

ESAP - European Single Access Point

The EU legislation in the financial services area requires companies to publish several hundreds of documents, particulars, and datasets in order to increase the transparency and reduce the asymmetry of information. These datasets may have regard to e.g. an entity's financial performance, environmental, social, or governance matters, products, and services provided.

On 25 November 2021, the Commission adopted a legislative proposal on the European Single Access Point (ESAP). The ESAP will offer a single access point for public financial and sustainability-related information about EU companies and EU investment products. This will give companies more visibility towards investors, opening up more sources of financing. This is particularly important for small companies in small capital markets, as they will more easily be on the radar screen of the EU, but also international investors.

The ESAP will also contain sustainability-related information published by companies, which will support the objectives of the European Green Deal. As a common data space, the ESAP is a fundamental enabler of the EU's Digital Strategy and the Digital Finance Strategy. The establishment of the ESAP is the first action in the Commission's new action plan for the Capital Markets Union 2020. In preparing the proposal, the Commission ran a targeted consultation from 20 January 2021 to 12 March 2021¹.

¹ <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/legislative-train/theme-an-economy-that-works-for-people/file-european-single-access-point>