

Circular

23 November 2022

ESAs Call for Evidence on Greenwashing

The Authority would like to draw your attention that the European Supervisory Authorities (ESAs) published a <u>Call for Evidence on greenwashing</u> to gather input from stakeholders on how to understand the key features, drivers and risks associated with greenwashing and to collect examples of potential greenwashing practices in the whole EU financial sector. This Call for Evidence was issued in the context of the <u>mandates</u> received from the European Commission in May 2022.

The increase in demand for sustainability-related products and the rapidly evolving legislative regimes triggers the need to better understand which areas may become more prone to greenwashing risks. Greenwashing may occur outside the domain of existing legislation thus the Call for Evidence seek to collect information and potential practices within other segments of the

sustainable investment value chain and of the financial product lifecycle. In the context of this call, the term "greenwashing" is broadly used, recognising that sustainability-related claims can be linked to all aspects of the ESG spectrum.

The Authority encourages stakeholders to contribute to the survey. Contributions should focus on greenwashing risks and occurrences arising in the financial sector and affecting financial products or services, which are under the scope of the ESAs.

Respondents are invited to <u>submit their responses</u> by **10 January 2023**. Contributions will feed into the ESAs' findings for their progress reports due in May 2023, and final reports due in May 2024.

In addition, the Authority appreciates if any feedback that is sent to the ESAs in response to this Joint Call is also sent to the MFSA on <u>sustainable.finance@mfsa.mt</u>.