

Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

Your questions answered:

What is GreenEcoNet?

What is the benefit of joining the network?

How do I add my 'green solution'?

How can I edit my 'company profile'?

How do I log in again?

How is the EU supporting SMEs in the transition to green economies?

What defines an SME?

What is GreenEcoNet?

GreenEcoNet is a European-wide network supporting SMEs to make the transition to greener economies supported by the European Commission [1].

GreenEcoNet brings together six organisations including the Green Economy Coalition [2] (GEC), Centre for European Policy Studies [3] (CEPS), EcoLogic Institute [4], Joint Implementation Network [5] (JIN), [5] Stockholm Environment Institute [6] (SEI), and the University of Piraeus Research Centre [7] (UPRC). To contact the consortium use our 'contact us' [8] page or send us an email to contact@greeneconet.eu [9]. For more information check out our project website www.greeneconet.eu [10].

What is the benefit of joining the network?

- Profile your green solutions and products in new markets
- Access the first Europe-wide database of green solutions for SMEs
- Network with other SMEs, policy makers and researchers
- Access practical tools, advice and guidance
- Receive updates on SME green loans, publications and tools

How do I add my 'green solution'?

When logged in you will have a link under Member options on your user page (click on your name in the top navigation to get to this page). Click on 'Add Case study' to create a new GreenEcoNet case study. This will present you with a multi-page form which needs to be completed as fully as possible in order to meet the platform's requirements. When you have reached the last page, click on 'Preview' to see what the case study will look like when published. Make sure you click through to the last screen and click 'Save' before navigating away from the page in order to save your changes. The Case study will not appear on the live site until it has been reviewed and published by a site administrator or editor.

How can I edit my company profile?

Click on the 'My company' link in the top navigation if you have already created your company profile. You will see an 'Edit' tab which allows you to edit the content of the existing page. If you haven't yet created this page go to your user page [11] and you will see a link to 'Add Company profile [12]'.

How do I log in again?

Go to <http://greeneconet.eu/user> [11] and enter the username and password you signed up with. If you have forgotten your password there is a tab with a link to request a password reset, which will be sent to the email

address you registered with.

How is the EU supporting SMEs in the transition to green economies?

At Rio+20 governments committed to a transition to a Green Economy. The outcome document, 'The Future We Want [13]' (pdf), states 'we consider green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication as one of the important tools available for achieving sustainable development'.

On the European Commission (EC) level a number of frameworks are relevant to the mission of greening and supporting SMEs. For example, the [Roadmap for a Resource Efficient Europe \[14\]](#) seeks to create a circular economy and decouple economic growth from resource use and environmental impacts. The [7th Environmental Action Plan \[15\]](#) aims to boost sustainable resource efficient and low-carbon growth. In addition, EC industrial policy is also attempting to increase investment and innovation in six green economy-related growth markets.

Under these frameworks different strategic initiatives have been developed including the [Online Resource Efficiency Platform \[16\]](#) (OREP) and the [Green Action Plan for SMEs \[17\]](#). The OREP provides high-level guidance to the EC, Member States and private actors on how to move towards a more resource-efficient economy. Members of the platform include MEPs, ministers, business CEOs, researchers and representatives of NGOs and civil society.

The EC has recently hosted a range of public consultations with stakeholders to help formulate the forthcoming Green Action Plan for SMEs.

GreenEcoNet, building upon these different programmes, expands their scope enabling discussions on wider green economy problems and solutions alongside providing a space to facilitate discussions between different stakeholders, policy makers and researchers.

What defines an SME?

"SME" stands for small and medium-sized enterprises. The [EU recommendation 2003/361 \[18\]](#)  describes some of the main factors determining whether a company is an SME are:

1. **number of employees** and
2. either **turnover** or **balance sheet total**.

Company category Employees Turnover or Balance sheet total

Medium-sized	< 250	≤ € 50 m	≤ € 43 m
Small	< 50	≤ € 10 m	≤ € 10 m
Micro	< 10	≤ € 2 m	≤ € 2 m

These ceilings apply to the figures for individual firms only. A firm which is part of larger grouping may need to include employee/turnover/balance sheet data from that grouping too.

For more information see the [EU guidance webpages \[19\]](#).

Tags: [FAQs \[20\]](#), [GreenEcoNet \[21\]](#), [SMEs \[22\]](#), [Help \[23\]](#)

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Source URL: <http://greeneconet.eu/frequently-asked-questions-faqs>

Links

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm

[2] <http://www.greenecomomycoalition.org>

[3] <http://www.ceps.be>

[4] <http://www.ecologic.eu>

[5] <http://www.jiqweb.org>

- [6] <http://www.sei-international.org>
- [7] http://www.unipi.gr/eng_site/
- [8] <http://new.greenecotest.org/contact>
- [9] <mailto:contact@greeneconet.eu>
- [10] <http://www.greeneconet.eu>
- [11] <http://greeneconet.eu/user>
- [12] <http://greeneconet.eu/node/add/company-profile>
- [13] <http://templatelab.com/rio-20-summit-the-future-we-want/>
- [14] http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/about/roadmap/index_en.htm
- [15] http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-13-1020_en.htm
- [16] http://ec.europa.eu/environment/resource_efficiency/index_en.htm
- [17] <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/public-consultation-green-action-plan/>
- [18] <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2003:124:0036:0041:EN:PDF>
- [19] <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/sme-definition/>
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