

**Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)**  
**Actions by Italy**

**Country:** Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea

**Title:**

**Establishment of the Natural Capital Committee**

*Focus area 1:* Improve measurement and valuation of natural capital

**Description of the action:** By decree of President of the Council of Ministers upon proposal of the Minister of Environment, the Natural Capital Committee (NCC) shall be set up at the Ministry of Environment.

**Action's timeframe/milestones, as appropriate:** Annual. The Committee shall transmit, by 28 February of each year, to the President of the Council of Ministers and to the Minister of Economy and Finance a report on the state of the natural capital of the country.

**Type of action:** Legal, regulatory and policy instruments

**Economic sectors:** Economy-wide

**Reference instruments and sources, as appropriate:** Law n. 221, 28 December 2015 (so called Environmental Annex to the Stability Law: "Environmental measures for promoting green economy and natural resources efficiency").

**Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:** Ex ante and ex post evaluations of the effects of public policies on natural capital and ecosystem services.

**SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:**

a. Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. In particular: By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality (Target 2.4); By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed (Target 2.5).

b. Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. In particular: By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally (Target 6.3); By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity (Target 6.4); By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary

cooperation as appropriate (Target 6.5); By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes (Target 6.6).

c. Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. In particular: By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix (Target 7.2); By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency (Target 7.3).

d. Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. In particular: Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead (Target 8.4 -Resource productivity-).

e. Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. In particular: By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities (Target 9.4).

f. Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In particular: Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage (Target 11.4); By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management (Target 11.6).

g. Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (all Targets).

h. Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (all Targets).

i. Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (all Targets).

***Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Recommendations, as appropriate:*** 2013 Environmental Performance Italy – Strengthen capacity for conducting ex ante and ex post economic analysis of environmental policies.

***Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate: —***

***Partners:*** The Committee is chaired by the Minister of Environment; it includes Ministers of Economy and Finance, Economic Development, Labour and Social Policy, Infrastructure and Transport, Agriculture, Regional Affairs, Territorial Cohesion, Public Administration, Culture and Tourism; a representative of the Conference of the Regions, a representative of the National Association of Italian Municipalities, the Governor of the Bank of Italy, the President of the National Statistical Institute (ISTAT), the President of the Institute for the Protection and Environmental Research (ISPRA), the President of the National Research Council (CNR) and the President of the National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and

Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA). The Committee is integrated with selected experts from Universities and research organizations.

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