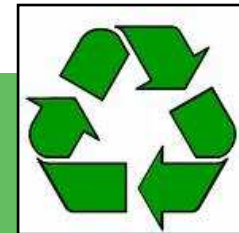
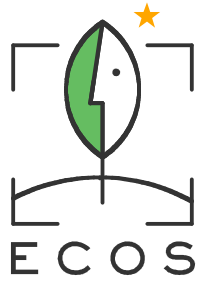


**The European environmental  
umbrella NGO  
for greener standardisation  
and ecodesign -  
« technical bureau » of ENGOS**





# ECOS is the...



European

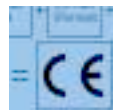


Environmental



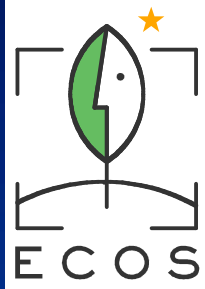
Citizens'

Organisation for



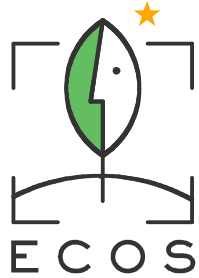
Standardisation





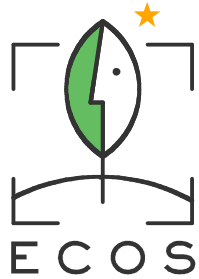
# ECOS

- **21 Member organisations: 7 European and 14 national/regional level ENGOS (EU & EFTA MS)**
- Founded 2001 to represent environmental NGOs (ENGOS) in standardisation
- Since 2007 ECOS also represents ENGOS in Eco-design of energy using Products (EuP)-process



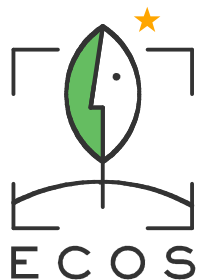
# ECOS Members (European networks)

- European Environmental Bureau
- WWF - European Policy Office
- Friends of the Earth Europe
- Transport & Environment
- WECF - Women in Europe for a Common Future
- HEAL (Health and Environment Alliance)
- Healthcare without Harm Europe
- BirdLife – European Community Office (has temporarily suspended its membership for financial reasons)



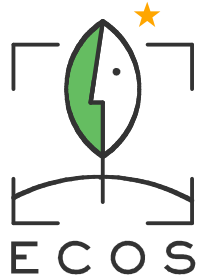
# **ECOS Members** **(national/ regional** **- old MS)**

- Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz - BUND (DE)
- Bundesverband Bürgerinitiativen... - BBU (DE)
- Deutscher Naturschutzring – DNR (DE)
- Svenska Naturskyddsföreningen (SE)
- Stichting Natuur en Milieu (NL)
- France Nature Environnement (FR)
- Danmarks Naturfredningsforening (DK)
- Inter-Environnement Wallonie (BE)
- Bond Beter Leefmilieu Vlaanderen (BE)



# **ECOS Members (national/ regional - new MS & EFTA)**

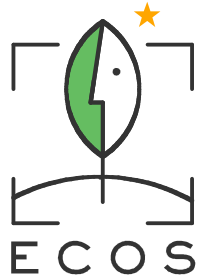
- Bellona Foundation (NO)
- Clean Air Action Group - CAAG (HU)
- Friends of the Earth Latvia
- Terra Cypria – the Cyprus Conservation Foundation (CY)
- Institute for Ecological Modernisation (BG)



# ECOS' Missions

1. Improve environmental performance of products and processes, promote environmentally sound technologies
2. Represent ENGOs and enhance balanced stakeholder participation in the European Standardisation process
3. Contribute technical environmental expertise
4. Give input to EC standardisation mandates and tools for integration of environmental aspects

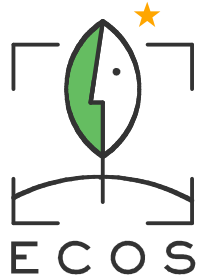
Only environmental NGO worldwide so deeply involved in standardisation work!



# Subject Areas (1)

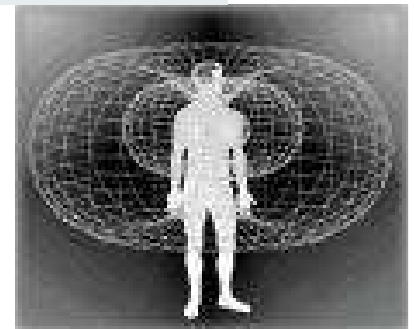
- Air (out- and indoor), Water, Soil, Waste, Sludge (mostly measurement standards)
- GMO-detection and monitoring
- Nanotechnologies, biobased products
- Solid recovered fuels (co-incineration)
- Ecodesign of products: measurement methods and minimum performance requirements

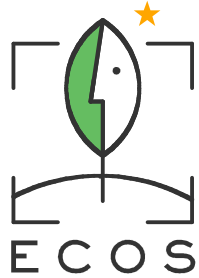




## Subject Areas (2)

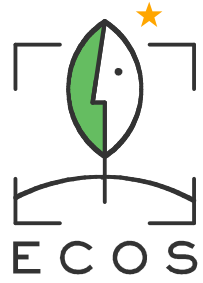
- Carbon footprint (water footprint?)
- Environmental/ energy performance of buildings, other energy issues
- Environmental Management Systems
- Electromagnetic fields in the human environment
- Sustainability criteria for biomass





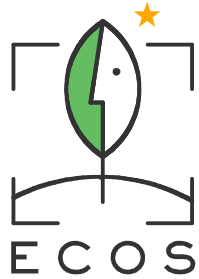
# What is a Standard?

***Document***, established by ***consensus*** and approved by a ***recognised body***, that provides, for ***common and repeated*** use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for ***activities or their results***, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of ***order*** in a given context



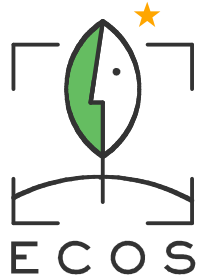
**What... ?**





# Types of standards

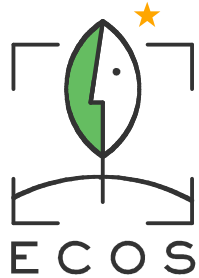
1. Measurement standards: Essential for uniform implementation of EU law
2. Product standards: Technical specifications for design, safety, use, etc.
3. Management system standards: e.g. ISO 14001 for environmental management
4. New area: Services (ECOS not involved)



# Examples of standards

- Paper sizes (A4, A5, etc.)
- GSM (cell phones)
- Measurement methods for pollutants (particulate matter in the air, chemicals in soil and water, etc.)
- Definition of nano-size (politically hot topic)
- Failure: Specifications for EU packaging



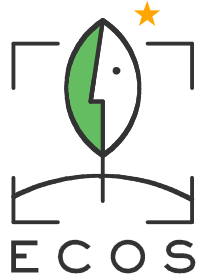


# ECOS' way of working

1. Send experts to technical bodies, contribute technical environmental expertise
2. Work at management /political level to improve framework for matters of public interest

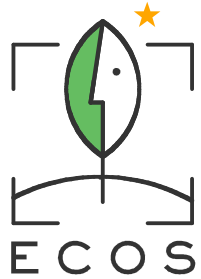
Targets: EC, standards bodies, MS, EP (less)

3. Improve instruments for environmental integration
4. Improve EC stand.-mandates to CEN/ CENELEC
5. Promote environmentally sound technologies  
(EuP process – specific area of work)



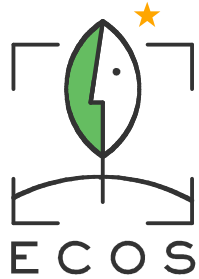
# Why should NGOs work at national level (1)?

- Purely national standards work in BSI to implement national policies
- Voluntary process, if no NGOs, then others will do the job
- Industry is very present and knows how to use it for its purposes (e.g. flame retardant case)
- « Technical » issues are often highly political
- Know about it for policy discussions
- Be aware of opportunities and threats for your work



## **Why should NGOs work at national level (2)?**

- Contribute specific national envt'al concerns
- Decisions on standards are taken by BSI and other CEN/ ISO -members
- Delegations are sent to CEN/ISO-meetings
- ECOS has no vote on final standards and in TCs, needs support from national level
- In Europe envt'al NGOs are currently only represented in Germany and Sweden

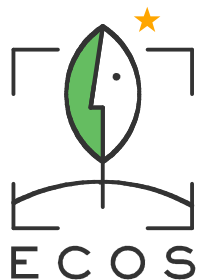


## One example of a success

IEC-committee on consumer electronics was close to adopting new standards with candle flame requirement (dirty lobbying from bromine industry)

- ECOS fed info about health and envt'al hazards into standardisation process at EU and int.'al level
- together with US-NGOs and scientists ECOS mobilised NGOs to get in touch with National Standards Bodies (incl. in UK)





# Indoor air quality

**“Assessment of release of dangerous substances under the Construction Products Directive” – CEN TC 351**

WG2: Indoor air quality

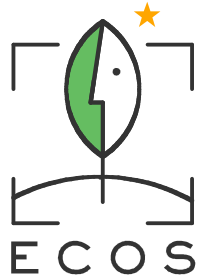
**Testing methods developed fulfil:**

- applicability to a broad variety of construction products (so-called horizontal test methods)
- meaningfulness (e.g. appropriate release scenarios have been defined)



**ECOS interventions improved the quality of the draft standard by:**

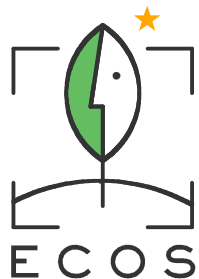
- highlighting the issue of VVOC substances and how should these be dealt with
- ensure a highly reliable method for the TVOC calculation



# List of priority substances

## EC Expert Group "Dangerous Substances in the Construction Products Directive (CPD)"

- Supervises the standardisation work of CEN TC 351
  - Is developing a database for regulated substances in construction products.
  - After a first negative reply, ECOS got a seat in this in 2007
- => ECOS disposes of a direct opportunity to comment on the list of priority substances under the CPD**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**

ECOS at Mundo-B (ethical property)

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<http://www.ecostandard.org> (stand.)

<http://env-ngo.eup-network.de/> (EuP)