

## Glossary of terms

### E

**Environmental agreement** – the technical and legal deed that defines the project performance conditions in terms of environmental impact;

**Environmental impact** – the significant negative alteration of the physical, chemical or structural features of the natural environment;

**Environmental policy** – the general principles of an organisation pertaining to the environment, including the observance of all regulatory requirements in the environmental field, as well as the commitment to continuously improve environmental performance; the environmental policy provides the framework for the determination and review of environmental objectives and targets;

**Environmental report** – part of the documentation of the plans or programmes that identifies, describes and assesses the possible significant effects of an organisation's activities on the environment and rational alternatives, taking into consideration the objectives and the geographical area;

**Environmental Management System** – part of the general management system, which includes the organisational structure, the planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for the elaboration, implementation, performance, analysis and maintenance of the environmental policy;

### P

**The *polluter pays* principle** – the necessity to create an appropriate legal and economic framework so that costs for emissions reduction are to be borne by their generator. The responsible parties for the deterioration of the atmosphere quality must pay according to the seriousness of the effects caused;

**The principle of sustainable use of natural resources** – involves the minimisation and systematisation of the use of primary resources, especially of those that are not renewable, focusing on the use of secondary ones. Natural resources must be used in a way that does not compromise their long-term availability;

**Potential environmental risk** – the probability for negative environmental effects to occur that could be prevented based on an assessment study;

### R

**Recycling** – the re-processing of industrial waste to be used again either for the original purpose or for other purposes;