

Environmental Monitoring Explained

Guidance for Business Partners



What is Environmental Monitoring?

An on-site audit performed by one of the monitoring companies accredited by amfori.

What is the Purpose of the Environmental Monitoring?

- To verify the data you provided in the Risk Assessment for amfori BEPI
- To access management practices for relevant Environmental Performance Areas (EPAs) on site (e.g. Water and Effluents, Waste, Biodiversity etc.)
- To propose corrective actions to mitigate identified risks

What types of Environmental Monitoring are there?

- Full Scope Environmental Monitoring (verification of Risk Assessment data and all 8 EPAs)
- Focused Scope Environmental Monitoring (verification of Risk Assessment data and 1-7 EPAs)

Who can request an Environmental Monitoring?

A linked member that is also an RSP holder for amfori BEPI initiative.

Who decides on the scope of Environmental Monitoring?

The requesting member decides on the scope of the monitoring and selects the EPAs that will be included in the monitoring.

Who performs Environmental Monitoring?

amfori BEPI monitorings can only be performed by auditing companies accredited by amfori. The list of amfori BEPI Monitoring Partners can be found [here](#).

Will I be informed about Environmental Monitoring on my site in advance ?

amfori BEPI monitorings are always fully announced. The Monitoring Partner selected by the member will reach out to you before the monitoring and provide you with relevant details.

How long does Environmental Monitoring take?

Duration depends on the number of EPAs within the monitoring scope and on the size of your factory.

	Verification of Risk Assessment (1year) +EMS + 1-2 EPAs	Verification of Risk Assessment (1 year) + EMS + 3/4/5 EPAs	Verification of Risk Assessment (1 year) + EMS + 6/7 EPAs
1-500 workers	1	1.5	2

Additional time **must** be allocated in the following circumstances:

- + 0,5 person-day** for factories over 500 workers
- + 0,25 person-day** for each additional year of Risk Assessment for amfori BEPI to be verified
- + 0,25 person-day** for WTP on site (excluding septic systems) provided that EPA4: Water and Effluents is included in the monitoring scope
- + 0,25 person-day** for hazardous chemicals in production processes, testing labs and WTP provided that EPA7: Chemicals is included in the monitoring scope

If the above-described scenarios apply jointly, the number of additional person days must be summed up.

What is the process of Environmental Monitoring?



Opening meeting: the monitoring person introduces themselves, explains the purpose of the monitoring, presents the monitoring plan and requests the documents that must be verified.



Evidence collection: the monitoring person collects evidence on the auditee's environmental performance through physical site inspection, document review and worker interviews.



Closing meeting takes place at the end of the monitoring and aims at sharing and discussing all findings recorded during the monitoring, proposing correct actions and deciding on the follow-up method. The monitoring person should explain why their observations represent a potential risk for the auditee and its clients and how potential risks could be mitigated.



Report submission: Environmental Monitoring report must be submitted the amfori Sustainability Platform within 10 business days from the monitoring completion.

Why do I need to sign the monitoring report?

After the closing meeting, the closing meeting report must be printed and signed by the auditor and the management representatives. A signature does not represent acceptance of the content, but just acknowledges that the monitoring has been conducted without irregularities

How long is Environmental Monitoring Valid?

Focused scope monitoring is valid for 24 months. The validity of full scope monitoring depends on the grade achieved as well as the follow-up.

	Focused Scope Monitoring	Full Scope Monitoring
Overall Score	Not applicable	A, B, C, D, or E
Initial Validity period (duration)	24 months	Initial validity before follow-up: If the grade is: A, B → It is valid for 24 months If C, D, E → 12 months
Validity period without Follow-up	Not applicable	No extension awarded: If graded A, B: validity remains at 24 months If C, D, E: Validity remains at 12 months
Validity period with Follow-up	Not applicable, follow-up recommended for reflecting continuous improvement.	Total validity: If the follow-up grade is A or B: the validity is extended to 36 months If the follow-up grade is C: to 24 months If the follow-up grade is D or E: to 18 months Specific cases: If initial grade is C → gets upgraded to A or B: the validity will be extended to total 36 months (12+24) If initial grade is C → and there is no change in grade, the validity will be extended to 24 months (12+12) If initial grade is D, E → upgrade to C, the validity will be extended to 24 months (12+12) If initial grade is D, E → no change in grade, the validity will be extended to 18 months (12+6) Note: If a follow-up monitoring has a lower grade than the initial monitoring, the validity considered will be that of the follow-up grade.

Where to check Environmental Monitoring results?

Once the monitoring report is submitted to the platform, you will get an e-mail notification with link to your results. You can also access monitoring results through Monitoring/Results tab on the amfori Sustainability Platform.

What is the grading system for amfori BEPI monitorings?

Full scope monitoring provides the site with partial scores for each EPA and an overall score for the entire monitoring. The 5-level overall scale is presented below:

Overall rating	Description	Level of maturity
A: Very good	86 - 100 % of the points	Very good level of maturity that reveals that the site can maintain its continuous improvement process with leading practices.
B: Good	71 – 85 % of the points	Good level of maturity that shows that the site can maintain its continuous improvement process.
C: Acceptable	51 - 70 % of the points	Acceptable level of maturity.
D: Insufficient	30 – 50 % of the points	Insufficient level of maturity.
E: Unacceptable	0 – 29 % of the points	Unacceptable level of maturity.

Focused scope monitoring provides the site with partial scores for each EPA. No overall score is calculated in this case.



How are monitoring results calculated?

amfori BEPI rating is automatically calculated based on an internal algorithm on the amfori Sustainability Platform. Neither the monitoring person nor amfori staff can influence the results.

Who can see Environmental Monitoring results?

All members linked to you (including the RSP holder) will be able to see all your monitoring history.

What happens after Environmental Monitoring?

You should analyse your monitoring results, focusing on areas that need improvement. You should complete the corrective actions suggested by the monitoring person. amfori recommends that you document your improvements efforts under **My Sustainability**, using the **Continuous Improvement** feature on the amfori Sustainability Platform.

Useful Resources:

- [amfori BEPI Glossary](#)
- [Business Partner Info Kit](#)
- [amfori BEPI Brochure](#)
- [Guide to the amfori Sustainability Platform - for Business Partners](#)