrality, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 31 October 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/DiretrizesparaumaEstrategiaNacionalparaNeutralidadeClimtica.pdf>.

<sup>3499</sup> MME reaffirms the correctness of the CNPE decision to maintain the biodiesel content in diesel at 10% throughout 2022, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 17 January 2022. 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/mme-reafirma-o-acerto-da-decisao-do-cnpe-de-manter-o-teor-de-biodiesel-no-diesel-em-10-ao-longo-de-2022>.

<sup>3500</sup> MME publishes report on the importance of buildings in energy consumption, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 19 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/mme-publica-relatorio-sobre-importancia-de-edificacoes-no-consumo-energetico>.

expected to become be the biggest gas-fired thermal plant in the country and contribute to the Brazilian energy security, supplying energy to 14 million homes.<sup>3501</sup>

On 21 March 2022, the Ministries of Mines and Energy (MME) and Environment (MMA) launched a set of incentive measures for the production and sustainable use of biomethane. The initiative contributes to the commitments made by the country during the United Nations Climate Change Conference. The document, signed by Brazil and more than a hundred other countries, provides for a global effort to reduce methane emissions by 30 per cent by 2030 in relation to the 2020 levels. The MMA Administrative Rule no. 71, dated 21 March 2022, establishes the National Program for Methane Emission Reduction and the Special Regime of Incentives for Infrastructure Development.<sup>3502</sup>

On 13 April 2022, the government issued the Decree No. 11.044 and launched the Certificate of Recycling Credit Program. The measure aims to provide an injection of estimated BRL14 billion (USD 2.96 billion) in private investment in the recycling of products and discarded packaging.<sup>3503</sup>

On 13 April 2022, President Jair Bolsonaro signed a Federal Decree No. 11.043, establishing the National Solid Waste Plan (Planares). The plan includes guidelines, strategies, actions and sets targets to modernize solid waste management in the country, in order to put into practice the objectives set out in the National Policy for Solid Waste - Law No. 12.305 of 2010. Among the objectives set by the plan is the elimination of all landfill sites in the country by 2024.<sup>3504</sup>

On 26 April 2022, the government published the joint Interministerial Ordinance No. 107, of 25 April 2022, which provides for the controlled elimination of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), approves the PCB Management Manual for electric equipment and implements the PCB National Inventory system. PCBs are a class of persistent organic pollutants, banned by the Stockholm Convention in 2001.<sup>3505</sup>

Brazil took action to promote sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Brazil receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 4 November 2021, Canada, alongside other major economies such as the United States and the United Kingdom and 21 other countries signed the Statement on International Public Support for the Clean Energy

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<sup>3501</sup> Federal Government announces investments in energy and infrastructure for Rio de Janeiro, Brazilian Government (Brasilia) 31 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mme/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/governo-federal-anuncia-investimentos-em-energia-e-infraestrutura-para-o-rio-de-janeiro>.

<sup>3502</sup> Federal Government launches measures to encourage the production and sustainable use of biomethane, Ministry of the Environment (Brasilia) 21 March 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 May 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/noticias/governo-federal-lanca-medidas-de-incentivo-a-producao-e-ao-uso-sustentavel-do-biometano>.

<sup>3503</sup> Federal Government launches Recycling Credit Certificate – Recicla+, Ministry of the Environment (Brasilia) 13 April 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 May 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/noticias/governo-federal-lanca-certificado-de-credito-de-reciclagem-2013-recicla>.

<sup>3504</sup> Federal Government ends the wait of more than 10 years and publishes decree on the National Solid Waste Plan, Ministério do Meio Ambiente (Brasilia) 14 April 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 May 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/noticias/governo-federal-acaba-com-a-espera-de-mais-de-10-anos-e-publica-decreto-do-plano-nacional-de-residuos-solidos>.

<sup>3505</sup> Government regulates controlled disposal of toxic substances, Ministério do Meio Ambiente (Brasilia) 26 April 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 30 May 2022. <https://www.gov.br/mma/pt-br/noticias/governo-regulamenta-eliminacao-controlada-de-substancias-toxicas>.

Transition at the COP26 (Conference of the Parties) climate change conference in Glasgow, Scotland. Building on the June 2021 G7 Leaders commitment, Canada and other signatories will further prioritize support for clean technology and end new direct public support for the international unabated fossil fuel sector by the end of 2022, except in limited and clearly defined circumstances that are consistent with the 1.5°C warming limit and the goals of the Paris Agreement.<sup>3506</sup>

On 12 November 2021, Innovative Solutions Canada launched a new challenge led by Natural Resources Canada to modernize tree seedling production and make tree planting more cost-efficient and sustainable.<sup>3507</sup>

On 18 November 2021, Minister of Natural Resources Jonathan Wilkinson announced that after one year of its launch, the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) Onshore Program is making major strides in reducing methane emissions by helping oil and gas companies adopt clean technologies while maintaining jobs in the sector. The ERF was launched in fall 2020 as a COVID-19 response measure to maintain employment and support oil and gas workers and local communities during the pandemic. Small and medium-sized companies as well as communities across Western Canada including Estevan, Saskatchewan; Brandon, Manitoba; and Slave Lake, Alberta, where projects are underway, have been able to benefit directly from this program.<sup>3508</sup>

On 1 December 2021, Minister Wilkinson announced a new call for expressions of interest to support low-carbon fuels research, development and demonstration projects, further advancing Canada's competitiveness as markets shift to more sustainable, low-carbon operations. The intent of the expressions of interest is to provide research funding to help industry address its emissions in hard-to-abate sectors, including iron and steel, chemicals and fertilizers, smelting and refining, and cement — which accounted for 11 per cent of Canada's total emissions in 2019. Selected projects are expected to reduce GHG emissions in these sectors, leading to cleaner air and water, better health outcomes for Canadians and improved community resiliency, while helping Canada reach its goal of achieving a net-zero economy by 2050.<sup>3509</sup>

On 27 January 2022, Minister Wilkinson, Member of Parliament for Ottawa Centre Yasir Naqvi and Member of Parliament for York Centre Ya'ara Saks announced a combined investment of over CAD500,000 to two organizations in Ontario to support zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) awareness projects. These projects will help Canadians know about the clean options available when choosing their next vehicle. EnviroCentre will receive a CAD283,500 investment to develop and launch an electric vehicle (EV) Test Drive Concierge Service that will arrange EV test drives in Ottawa and provide consumers with access to up-to-date, accurate information on EVs, available incentives, cost-analysis, comparison and environmental benefits. Plug'n Drive will receive a CAD225,000 investment to create and deliver virtual webinars and in-person test drive opportunities for ride-sharing and the delivery segments of transportation to help potential EV drivers understand their total cost of ownership and provide them with the tools to help them make the switch from gas to electric. Federal funding for both projects is provided through Natural Resources Canada's Zero-Emission Vehicle Awareness Initiative,

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<sup>3506</sup> Canada announces commitment to end new direct public support for the international unabated fossil fuel sector by the end of 2022, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2022 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/11/canada-announces-commitment-to-end-new-direct-public-support-for-the-international-unabated-fossil-fuel-sector-by-the-end-of-2022.html>

<sup>3507</sup> Government of Canada seeking innovative ways to reduce tree planting cost and waste, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 12 November 2021. Access Date: 5 February 2022 <https://www.canada.ca/en/innovation-science-economic-development/news/2021/11/government-of-canada-seeking-innovative-ways-to-reduce-tree-planting-cost-and-waste.html>

<sup>3508</sup> Emissions Reduction Fund Onshore Program Making Major Strides in Cutting Methane Emissions, Government of Canada (Calgary) 18 November 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2022 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/11/emissions-reduction-fund-onshore-program-making-major-strides-in-cutting-methane-emissions.html>

<sup>3509</sup> Canada Opens Call for Research, Development and Demonstration Projects on Industrial Decarbonization and Low-Carbon Fuels, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 1 December 2021. Access Date: 20 February 2022 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2021/12/canada-opens-call-for-research-development-and-demonstration-projects-on-industrial-decarbonization-and-low-carbon-fuels.html>

supporting projects aiming to increase awareness, knowledge and public confidence in ZEVs and public charging and refuelling infrastructure.<sup>3510</sup>

On 3 February 2022, Minister Wilkinson announced an investment of CAD887,000 to support the replacement of the Duchesnay Creek Bridge that connects the City of North Bay and the Nipissing First Nation. The Government of Ontario contributed CAD17 million as to promote the use of mass timber in highway bridges across Canada. By building with wood, this project will result in a total carbon benefit of 991 metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, which is equivalent to taking over 190 cars off the road for a full year.<sup>3511</sup>

Canada has taken steps on all three components of the commitment: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Canada receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nikita Shilikov*

### **China: 0**

China has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 3 November 2021, the Central Committee and the State Council revealed an action plan on saving food. The plan aims to establish a standard and a monitoring system for cutting food loss and waste by 2025, through such means as scientific innovation, raising public awareness, implementing new storage techniques, etc.<sup>3512</sup>

On 30 November 2021, China Petroleum and Chemical Corp, launched a project in Kuqa, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, building a green hydrogen plant, which would be powered entirely by solar energy. The project is expected to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 485,000 tons annually after it becomes operational in 2022.<sup>3513</sup>

On 7 December 2021, the National Energy Administration announced that it would launch the second phase of the wind and solar power projects focusing on the Gobi Desert and other arid regions by 2022. The new power plants are expected to get connected to the grid by 2023-24, generating clean energy for the region.<sup>3514</sup>

On 21 January 2022, the National Development and Reform Commission released a plan on boosting the green transformation of consumption. The plan contains measures to stimulate green consumption through raising public awareness, curbing “extravagance and waste,” and enhancing market share of green and low-carbon products. The government plans to incorporate measures of energy saving and environmental protection in such areas as food, clothing, housing, transport, tourism and electricity consumption.<sup>3515</sup>

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<sup>3510</sup> Canada Raising Awareness on Zero-Emission Vehicles in Ontario, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 27 January 2022. Access Date: 20 February 2022 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2022/01/canada-raising-awareness-on-zero-emission-vehicles-in-ontario.html>

<sup>3511</sup> Canada Supporting Sustainable and Innovative Construction With Wood, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 3 February 2022. Access Date: 20 February 2022 <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2022/02/canada-supporting-sustainable-and-innovative-construction-with-wood.html>

<sup>3512</sup> Action plan outlines measures to reduce waste, State Council of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 30 November 2021. Access Date: 2 February 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202111/03/content\\_WS6181c7b1c6d0df57f98e46c9.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/policywatch/202111/03/content_WS6181c7b1c6d0df57f98e46c9.html).

<sup>3513</sup> Nation moves ahead with ambitious climate goals, State Council of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 7 January 2022. Access Date: 2 February 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202201/07/content\\_WS61d79648c6d09c94e48a34c1.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202201/07/content_WS61d79648c6d09c94e48a34c1.html).

<sup>3514</sup> More Gobi green projects in pipeline, State Council of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 2 February 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202112/07/content\\_WS61aeb114c6d09c94e48a1c9b.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/news/topnews/202112/07/content_WS61aeb114c6d09c94e48a1c9b.html).

<sup>3515</sup> China promotes green consumption amid decarbonization drive, State Council of the People’s Republic of China (Beijing) 21 January 2022. Access Date: 2 February 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202201/21/content\\_WS61eaae93c6d09c94e48a411b.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202201/21/content_WS61eaae93c6d09c94e48a411b.html).

On 24 January 2022, the State Council released a comprehensive work plan for energy conservation and emission reduction, detailing the country's efforts "to build and improve an economic structure conducive to green, low-carbon and circular development in its ongoing anti-pollution fight to achieve its carbon peak and neutrality goals" set to be reached by 2060. The plan is a part of the 14th five-year plan. It contains 10 measures aimed at energy conservation and emissions reduction, including improvements in building and infrastructure sectors, transport and logistics, curbing energy consumption, promoting green technologies, providing stimuli for industrial enterprises to improve waste pollution management and control, and dealing with waste accumulation. According to the plan, by 2025 China aims to reduce energy consumption per unit of gross domestic product by 13.5 percent from 2020 while keeping total energy consumption "at reasonable levels."<sup>3516</sup>

On 29 January 2022, the Civil Aviation Administration issued a roadmap for green development during the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025). The plan set up targets to "make civil aviation smarter, low-carbon and resource-efficient to achieve green transformation," including by optimizing aircraft fuel consumption and reducing airport carbon emissions.<sup>3517</sup>

On 23 March 2022, the National Development and Reform Commission and the National Energy Administration released a plan on the development of hydrogen energy for the 2021-2035. The plan provides for the creation of a complete cycle hydrogen energy industry development system "with the innovation capability significantly improved and the core technologies and manufacturing processes basically mastered."<sup>3518</sup>

On 24 May 2022, the General Office of the State Council issued an action plan on controlling new pollutants, including persistent organic pollutants, endocrine disruptors and antibiotics. The plan sets up a new management system which subjects chemical plants to rigorous inspections and monitoring to evaluate environmental risks and identify new high-risk pollutants. The plan also provides for the establishment and the improvement of the legal and regulatory framework on chemical-related environmental issues, as well as the upgrade of the technology standards system.<sup>3519</sup>

On 30 May 2022, the State Council released a circular «on the implementation plan to promote the high-quality development of new energy in the new era», prepared by the National Development and Reform Commission and the National Energy Administration. The plan provides for the acceleration of the construction of a clean, low-carbon, safe and highly efficient energy system with the total installed electricity capacity of wind and solar power of 1.2 billion kilowatts by 2030.<sup>3520</sup>

China took action to promote sustainable use of natural resources, but lacks actions on other spheres of the commitment.

Thus, China receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

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<sup>3516</sup> 5-year plan spotlights green development, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 24 January 2022. Access Date: 2 February 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202201/24/content\\_WS61ee88b6c6d09c94e48a4301.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202201/24/content_WS61ee88b6c6d09c94e48a4301.html).

<sup>3517</sup> China's civil aviation sets out roadmap for green development, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 29 January 2022. Access Date: 2 February 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202201/29/content\\_WS61f4ecef6d09c94e48a4879.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202201/29/content_WS61f4ecef6d09c94e48a4879.html)

<sup>3518</sup> China maps 2021-2035 plan on hydrogen energy development, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 23 March 2022. Access Date: 30 May 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202203/23/content\\_WS623ac568c6d02e53353282a4.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/statecouncil/ministries/202203/23/content_WS623ac568c6d02e53353282a4.html).

<sup>3519</sup> China outlines plan to control new pollutants, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 24 May 2022. Access Date: 30 May 2022. [http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202205/24/content\\_WS628cd024c6d02e533532b3e1.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202205/24/content_WS628cd024c6d02e533532b3e1.html).

<sup>3520</sup> China to develop high-quality new energy in new era, State Council of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) 30 May 2022. Access Date: 30 May 2022.

[http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202205/30/content\\_WS62946dc4c6d02e533532b7e5.html](http://english.www.gov.cn/policies/latestreleases/202205/30/content_WS62946dc4c6d02e533532b7e5.html).

**France: +1**

France has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 8 November 2021, Minister of Ecological Transition Barbara Pompili presented 10 measures to promote the development of citizen renewable energies during the citizen renewable energy meetings. The package includes incentives for local communities for participating in nation-wide green energy and sustainable energy projects; nomination of a larger number of consultants to cooperate with regional governments on energy transition matters; implementation of a national informing campaign to promote grass-root green energy activities and create market demand for sustainable solutions, etc.<sup>3521</sup>

On 12 November 2021, the Ministry of Ecological Transition launched the National Landscape Grand Prize. Through the Grand Prix national du paysage, the Ministry of Ecological Transition intends to promote an innovative landscape approach at the scale of a territory. This must have given rise to concrete achievements in France or in a cross-border area. The rewarded approach would be the result of close collaboration between a contracting authority with an ambitious territorial will and an inventive and creative project management team in which the role of the landscape designer is central and preponderant.<sup>3522</sup>

On 17 November 2021, the presentation of the Natura 2000 Grands Prix was held at the mayors and local authorities fair. Every 2 years, this event aims to better promote and publicize the actions carried out on Natura 2000 sites, to promote exchanges between actors and to contribute to a dynamic of continuous improvement of tools and methods for the preservation of biodiversity.<sup>3523</sup>

On 10 December 2021, Minister Pompili went to meet companies and associations committed to the fight against waste. As of January 1, 2022, new measures of the anti-waste law for a circular economy will come into force, including the ban on the disposal of unsold non-food items for several types of products in particular clothing and footwear, electrical and electronic products, furniture, hygiene and childcare products, food storage and cooking equipment, educational and leisure products, books and school supplies. Beginning from December 31, 2023, all products will be subject to this legislation.<sup>3524</sup>

On 14 December 2021, Minister Pompili revealed the winners of the ideas competition on reducing vulnerability to risk and urban renewal, entitled “Better planning for changing territories exposed to natural risks,” in the presence of representatives of the Plan Urbanisme Construction Architecture and Cerema. This competition aims to bring out innovative development projects to ensure the urban renewal of 9 pre-selected territories (Béziers, Dax, Marseille, Montereau, Saint-Etienne, Saint-Nazaire, Touques, Tours and Vernon ), reducing their vulnerability and improving their resilience to natural hazards.<sup>3525</sup>

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<sup>3521</sup> 10 measures for the development of citizen renewable energies, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 5 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/10-mesures-developpement-des-energies-renouvelables-citoyennes>

<sup>3522</sup> Call for applications for the Grand Prix national du paysage 2022, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 12 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/appel-candidatures-grand-prix-national-du-paysage-2022>

<sup>3523</sup> Natura 2000 Grand Prizes: The winners of the 2021 edition, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 23 November 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/grands-prix-natura-2000-laureats-ledition-2021>

<sup>3524</sup> Towards the end of the elimination of unsold non-food items, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 10 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/vers-fin-lelimination-des-invendus-non-alimentaires>

<sup>3525</sup> Amiter: announcement of the winning teams of the ideas competition, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 14 December 2021. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/amiter-annonce-des-equipes-laureates>

On 5 January 2022, France Rénov' became the only public service for energy renovation of housing. It simplifies the user journey and makes the financial aid that households can claim clearer.<sup>3526</sup>

On 19 January 2022, the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the State Secretariat for Digital Transition and Electronic Communications launched an awareness campaign on responsible digital technology.<sup>3527</sup>

On 20 January 2022, Minister Pompili, Secretary of State for the Digital Transition and Electronic Communications Cédric O and Secretary General for Investment Guillaume Boudy, launched the call for expressions of interest Digital greening in the framework of the 4th Investments for the Future Program. The objective: to reduce the environmental footprint of all digital activities. The publication of the digital and environmental government roadmap on February 23, 2021, as well as the promulgation of the law of 15 November 2021 aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of digital technology in France, initiate society's transition towards more virtuous use. and responsible for digital tools and opportunities. By relying on the economic opportunity that the development of eco-responsible digital product and service offers represents for different economic actors, France can accelerate this movement and provide itself with the means to reduce gas emissions in the long term.<sup>3528</sup>

On 18 March 2022, Secretary of State for Biodiversity Bélangère Abba detailed the first pre-COP 15 component of the national biodiversity 2030 strategy. The objective of this strategy is to reverse the trajectory of biodiversity decline and to bring about profound changes in order to reduce pressures on biodiversity and restore ecosystems.<sup>3529</sup>

France has taken strong actions on all three components of the commitment: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, France receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Nikita Shilikov*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 2 February 2022, the Environment and Consumer Protection Ministry (BMUV) announced the launch of four additional projects to protect wetlands and peatlands worldwide worth EUR32 million, including a regional project kicked off on 1 January 2022 to safeguard important carbon sinks, water reservoirs and biodiversity hotspots in the peatlands of the Congo Basin.<sup>3530</sup>

On 22 February 2022, Minister for the Environment and Consumer Protection Steffi Lemke met with Polish Environment Minister Anna Moskwa. The ministers agreed to resume the work of the Programme Council of

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<sup>3526</sup> Launch of France Rénov', a new public housing renovation service, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 5 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/lancement-france-renov-nouveau-service-public-renovation-lhabitat>

<sup>3527</sup> Responsible digital: how to adopt the right reflexes, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 19 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/numerique-responsable-comment-adopter-bons-reflexes>

<sup>3528</sup> Greening digital: launch of a call for expressions of interest, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 20 January 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 6 February 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/verdir-numerique-appel-manifestation-interet>

<sup>3529</sup> The first part of the national biodiversity 2030 strategy unveiled, Ministry of the Ecological Transition (Paris) 18 March 2022. Translation provided by Google Translate. Access Date: 20 June 2022 <https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/plan-ecophyto-ii-retour-sur-actions-menees-en-2020>

<sup>3530</sup> Worldwide protection for wetlands and peatlands, German Federal Environment and Consumer Protection Ministry (Berlin) 2 February 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. <https://www.bmu.de/en/pressrelease/worldwide-protection-for-wetlands-and-peatlands>.

the Lower Oder Valley International Park. The Council is intended as a platform for discussing issues regarding the protection of the Oder river.<sup>3531</sup>

On 3 March 2022, the BMUV announced the establishment of a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) on Nature for Health with an initial contribution of EUR50 million from Germany's International Climate Initiative (IKI). The Fund will help countries achieve more holistic policymaking by creating further evidence of the links between biodiversity, climate and health, and support decision makers and relevant actors to take measures to prevent future pandemics. Through application of enhanced One Health approaches, the Fund aims to achieve improved policies and cross-sector collaboration.<sup>3532</sup>

On 17 March 2022, the European Union (EU) environment ministers adopted the council position on the EU batteries regulation. It is intended to ensure more sustainable use of batteries along the entire value chain throughout the EU. A carbon footprint will be introduced for electric vehicle batteries and the replaceability of portable batteries improved. In addition, social and corporate due diligence obligations regarding the extraction of raw materials and more ambitious collection and recycling targets will be established.<sup>3533</sup>

Germany has taken measures in all three of the following categories: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Germany receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

## **India: 0**

India has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 2 November 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), announcing the country's goals of increasing non-fossil energy capacity to 500 gigawatts, while meeting about 50 per cent of its energy requirements from renewables by 2030; reducing carbon intensity of its economy by more than 45 percent by 2030, and reaching Net Zero by 2070.<sup>3534</sup>

On 6 November 2021, the Indian Delegation stated that while India represented 17 per cent of the global population, its historical cumulative emissions amounted to only 4 per cent, and annual greenhouse gas emissions to about 5 per cent at the COP26. The achievement of 24 per cent reduction in gross domestic product emission intensity in 2005-2014 was also noted, as well as 17-fold increase in India's solar energy generation capacity.<sup>3535</sup>

On 1 February 2022, Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Budget 2022-2023, unveiling a set of government policies on sustainable development promotion. These included: measures to promote a shift

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<sup>3531</sup> Steffi Lemke pays inaugural visit to Poland, German Federal Environment and Consumer Protection Ministry (Berlin) 22 February 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/steffi-lemke-pays-inaugural-visit-to-poland>.

<sup>3532</sup> 50 million Euros to seed new Nature for Health Trust Fund for Pandemic Prevention, German Federal Environment and Consumer Protection Ministry (Berlin) 3 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/50-million-euros-to-seed-new-nature-for-health-trust-fund-for-pandemic-prevention>.

<sup>3533</sup> EU Environment Council adopts new rules for more sustainable batteries, German Federal Environment and Consumer Protection Ministry (Berlin) 17 March 2022. Access Date: 1 April 2022. <https://www.bmuv.de/en/pressrelease/eu-environment-council-adopts-new-rules-for-more-sustainable-batteries>.

<sup>3534</sup> National Statement by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at COP26 Summit in Glasgow, Ministry of External Affairs of India (Delhi) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://www.mea.gov.in/Speeches-Statements.htm?dtl/34466/National+Statement+by+Prime+Minister+Shri+Narendra+Modi+at+COP26+Summit+in+Glasgow>.

<sup>3535</sup> India speaks on climate change from a position of strength and responsibility at the Facilitative Sharing of Views (FSV) of India's Third Biennial Update Report (BUR) at COP26, Indian Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Delhi) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://moef.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/PIB1769796.pdf>.

to increased use of public transportation in urban areas, as well as supporting technology applications, such as electric vehicles; the allocation of additional funds to facilitate the domestic manufacturing of solar panels; a plan on circular economy transition; the introduction of 5-7 per cent biomass pellets to thermal power plants, which would allegedly result in carbon savings of 38 million metric tons annually.<sup>3536</sup>

India took action to promote sustainable use of natural resources, but no action referred to two other spheres of the commitment – conservation and protection.

Thus, India receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 20 September 2021, Indonesia ended forest protection deal with Norway, raising deforestation fears. Under the USD1 billion payment-by-results deal signed in 2010, Norway agreed to pay the Indonesian government for curbing its emissions by conserving peatlands and forests. In a statement dated 10 September, Indonesia's foreign ministry said the decision was based "on the lack of concrete progress" in Norway delivering the money and followed "a series of thorough inter-ministerial consultations."<sup>3537</sup>

On 19 September 2021, President Joko Widodo ended a temporary freeze on new permits for palm oil plantations, in place since 2018, despite environmentalists' calls for it to be extended to protect the forests.<sup>3538</sup> The moratorium ostensibly allowed the industry to address the problems of deforestation, land conflicts and labor abuses long associated with palm oil. Without the moratorium in place, Indonesia could potentially lose an area half the size of California to make way for new plantations. That's according to calculations by the non-governmental organization Forest Watch Indonesia, which carried out an analysis of government maps showing lands that are deemed suitable for conversion into plantations.<sup>3539</sup>

On 21 December 2021, the Industry Ministry reported it continued to pursue the implementation of green industries in the country, including by holding various activities to collaborate with industry players and other stakeholders, including academics. The collaboration aims to create an environment-friendly domestic industry with low-carbon emissions. As a result, 38 scientific papers were received from all regional work units in the Standardization Agency and Industrial Services Policy according to the six predetermined topics.<sup>3540</sup>

On 6 January 2022, the Ministry of National Development Planning/National Development Planning Agency stated that green investment in the circular economic system would create 4.4 million new job opportunities in Indonesia by 2030. Apart from creating job opportunities, the green investment scheme within the circular

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<sup>3536</sup> Budget 2022-2023 Speech of Nirmala Sitharaman Minister of Finance, Government of India (Delhi) 1 February 2022. Access Date: 30 May 2022. [https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/doc/budget\\_speech.pdf](https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/doc/budget_speech.pdf).

<sup>3537</sup> Indonesia ends forest protection deal with Norway, raising deforestation fears, Climate Home News (Broadstairs), 20 September 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2021/09/20/indonesia-ends-forest-protection-deal-norway-raising-deforestation-fears/>

<sup>3538</sup> Explainer: What next after Indonesia ends freeze on palm permits?, Reuters, 29 October 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/cop/what-next-after-indonesia-ends-freeze-palm-permits-2021-10-29/>

<sup>3539</sup> 'Forests will disappear again,' activists warn as Indonesia ends plantation freeze, Mongabay 6 December 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://news.mongabay.com/2021/12/forests-will-disappear-again-activists-warn-as-indonesia-ends-plantation-freeze/>

<sup>3540</sup> Industry Ministry pursues development of low-carbon industry, British Chamber Of Commerce In Indonesia (Jakarta) 21 December 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://britcham.or.id/industry-ministry-pursues-development-of-low-carbon-industry/>

economic system would increase the national gross domestic product to reach IDR593 trillion (approximately USD40.91 billion) to IDR638 trillion (approximately USD 44.02 billion) by 2030.<sup>3541</sup>

On 6 January 2022, President Widodo said that more than 2,000 mining, plantation and forest-use permits have been revoked due to non-compliance or because they had been unused, tightening oversight of the nation's natural resources. The permits revoked include 1,776 in metals and minerals mining, 302 in coal mining, as well as in forestry and plantations that cover more than three million hectares of land, spread across the archipelago.<sup>3542</sup>

On 14 February 2022, the government pushed forward a nationwide harvest strategy for its world-leading tropical tuna fishery, in an effort to protect the country's wild stock. Since 2018, the government has applied an interim harvest strategy that consists of, among others, harvest control rules and monitoring for tuna fishery in its three fishery management areas. But the country's fisheries ministry said recently that having a specific nationwide harvest strategy would be crucial for protecting the country's wild stock. The planned tuna harvest strategy will also help the government's ongoing push to achieve sustainability certification for its fisheries and subsequently open them to the growing global demand for eco-labeled seafood.<sup>3543</sup>

Indonesia has taken actions both to foster environment protection and those doing harm to the environment.

Thus, Indonesia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **Italy: 0**

Italy has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 2 December 2021, Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility Enrico Giovannini, announced the plans to invest EUR3.2 billion in development of water infrastructure, urban and tourist bike paths and the development of Special Economic Zones. These measures are aimed at improving the security of water supply systems for drinking and irrigation purposes and include works to complete infrastructure for water derivation, storage and adduction, with the aim of reducing waste and increasing resilience to climate change.<sup>3544</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the Unified Conference approved the draft decree allocating EUR1.9 billion to large municipalities for the purchase of environmentally friendly electric or hydrogen-powered buses.<sup>3545</sup>

On 20 December 2021, the government announced the EUR1.6 billion funding of 5 National Centers dedicated to frontier research on, inter alia, agricultural technologies, sustainable mobility and biodiversity.<sup>3546</sup>

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<sup>3541</sup> Green investment to create 4.4 million jobs by 2030: Ministry, Antara News (Jakarta) 6 January 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://en.antaranews.com/news/208225/green-investment-to-create-44-million-jobs-by-2030-ministry>

<sup>3542</sup> Indonesia revokes more than 2,000 mining and plantation permits, Reuters 6 January 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.reuters.com/business/indonesia-revokes-more-than-2000-mining-plantation-permits-2022-01-06/>

<sup>3543</sup> Indonesia to tighten regulation of tuna harvest in bid for sustainability, Mongabay 14 February 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://news.mongabay.com/2022/02/indonesia-to-tighten-regulation-of-tuna-harvest-in-bid-for-sustainability/>

<sup>3544</sup> Resources of over 3.2 billion for water infrastructures, development and urban and tourist cycle paths assigned to regions and territorial bodies, Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility (Rome) 2 December 2021. Access Date: 21 June 2022. <https://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/pnrr-assegnate-regioni-ed-enti-territoriali-risorse-per-oltre-32mld-per.>

<sup>3545</sup> The Unified Conference gives the green light to the Mims decree for the purchase of ecological buses (1.9 billion), Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility (Rome) 16 December 2021. Access Date: 21 June 2022. <https://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/pnrr-la-conferenza-unificata-da-il-libera-al-decreto-del-mims-per-lacquisto-di.>

<sup>3546</sup> Research, PNRR: the call for the 5 national centers has been published, Italian Government (Rome) 20 December 2021. Access Date: 21 June 2022. <https://www.governo.it/it/articolo/ricerca-pnrr-pubblicato-il-bando-i-5-centri-nazionali/18851.>

On 14 January 2022, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility announced “unprecedented investments” into the infrastructure of the Southern regions of the country. The ministry allocated EUR25 billion for the program, of which EUR13 billion were directed specifically to the regions in the South, with specific attention to improving “green” mobility and local travel and reducing pollution in urban centers. EUR983 million were directed towards the renewal of suburban and urban buses, so as to improve air quality and reduce polluting emissions, with particular regard to large municipalities and those with higher pollution rates. Southern territories will also benefit from the planned for ‘Green Intercity’ trains program, amounting to EUR200 million.<sup>3547</sup>

Italy took action to promote conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, it is Italy receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 15 October 2021, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a record of discussions with the Government of the Republic of Mauritius on two technical cooperation projects: the “Project for the development of Integrated Coastal Ecosystem Management System” and the “Project for the improvement of livelihood of coastal communities through sustainable development of Blue Economy.” The Project for the development of Integrated Coastal Ecosystem Management System supports the establishment of ecosystem monitoring systems by stakeholders such as government agencies and local non-governmental organizations, as well as the formulation and implementation of plans for ecosystem conservation and restoration, with a goal of restoring more resilient coastal ecosystems. The projects will contribute to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 13 and 14.<sup>3548</sup>

On 23 November 2021, the government introduced new labeling legislation for plant-based food packaging amid efforts to ease restrictions and increase consumer transparency.<sup>3549</sup>

On 24 December 2021, the JICA concluded a INR2.14 billion investment agreement with the SVL-SME Fund, whose fund manager is SBICAP Ventures Limited (SVL), a subsidiary of India’s largest state-owned bank, State Bank of India. JICA’s investment will be appropriated for investment in small and medium-sized enterprises that are engaged in solving social and environmental issues in India.<sup>3550</sup>

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<sup>3547</sup> Investments by MIMS in the South of approximately 34 billion, equal to 56% of total resources, Italian Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Mobility (Rome) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 21 June 2022.

<https://www.mit.gov.it/comunicazione/news/pnrr-investimenti-del-mims-al-sud-per-circa-34-miliardi-pari-al-56-delle-risorse>.

<sup>3548</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on a Technical Cooperation Project with Mauritius: Contributing to the conservation and restoration of the coastal ecosystems and sustainable economic and social development, JICA (Tokyo) 25 October 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20211025\\_30.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20211025_30.html)

<sup>3549</sup> Japan “unshackles” vegan market with new packaging labeling amid regional health boom, Food Ingredients First 23 November 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.foodingredientsfirst.com/news/japan-unshackles-vegan-market-with-new-packaging-labeling-amid-regional-health-boom.html>

<sup>3550</sup> Annual report on the environment in Japan 2021, Ministry of the Environment (Tokyo) 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.env.go.jp/en/wpaper/2021/pdf/2021\\_all.pdf](https://www.env.go.jp/en/wpaper/2021/pdf/2021_all.pdf)

On 14 January 2022, the cabinet approved an ordinance obliging businesses to reduce the use of 12 types of disposable plastic items like cutlery and straws from April as part of a push to protect the environment amid growing concern over marine pollution.<sup>3551</sup>

On 25 February 2021, the JICA signed a Record of Discussions with the Government of Thailand in Bangkok for the Project for Sustainable Management of PM2.5 Prevention and Reduction Measures, a technical cooperation project. This project aims to improve the emission source inventory of air pollution caused by PM2.5 (information on the amount of air pollutants generated at each point and by each substance) and to develop a simulation model based on its relationship with meteorological and geographical conditions in the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration and its surrounding provinces in Thailand. The project will contribute to SDGs Goal 11.<sup>3552</sup>

On 10 March 2022, a working group established under the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy compiled new target standard values for sashes and insulated glass as building materials under the Top Runner Program. The new target standard values for windows that combine sashes and insulated glass have been increased by about 40 per cent. The heat insulating efficiency required for windows is calculated from the required energy efficiency performance for new houses built from 2030 onward.<sup>3553</sup>

On 10 March 2022, the JICA signed a grant agreement with the Government of Nepal in Kathmandu, to provide grant aid of up to JPY2.541 million for The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply in Biratnagar. Under this project, the water supply system in Biratnagar will be upgraded and expanded to improve water quality and accomplish a stable water supply. With its function as a countermeasure against infectious diseases including COVID-19, this project will contribute to the achievement of SDGs Goal 3 and 6.<sup>3554</sup>

On 4 May 2022, the JICA signed a record of discussions with Sri Lanka in Colombo for the “Project for Institutionalization Support to Establish an In-house Advanced Oil Spill Incident Management Training Program for Disaster Mitigation and Marine Environment Protection.”<sup>3555</sup>

On 19 May 2022, the JICA approved 12 projects to be newly selected for SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development) program in FY 2022; the SATREPS program aims at acquiring new knowledge that may help address global issues, such as the environment/energy issue, bioresources, disaster prevention and mitigation, and infectious diseases control.<sup>3556</sup>

Japan has taken strong actions on conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Japan receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

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<sup>3551</sup> Japan to cut plastic waste from April via new Cabinet ordinance, Kyodo News (Tokyo) 14 January 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2022/01/4437a306ac37-japan-to-cut-plastic-waste-from-april-via-new-cabinet-ordinance.html>

<sup>3552</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Thailand: Support for prevention and reduction of air pollution caused by PM2.5, JICA (Tokyo) 25 February 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20220225\\_30.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20220225_30.html)

<sup>3553</sup> New Energy Efficiency Standards for Sashes and Insulated Glass Compiled, The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 10 March 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/0310\\_003.htm](https://www.meti.go.jp/english/press/2022/0310_003.htm)

<sup>3554</sup> Signing of Grant Agreement with Nepal: Contributing to improving access to clean, safe water in Biratnagar City, JICA (Tokyo) 10 March 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20220310\\_30.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2021/20220310_30.html)

<sup>3555</sup> Signing of Record of Discussions on Technical Cooperation Project with Sri Lanka: Support for capacity development on oil spill incident management, JICA (Tokyo) 11 May 2022. Access Date: 20 June 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220511\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220511_41.html)

<sup>3556</sup> Twelve Projects Selected for SATREPS (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development), JICA (Tokyo) 19 May 2022. Access Date: 20 June 2022. [https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220519\\_41.html](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/press/2022/20220519_41.html)

**Korea: 0**

Korea has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 8 December 2021, the government announced establishment of a new wetland protected area. The Binaeseom Island in Chungcheongbuk-do province would become the 28th inland wetland protected area that is a home to 15 endangered species.<sup>3557</sup>

On 29 December 2021, the government released the plan designed to remediate the Seocheon Brownfield previously used for copper processing. The plan implies creation of 550,000 square meters of wetland after the area would be cleared of heavy metals – cadmium, lead and arsenic.<sup>3558</sup>

On 9 May 2022, the Government initiated development of new guidelines for green space management. The National Institute of Biological Resources was selected as to provide proper expertise. Under the new guidelines, the local governments and concerned authorities will manage green spaces such as tree-lined streets and walking trails considering biodiversity.<sup>3559</sup>

Within the monitoring period, Korea has taken steps matching two out of three key areas – environment conservation and protection while no action aimed at sustainable use of natural resources has been founded.

Thus, Korea receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Alexander Ignatov*

**Mexico: +1**

Mexico has fully complied with the commitment ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 8 November 2021, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources published in the Official Gazette of the Federation the National Program for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites, which is aimed at recovering the sites in the country so that no group or community has to bear disproportionately with the harmful effects of pollution. The remediation of sites allows the recovery of the environmental services that the soil and water have, promoting public awareness about pollution and paying for the fulfillment of the commitments assumed by the Mexican State in various international agreements such as those of Stockholm on Persistent Organic Pollutants and Minamata regarding mercury and its compounds.<sup>3560</sup>

On 5 December 2021, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the German Development Cooperation Agency concluded the Integration of Biodiversity in Mexican Agriculture project, focused on technical cooperation to increase productivity in the primary sector of hand in hand with the conservation of

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<sup>3557</sup> Chung-ju Binaeseom Island designated as a wetland protected area, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea (Sejong-si) 8 December 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2022.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=20&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1493170&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3558</sup> Ecological Restoration: Turning Contaminated Former Refinery Sites in Seocheon Into Community Assets through the "Green New Deal" project, the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea (Sejong-si) 29 December 2021. Access Date: 22 March 2022. <https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=10&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1498430&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3559</sup> The Ministry of Environment will Manage Green Spaces Considering Biodiversity, Ministry of Environment (Sejong-si) 9 May 2022. Access Date: 22 June 2022.

<https://eng.me.go.kr/eng/web/board/read.do?pagerOffset=20&maxPageItems=10&maxIndexPages=10&searchKey=&searchValue=&menuId=461&orgCd=&boardId=1524080&boardMasterId=522&boardCategoryId=&decorator=>

<sup>3560</sup> Semarnat Announces National Program for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites 2021-2024, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 8 November 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/anuncia-semarnat-programa-nacional-de-remediacion-de-sitios-sitios-contaminados-2021-2024?idiom=es>.

biodiversity and natural resources. The results of the cooperation include: National Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators in Mexico, whose ecosystem services benefit the production of more than 60 per cent of cultivated plants and research to understand the role of bats in the control of rice pests. It also included the preparation of manuals for the biodiversity-friendly production of various crops, such as vanilla, coffee and cocoa, as well as honey and silvopastoral systems, in collaboration with the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (Conabio), among others.<sup>3561</sup>

On 3 February 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Semarnat) published the Agreement by which the surface of 785,864.81 m<sup>2</sup> of beach was allocated to the service of the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (Conanp) maritime zone, federal maritime-terrestrial zone and land reclaimed from the sea. This Agreement allows carrying out actions for the protection, conservation and sustainable management of its resources in accordance with the provisions of the management program of the Yum Balam Flora and Fauna Protection Area where this island is located.<sup>3562</sup>

On 10 February 2022, Ministry of Economy received a request for consultations from the United States on the implementation of measures for the protection of the vaquita marina under Chapter 24 of the Treaty between Mexico, the United States and Canada (T-MEC), which provides a consultation mechanism on environmental issues between the Parties. The Ministry of Economy will coordinate the work between the different Mexican and United States authorities with the objective of timely presenting the efforts and measures adopted to protect marine species in national waters.<sup>3563</sup>

On 1 March 2022, Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources María Luisa Albores González, and the Undersecretary of Economic Development, Energy, and the Environment of the United States, José Fernández, met to address relevant environmental issues and establish working ties. Discussions were held on sustainable fishing, protection of the vaquita and totoaba, the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor (CMAR), and strategies to combat deforestation and illegal logging. In addition, the importance of strengthening the creation of Protected Natural Areas for the conservation of the territory was discussed.<sup>3564</sup>

On 24 March 2022, the Semarnat signed two Collaboration Framework Agreements with the government of Tlaxcala; one through the Security, Energy and Environment Agency (ASEA), another through the Mexican Institute of Water Technology (IMTA), which will allow preventing, controlling, mitigating, remedying and repairing the damage caused to the environment and natural resources by the different productive sectors in the entity.<sup>3565</sup>

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<sup>3561</sup> Mexico increases food production practices in a sustainable way, through international cooperation, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 5 December 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022.

<https://www.gob.mx/agricultura/prensa/incrementa-mexico-practicas-de-produccion-de-alimentos-de-manera-sostenible-a-traves-de-la-cooperacion-internacional?tab=>

<sup>3562</sup> Semarnat issues Agreement for the protection of the Federal Maritime-Terrestrial Zone in Isla Chica, Holbox, Quintana Roo, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 3 February 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022.

<https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/emite-semarnat-acuerdo-para-la-proteccion-en-zona-federal-maritimo-terrestre-en-islachica-holbox-quintana-roo?idiom=es>.

<sup>3563</sup> The Ministry of Economy will coordinate the work in the framework of the request for consultations by the US on the implementation of measures for the protection of the vaquita marina, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 10 February 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/se/es/articulos/la-secretaria-de-economia-coordinara-los-trabajos-en-el-marco-de-la-solicitud-de-consultas-por-parte-de-ee-uu-sobre-la-implementacion-294418?idiom=es>.

<sup>3564</sup> United States-Mexico Meeting on Environmental Matters, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 1 March 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/encuentro-mexico-estados-unidos-en-materia-ambiental?idiom=es>.

<sup>3565</sup> Collaboration of the environmental sector with the government of Tlaxcala, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 24 March 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022.

<https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/colaboracion-de-sector-ambiental-con-el-gobierno-de-tlaxcala?idiom=es>.

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On 1 April 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources published in the Official Gazette of the Federation the Agreement establishing the Critical Habitat for the conservation of wildlife in the “La Kisst” and “María Eugenia” Mountain Wetlands, in the municipality of San Cristóbal de las Casas, in Chiapas. In these ecosystems, biological, physical and chemical processes occur that are essential for feeding, predation, foraging, resting, breeding or reproduction that are important for the existence and survival of the different species of fish, birds, amphibians and mammals referred to in the Annex. I of this Agreement, some of which are in the category risk, danger of extinction, threatened or special protection.<sup>3566</sup>

On 2 June 2022, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (Semarnat), the Federal Attorney for Environmental Protection (Profepa), and the government of the state of Campeche signed an agreement with the aim of joining efforts that allow them to carry out actions and establish communication mechanisms. and coordination for the best destination of the seized wood in the entity. Through this instrument, the foundations will be laid for Profepa to have the power to donate confiscated wood that is not subject to administrative or criminal proceedings, as well as to develop a comprehensive work agenda to address the issue of illegal logging, in addition to collaborate mutually in the protection, conservation, sustainable use and restoration of ecosystems, forest resources and their environmental services in the state of Campeche.<sup>3567</sup>

On 10 June 2022, Semarnat, through the Conanp, launched a “Recognition of the Conservation of Nature 2022” campaign for Mexican citizens with the purpose of preserving, executing, evaluating and monitoring the conservation of natural resources, sustainable development and the recovery of ecosystems and their biodiversity through projects in the federal Protected Natural Areas, the Areas Voluntarily Destined for Conservation, and the areas of influence under federal jurisdiction.<sup>3568</sup>

On 15 June 2022, the Conanp and the government of Tlaxcala announced the start of the brigades for environmental protection, which will focus on carrying out ecological restoration work in forest areas that were affected by the bark beetle (*Dendroctonus mexicanus*). within La Malinche or Matlalcuéyatl National Park, and monitoring and diagnosis of the presence of forest pests.<sup>3569</sup>

Mexico took action aimed in all three of the following categories: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Mexico receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Irina Popova*

## **Russia: 0**

Russia has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 10 December 2021, the Minister of Energy Nikolai Shulginov launched the Russko-Polyanskaya solar power plant in Omsk oblast. The plant is expected to provide an annual reduction of harmful emissions by

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<sup>3566</sup> With this protection mechanism, Semarnat seeks to ensure the conservation of wild flora and fauna species that inhabit these ecosystems., Mexican Government (Mexico City) 1 April 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 4 April 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/se-establece-el-habitat-critico-en-los-humedales-de-montana-la-kisst-y-maria-eugenia-en-san-cristobal-de-las-casas-chiapas?idiom=es>.

<sup>3567</sup> Authorities work to achieve a better use of the wood seized in Campeche, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 2 June 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/trabajan-autoridades-para-lograr-un-mejor-aprovechamiento-de-la-madera-decomisada-en-campeche?idiom=es>.

<sup>3568</sup> You are encouraged to participate in the 2022 Nature Conservation Recognition, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 10 June 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/se-exhorta-a-participar-en-el-reconocimiento-a-la-conservacion-de-la-naturaleza-2022?idiom=es>.

<sup>3569</sup> The brigades for environmental protection started in Tlaxcala, Mexican Government (Mexico City) 15 June 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.gob.mx/semarnat/prensa/arrancaron-en-tlaxcala-las-brigadas-para-la-proteccion-ambiental?idiom=es>.

12,700 tons and improve the environmental situation in the Omsk region. Commissioning of the Russko-Polyanskaya power plant will increase the total installed capacity of solar generation in the region's energy system to 60 MW, according to the minister. Total investment into the solar power plant construction amounted to RUB2.8 billion (USD37 million).<sup>3570</sup>

On 16 December 2021, the government approved the rules for posting publicly available information on the state of the environment. According to the new rules, federal, regional, and local authorities are obligated to publish information on the state of the environment, including the quality of atmospheric air, soil, water, and forest resources, harmful emissions, as well as radiation levels on their official websites or make it available to the public through state and municipal information systems.<sup>3571</sup>

On 29 March 2022, the Federal Project "Clean Air" was extended by two years – until 31 December 2026. The project aims to ensure a significant reduction in air pollution in 12 major industrial centers: Bratsk, Krasnoyarsk, Lipetsk, Magnitogorsk, Mednogorsk, Nizhny Tagil, Novokuznetsk, Norilsk, Omsk, Chelyabinsk, Cherepovets and Chita through measures to reduce emissions from industrial enterprises, municipal and transport infrastructure facilities.<sup>3572</sup>

On 21 April 2022, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment announced that in March-April 2022 four new projects for the reclamation of landfills near Moscow "Safonovo," "Yadrovo," "Zavolnye" and "Taldomsky" were launched in accordance with the federal project "Clean Country" of the national project "Ecology." Additionally, in December 2021, contracts were signed for the reclamation of the Egorievsky and Volovichi landfills.<sup>3573</sup>

On 22 April 2022, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment reported that it had finished the drafting of the federal law "On Amending the Forest Code of the Russian Federation" and Article 9 of the Federal Law "On Limiting Greenhouse Gas Emissions." The draft law is aimed at the implementation of climate projects in the field of forest relations on the territory of Russia, ensuring the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the absorption of greenhouse gases.<sup>3574</sup>

Russia took action to promote conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Russia receives a score of 0.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

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<sup>3570</sup> Nikolay Shulginov Gave the Go-Ahead For The Operation of the Russko-Polyanskaya Solar Power Plant in the Omsk Region, Russian Ministry of Energy (Moscow) 10 December 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <https://minenergo.gov.ru/node/22185>.

<sup>3571</sup> The Government of Russia approved the rules for posting publicly available information on the state of the environment, Russian Government (Moscow) 18 December 2021. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 2 February 2022. <http://government.ru/news/44150/>.

<sup>3572</sup> A law was passed that expanded the terms of the federal "Clean Air" project, Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (Moscow) 29 March 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 30 May 2022. [https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/prinyat\\_zakon\\_kotoryy\\_rasshiril\\_sroki\\_realizatsii\\_federalnogo\\_proekta\\_chistyy\\_vozdukh/](https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/prinyat_zakon_kotoryy_rasshiril_sroki_realizatsii_federalnogo_proekta_chistyy_vozdukh/).

<sup>3573</sup> "Clean Country": six new projects for the elimination of large landfills in the Moscow region started in 2022, Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (Moscow) 21 April 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 30 May 2022. [https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/chistaya\\_strana\\_v\\_2022\\_godu\\_startovali\\_shest\\_novykh\\_proektov\\_po\\_likvidatsii\\_krupnykh\\_poligonov\\_tko\\_v/](https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/chistaya_strana_v_2022_godu_startovali_shest_novykh_proektov_po_likvidatsii_krupnykh_poligonov_tko_v/).

<sup>3574</sup> Forest climate projects will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (Moscow) 22 April 2022. Translation provided by the analyst. Access Date: 30 May 2022. [https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/klimaticheskie\\_proekty\\_v\\_oblasti\\_lesnykh\\_otnosheniy\\_pomogut\\_sokratit\\_vybrosy\\_parnikovykh\\_gazov\\_/](https://www.mnr.gov.ru/press/news/klimaticheskie_proekty_v_oblasti_lesnykh_otnosheniy_pomogut_sokratit_vybrosy_parnikovykh_gazov_/).

### **Saudi Arabia: +1**

Saudi Arabia has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 15 September 2021, Saudi Arabia published a new Waste Management Law. The legislation aims to regulate the transport, segregation, storage, import, export, safe disposal of waste and all other activities related to it. According to article 11 of the law, waste producers must conserve natural resources and materials, reuse products, reduce waste, store it in the designated areas, and separate it for the purpose of reuse or recycle. Article 14 holds the manufacturers/importers an extended responsibility for their products. Article 16 to 18 prescribe the different responsibilities of waste related service providers. This law also regulates the import and export of waste as well as dealing with emergency situations.<sup>3575</sup>

On 2 November 2021, Saudi Arabia's sustainable tourism developer, The Red Sea Development Co., signed an agreement with Red Sea Farms to establish a farm that will produce food using smart technologies, sun light, and seawater to supply the hotels it is building with sustainable food. Instead of relying on rainfall, fresh groundwater, or desalinated water, the farm will use sunlight and saltwater to cool greenhouses and grow crops. This saves up to 300 liters of fresh water per kilogram of produce – a 95 per cent saving compared with other AgTech systems. This means a reduced impact on the environment and a significant cost saving for growers. It also results in more nutritious crops, while also providing a richer taste, flavor and texture.<sup>3576</sup>

On 24 February 2022, a deal to strengthen sustainable development efforts was signed between the Federation of Saudi Chambers and the United Nations Global Compact Network Saudi Arabia in Riyadh. The agreement recognizes the importance of corporate sustainability to accelerate the 2030 agenda and the UN Sustainable Development Goals through private business activity. The Network's mission in Saudi Arabia is to provide the private sector with necessary guidance to ensure that they recognize the role of business in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to create high-impact collaborations.<sup>3577</sup>

In February 2022, the government announced that Saudi Arabia intends to divert 60 per cent of construction and demolition waste from landfills – recycling 12 per cent, reusing 35 percent and treating 13 per cent. Moreover, it plans to divert 100 per cent of municipal solid waste from landfills by recycling 82 per cent of this waste, and processing 19 per cent to use as energy sources (waste-to-energy).<sup>3578</sup>

On 20 March 2022, Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Abdulrahman Al-Fadhli announced that he would inaugurate the activities and exhibition of the Environment Week. Under the slogan “Our Environment is Our Responsibility,” the activities aim to raise awareness on the importance of preserving the environment, spreading environmental culture, consolidating quality of life goals, activating the role of individuals, institutions and various government agencies in preserving the environment and maintaining ecological balance in accordance with the objectives Vision 2030. This year's Environment Week includes a number of various events in 21 regions and cities across the Kingdom. It contains several sections on vegetation cover, combating desertification, wild and marine life, waste management, pollution, meteorology and

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<sup>3575</sup> Saudi Arabia introduces new waste management law, Enviliance (Tokyo), 12 October 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://enviliance.com/regions/west-asia/sa/report\\_4447](https://enviliance.com/regions/west-asia/sa/report_4447)

<sup>3576</sup> Saudi TRSDC signs deal with Red Sea Farms to supply sustainable food to its tourists, Arab News (Riyadh), 2 November 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.gcbusinessnews.com/saudi-red-sea-development-wins-esg-initiative-of-the-year-honor-at-london/>

<sup>3577</sup> Federation of Saudi Chambers Strengthens Sustainable Development Efforts through Hosting Agreement of Global Compact Network Saudi Arabia, United Nations (New York) 24 February 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://saudiarabia.un.org/en/173209-federation-saudi-chambers-strengthens-sustainable-development-efforts-through-hosting>

<sup>3578</sup> Saudi Arabia - Country Commercial Guide, Waste Management, International Trade Administration (Washington), 24 February 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/saudi-arabia-waste-management>

environmental protection. It also includes workshops on recycling and handicrafts using environmentally friendly tools, in addition to meetings with environmental centers and associations.<sup>3579</sup>

On 13 June 2022, Saudi Arabia criminalized possession of endangered animals by private individuals and anyone found violating the regulations in this regard would face a fine of SR30 million and imprisonment of up to 10 years, among other types of penalties; the new environmental law in Saudi Arabia aims to protect the environment by developing and sustaining endangered animals.<sup>3580</sup>

On 14 June 2022, the state-owned Saudi Aramco launched 3 new programs in the Eastern province of the Kingdom to promote sustainability and protect the environment (among others), including the launch of Mangrove Eco Park.<sup>3581</sup>

On 16 June 2022, the Harrat Uwayrid, a Saudi nature reserve in AlUla, had joined the UNESCO's "Man and the Biosphere" program aimed to establish a scientific basis for enhancing the relationship between people and their environments.<sup>3582</sup>

Saudi Arabia has taken strong actions on conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Saudi Arabia receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **South Africa: 0**

South Africa has partially complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 2 November 2021, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a revised Nationally Determined Contribution with the goals of reducing domestic carbon emissions to between 420 and 350 million tonnes of carbon dioxide-equivalent by 2030 at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26). The President also announced a partnership with the governments of France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, as well as the European Union, to support a transition to a low-carbon economy in South Africa. The Partnership pledged to mobilize ZAR131 billion (USD 8.5 billion) over the next three years to implement the vision outlined in the Political Declaration on the just energy transition in South Africa, also unveiled at COP26. The Declaration laid out medium and long-term goals for "accelerated decarbonization" of the country's energy system with particular attention to vulnerable demographics, e.g. coal miners, women and youth.<sup>3583</sup>

On 23 February 2022, Minister of Finance of South Africa Enoch Godongwana announced the government's plans to reform the electricity sector in a way that would allow for private sector renewable energy generation projects of up to 100MW without licensing.<sup>3584</sup>

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<sup>3579</sup> Saudi authorities to launch activities of Environment Week in Riyadh on Sunday, Arab News (Saudi Arabia) 20 March 2022. Access Date: 28 March 2022. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2045991/saudi-arabia>

<sup>3580</sup> New environment law stipulates SR30m fine, 10-year jail for owning endangered animals, Saudi Gazette (Riyadh) 13 June 2022. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/621706>

<sup>3581</sup> Saudi Aramco launches three new programs to support future of KSA, Arab News (Riyadh) 14 June 2022. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2103406/saudi-arabia>

<sup>3582</sup> Harrat Uwayrid: Saudi reserve joins UNESCO environment program, Arab News (Riyadh) 16 June 2022. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2104391/saudi-arabia>

<sup>3583</sup> South Africa establishes a historic international partnership to support a just transition, the Presidency (Pretoria) 2 November 2021. Access Date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.thepresidency.gov.za/press-statements/south-africa-establishes-historic-international-partnership-support-just-transition>

<sup>3584</sup> Electricity Regulation Amendment Bill, South African Government (Pretoria) 10 February 2022. Access Date: 30 May 2022. <https://cer.org.za/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/ELECTRICITY-REGULATION-AMENDMENT-BILL-10.02.2022-DMRE.pdf>

On 23 May 2022, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries Barbara Creecy announced the launch of the national waste management fleet, with an estimated worth of ZAR44.5 million (USD2.87 million). The fleet, according to the minister, consists of 22 vehicles including skip loader trucks, front end loaders, compactor trucks and other trucks required to transport waste within these areas. The vehicles will be active across 19 municipalities of the country.<sup>3585</sup>

South Africa took action to promote sustainable use of natural resources. Thus, it is awarded a score of 0 for partial compliance.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Turkey: +1**

Turkey has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 7 December 2021, the countries designed to protect the Mediterranean Sea from pollution began their 22nd meeting in Antalya, on the southern Turkish coast. As the host of a climate change summit for the preservation of the Mediterranean, Turkey calls for international action and aims to make itself a regional hub to organize conservation work against pollution and other environmental threats to the sea.<sup>3586</sup>

On 30 December 2021, Turkey boosted forestation efforts with 252 million saplings. Amid a construction boom and concerns over the climate crisis, Turkey has stepped up efforts to preserve and further expand its forests. It is also pursuing a campaign to boost the production of saplings and increase revenue from forestry products, namely fruit and honey production, for villagers. Thousands of forests were created in rural areas to generate extra income for farmers.<sup>3587</sup>

In January, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) built an Organic Liquid Seaweed Fertilizer Plant in Mombasa, which has a population of nearly 1.5 million. A liquid seaweed fertilizer plant was built as part of the project, which was implemented in cooperation with Pwani Marine Non-Governmental Organization, which has mostly young members and aims to protect marine life. Liquid seaweed fertilizer is a renewable and eco-friendly product that contributes to the ecosystem. The project aims to contribute to food security and sustainable agricultural production through the use of innovative and eco-friendly fertilizers in the long term; to provide employment opportunities to young people; to ensure the protection of seas and coasts; and to promote organic farming.<sup>3588</sup>

On 27 January 2022, it was reported that TIKA provided 20 clothing banks for the clothing recycling project in Lebanon. Nearly 500,000 clothing items have been collected in these clothing collection banks, most of which were made of recycled materials. 410,000 of these items have been offered to those in need. Thanks to these recycling activities, 650,000 kg of carbon emissions from new garment production were avoided.<sup>3589</sup>

On 2 February 2022, Turkey celebrated the World Wetlands Day, an occasion to raise awareness to the environmental impact and benefits of those bodies of water. The country, which stepped up preservation efforts in the past two decades for wetlands, still runs the risk of losing more to drought aggravated by a climate

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<sup>3585</sup> Minister Barbara Creecy: Launch of national waste management fleet, South African Government (Pretoria) 23 May 2022. Access Date: 30 May 2022. <https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-barbara-creecy-launch-national-waste-management-fleet-23-may-2022-0000>.

<sup>3586</sup> Representatives from 21 Mediterranean countries attend gathering on environment and sustainable development in region, Anadolu Agency (Ankara) 7 December 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/environment/countries-meet-in-turkey-to-protect-mediterranean-from-pollution/2441078>

<sup>3587</sup> Turkey boosts forestation efforts with 252 million saplings, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 30 December 2021. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/turkey-boosts-forestation-efforts-with-252-million-saplings/news>

<sup>3588</sup> TIKA Supports the Ecosystem in Kenya, TIKA (Ankara) January 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika\\_supports\\_the\\_ecosystem\\_in\\_kenya-67571](https://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/tika_supports_the_ecosystem_in_kenya-67571)

<sup>3589</sup> Clothing Recycling Project in Lebanon, TIKA (Ankara) 27 January 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. [https://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/clothing\\_recycling\\_project\\_in\\_lebanon-67884](https://www.tika.gov.tr/en/news/clothing_recycling_project_in_lebanon-67884)

crisis and encroachment of human-made development on wetlands, as well as excessive drainage of the ecosystems for agricultural purposes.<sup>3590</sup>

On 1-7 June 2022, Turkey held its inaugural Environment week, a series of country wide activities under the theme of zero waste led by the First Lady and coordinated by the Ministry of Environment, Urban Planning and Climate Change, aimed to raise awareness for environmental protection.<sup>3591</sup>

Turkey has taken strong actions on conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, Turkey receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Pavel Doronin*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 4 November 2021, Chief Secretary to the Treasury Simon Clarke announced GBP15 million investment to “digitize the world’s largest collection of plant and fungal specimens will “revolutionize” climate change research and help protect biodiversity for generations to come.”<sup>3592</sup>

On 6 November 2021, the UK pledged urgent action and investment to protect nature and shift to more sustainable ways of farming. The “United Kingdom will launch a new GBP500 million package to help protect five million hectares of rainforests from deforestation. The funding will create thousands of green jobs, including in sustainable agriculture and forestry, throughout rainforest regions and generate GBP1 billion of green private sector investment to tackle climate change around the world.”<sup>3593</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the government announced its intention to invest GBP11 million in the UK’s distilleries to facilitate their green transition. The allocated sum would help distilleries to “ditch fossil fuels and develop low carbon heating systems that will make production processes greener and more energy efficient.”<sup>3594</sup>

On 24 November 2021, the government has announced the biggest investment of GBP20 million in tidal power generation that would “strengthen energy security, renewable electricity supply and create jobs across the UK.”<sup>3595</sup>

On 25 January 2022, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy invested more than GBP31 million to drive forward plans to place turbines in deep-sea areas. This initiative “will help accelerate renewable energy deployment that reduces the UK exposure to volatility in global fossil fuel prices and maintain the UK’s position as a world leader in offshore wind.”<sup>3596</sup>

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<sup>3590</sup> Turkey’s wetlands battle human-made threats, extinction, Daily Sabah (Ankara) 2 February 2022. Access Date: 31 March 2022. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/turkeys-wetlands-battle-human-made-threats-extinction/news>

<sup>3591</sup> Turkey to mark Environment Week with ‘zero waste’ theme, Daily Sabah (Ankara), 30 May 2022. Access date: 20 June 2022. <https://www.dailysabah.com/turkey/turkey-to-mark-environment-week-with-zero-waste-theme/news>

<sup>3592</sup> Historic Kew Gardens collection to go digital in major boost for climate change research, UK Government (London) 4 November 2021. Access Date: 7 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/historic-kew-gardens-collection-to-go-digital-in-major-boost-for-climate-change-research>

<sup>3593</sup> UK leads 45 governments in new pledges to protect nature, UK Government (London) 6 November 2021. Access Date: 15 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-leads-45-governments-in-new-pledges-to-protect-nature>

<sup>3594</sup> Funding helps UK distilleries fuel a greener future, UK Government (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 7 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/funding-helps-uk-distilleries-fuel-a-greener-future>

<sup>3595</sup> UK government announces biggest investment into Britain’s tidal power, UK Government (London) 24 November 2021. Access Date: 7 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-government-announces-biggest-investment-into-britains-tidal-power>

<sup>3596</sup> £60 million boost for floating offshore wind, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 25 January 2022. Access Date: 15 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/60-million-boost-for-floating-offshore-wind>

On 23 February 2022, the government awarded nearly GBP7 million to projects across the UK to “support the development of new energy storage technologies.”<sup>3597</sup>

On 8 March 2022, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has announced to fund almost GBP4.5 million to help futureproof trees and forests against impacts of pests and disease, to promote biodiversity and support innovative approaches to «tree health, resilience and production against a changing climate».<sup>3598</sup> As part of the initiative plans to plant 30,000 hectares of trees across the UK per year.

On 9 March 2022, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs invested GBP11.6 million for local authorities to tackle air pollution. It helps councils develop and implement measures to benefit schools, businesses and communities and reduce the impact of dirty air on people’s health.<sup>3599</sup>

On 25 March 2022, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced GBP10 million funding for innovative entrepreneurs to turn ideas into green technologies helping fuel the UK’s energy security, reliable low-carbon energy, reducing reliance on expensive fossil fuels and exposure to volatile global prices<sup>3600</sup>.

On 8 April 2022, Government unveiled GBP375 million investment for energy technologies of the future to develop next-generation nuclear technology, power British homes and strengthen the nation’s energy security. Moreover, investment will support research, development and deployment of these cutting-edge technologies and reduce reliance on expensive fossil fuels.<sup>3601</sup>

On 16 May 2022, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy announced the “Biomass Feedstocks Innovation Programme” (BEIS), which aims to increase the production of sustainable domestic biomass by funding innovative ideas that address barriers to biomass feedstock production. The programme forms part of the “BEIS Net Zero Innovation Portfolio” and accelerates the commercialisation of innovative clean energy technologies.<sup>3602</sup>

On 31 May 2022, the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy has announced new £31 million government funding, which supports industry to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and slash carbon emissions. Moreover, it will support development of innovative carbon capture and green energy technologies in the UK, supporting green jobs and encouraging investment.<sup>3603</sup>

On 17 June 2022, the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has published the GBP26 million “Industrial Hydrogen Accelerator Programme,” which provides funding for innovation projects that

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<sup>3597</sup> Government boost for new renewable energy storage technologies, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 23 February 2022. Access Date: 15 March 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-boost-for-new-renewable-energy-storage-technologies>

<sup>3598</sup> Tree resilience efforts boosted as funds to improve forestry innovation reopen, UK Government (London) 8 March 2022. Access Date: 17 June 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/tree-resilience-efforts-boosted-as-funds-to-improve-forestry-innovation-reopen>

<sup>3599</sup> £11.6m boost for local authorities to tackle air pollution, Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (London) 9 March 2022. Access Date: 17 June 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/116m-boost-for-local-authorities-to-tackle-air-pollution>

<sup>3600</sup> UK entrepreneurs given cash boost to help drive greater clean energy independence, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 25 March 2022. Access Date: 17 June 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-entrepreneurs-given-cash-boost-to-help-drive-greater-clean-energy-independence>

<sup>3601</sup> Government unveils investment for energy technologies of the future, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 8 April 2022. Access Date: 17.06.2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unveils-investment-for-energy-technologies-of-the-future>

<sup>3602</sup> Biomass Feedstocks Innovation Programme, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 16 May 2022. Access Date: 17 June 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-the-biomass-feedstocks-innovation-programme>

<sup>3603</sup> Government invests over £31 million to help industry slash emissions and energy costs, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 31 May 2022. Access Date: 17.06.2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-invests-over-31-million-to-help-industry-slash-emissions-and-energy-costs>

can demonstrate end-to-end industrial fuel switching to hydrogen. It covers the full technology chain, from hydrogen generation and delivery infrastructure through to industrial end-use.<sup>3604</sup>

The United Kingdom has taken strong action in all three areas of the commitment: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources. The Government launched a number of programmes aimed at protecting biodiversity for future generations, transition to more sustainable ways of farming, saving millions of hectares of rainforest from logging, investing in new forms of energy.

Thus, the United Kingdom receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Elena Alekseeva*

### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with the commitment on conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 3 November 2021, the Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator Samantha Power announced an initiative to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions as part of the US Government's efforts to combat the climate crisis. USAID will support partner countries to prevent six billion metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions by 2030. This goal will be achieved through a series of new and forthcoming programs that support partner countries to reduce and sequester emissions by transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and conserving, protecting, and better managing tropical forests, mangroves and other important ecosystems that sequester large amounts of carbon dioxide. New programs and commitments that support this target include, inter alia, supporting the protection, restoration, or management of 100 million hectares of critical landscapes that serve as important carbon sinks; mobilizing funds in public and private finance for natural climate solutions by 2030; and launching new partnerships with the private sector to reduce deforestation in commodity supply chains.<sup>3605</sup>

The United States has taken measures in all three of the following categories: conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

Thus, the US receives a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrey Shelepov*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment on conservation, protection and sustainable use of natural resources.

On 10 March 2022, the European Parliament adopted Environmental Objectives until 2030, confirming an agreement reached with the Council in December 2021 on the eighth General Union Environment Action Programme to guide the EU's environmental policy to 2030 and align it with the European Green Deal. The six thematic priority objectives to be achieved by 2030 are: climate change mitigation to attain the 2030 greenhouse gas emission reduction target; adaptation to climate change; advancing towards a wellbeing economy that gives back to the planet more than it takes; pursuing zero-pollution, including in relation to harmful chemicals; protecting, preserving and restoring biodiversity, and significantly reducing key environmental pressures related to the EU's material and consumption footprints including through EU 2030

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<sup>3604</sup> Industrial Hydrogen Accelerator Programme: open to applications, Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (London) 17 June 2022. Access Date: 17 June 2022. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/industrial-hydrogen-accelerator-programme>

<sup>3605</sup> USAID announces major initiative to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 3 November 2021. Access Date: 1 April 2022. <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/press-releases/nov-3-2021-usaid-announces-major-initiative-reduce-global-greenhouse-gash>.

reduction targets. Moreover, the EU will set up a binding legislative framework to monitor and report on member states' progress towards phasing out fossil fuel subsidies.<sup>3606</sup>

On 20 April 2022, the European Parliament adopted its position on the revised Radio Equipment Directive to reduce electronic waste. Mobile phones, tablets, digital cameras, headphones and headsets, handheld videogame consoles and portable speakers, rechargeable via a wired cable, would have to be equipped with a USB Type-C port, regardless of the manufacturer. The goal is to avoid a new fragmentation in the market, to continue to reduce environmental waste, ensure consumer convenience and avoid so-called “lock-in” effects created by proprietary charging solutions.<sup>3607</sup>

On 3 May 2022, the European Parliament adopted its negotiating position for new rules on persistent organic pollutants (POPs), and the management of waste containing them, amending the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Annexes IV and V to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council on persistent organic pollutants (COM(2021)0656 – C9-0396/2021 – 2021/0340(COD)). In order to protect the circular lifespan of products, materials containing levels of POPs that are too high must be destroyed or incinerated and cannot be recycled. The position also includes proposal of stricter limits for POPs; POPs removal from recycling chains; new chemicals addition to list of harmful substances.<sup>3608</sup>

On 10 May 2022, the European Commission adopted the amendment to the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022, increasing the budget by nearly EUR562 million to further support EU Missions towards innovative solutions. There will be 17 new calls covering Mission A Soil Deal for Europe, Mission Adaptation to Climate Change and Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030.<sup>3609</sup>

On 1 June 2022, the European Commission published its Communication “Towards more sustainable fishing in the EU: state of play and orientations for 2023” outlining priorities of EU’s fisheries management for 2023. The priorities include better management of fisheries in the Mediterranean basin, building on achievements in the Western Mediterranean and in the Adriatic Sea; proper implementation of the landing obligation; better data from surveys to improve the science advice and economic analyses; more actions to protect the marine ecosystems. In line with the priorities set for 2023, Member States will need to step up the enforcement and control of compliance with the landing obligation and eliminate discards by avoiding unwanted catches.<sup>3610</sup>

The European Union has taken strong actions in all three areas by implementing measures to combat soil degradation and deforestation; adopting new environmental goals until 2030 in all three areas; offering measures to combat microplastics and POPs; new opportunities for waste management, including electronic waste; as well as a range of measures to protect marine resources and aquaculture.

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<sup>3606</sup> European Parliament legislative resolution of 10 March 2022 on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2030 (COM(2020)0652 – C9-0329/2020 – 2020/0300(COD)), European Parliament (Strasbourg) 10 March 2022. Access Date: 14 June 2022.

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0067\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0067_EN.html)

<sup>3607</sup> Common charger: MEPs agree on proposal to reduce electronic waste, European Parliament (Strasbourg) 20 April 2022. Access Date: 14 June 2022. <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20220412IPR27115/common-charger-meeps-agree-on-proposal-to-reduce-electronic-waste>

<sup>3608</sup> Amendments adopted by the European Parliament on 3 May 2022 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Annexes IV and V to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council on persistent organic pollutants (COM(2021)0656 – C9-0396/2021 – 2021/0340(COD))(1), European Parliament (Strasbourg) 3 May 2022. Access Date: 14 June 2022. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0130\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0130_EN.html)

<sup>3609</sup> Commission boosts Horizon Europe budget to support green, health and digital innovations and displaced researchers of Ukraine, European Commission (Brussels) 10 May 2022. Access Date: 14 June 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_2843](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2843)

<sup>3610</sup> Fisheries management review: less overfishing, but further efforts to protect marine resources needed, European Commission (Brussels) 1 June 2022. Access Date: 14 June 2022. [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_3303](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_3303)

Thus, the European Union receives the score of +1.

*Analyst Ksenia Dorokhina*