



GT-A(2023)1

## **EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE (CDDG)**

### ***Terms of reference of the Working Group on Green Public Administration<sup>1</sup> (GT-A)***

**Task:** Carry out preliminary work for the CDDG with a view to elaborating a *draft report on green public administration aimed at collecting and disseminating good practice and case studies and identifying guidance for administrations at local, regional and national level, taking into account the proceedings of the 2020-2021 edition of the World Forum for Democracy and its previous work on digitalisation of the public administration* (specific task (iii) of the terms of reference 2022-2025 of the CDDG)

In addressing this task, the working group is invited to consider how public sector entities at national and sub-national levels directly address climate change, energy and sustainability challenges in their own activities and projects, as well as what instruments and policy incentives are available to public administration in this field / to support a transition towards a low carbon economy. Areas to cover may include policy incentives for the reduction of emissions; waste and energy consumption both internally and externally; benchmarks, targets and guidelines; green budgeting and green procurement; awareness raising and capacity building of civil servants, to name just a few.

**Timeline:** January 2023 till the end of 2023. Two meetings are envisioned in 2023, as well as a special one-day conference in Strasbourg. The draft report should be available for approval by the CDDG at its 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, November-December 2023.

The working group is expected to take into account the conclusions from the conference on "greening public administration" to be held in April 2023 in Strasbourg, under the Icelandic presidency.

#### **Composition:**

All member States can nominate representatives and/or independent experts and participate in the working group at their own expense. Institutions and bodies with the status of CDDG participant or observer are also invited to nominate representatives.

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<sup>1</sup> As approved by the CDDG at its 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and complemented by written procedure on 15 February 2023.

The Council of Europe will bear the costs for the participation of experts from the following 6 member States: **Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, Greece, Malta, United Kingdom.**

Experts nominated should have adequate specialisation in the following areas: governmental action and research (at national or regional/local level) in relation to the promotion of “green” working methods; academic work on green public administration; greening in relation to specific areas: human resource management, working methods, supplies and public procurement, infrastructure management; civil society action aimed at promoting green public administration.

### **Reference material:**

The working group should take into account pertinent reports and documents produced under the aegis of the Council of Europe and other organisations or bodies, including:

- proceedings from the [2020-2021 edition of the World Forum for Democracy](#)
- CDDG: [study on the impact of the digital transformation, including artificial intelligence and automated decision-making, on democracy and good governance \(September 2021\)](#)
- Developments in relation to the activity of the European Court of Human Rights (see [here](#) and this [factsheet produced by DG1](#))
- Centre of Expertise: [green initiatives at local level – best practice from Ukraine](#)
- [Council of Europe Toolkit on Teleworking in Public Administration](#)
- [Proceedings from the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning \(CEMAT\)](#)
- [European Public Sector Award \(EPSA\): work on Green Public Administration](#)
- OECD: [work on green public procurement](#)
- [EU Green Deal](#)
- WEF: [Green Public Procurement: Catalysing the Net-Zero Economy](#)

### **Working methods**

The working group may use on-line meetings and written consultations as necessary. It is encouraged to hold consultations with other bodies within and outside the Council of Europe including non-governmental organisations. It may rely on contributions from expert consultants. See also [Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods](#).