

Annual report 2007 and Environmental statement 2008



Annual report 2007 and Environmental statement 2008

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Brief description of the EEA and its mission



The European Environment Agency was formally established in 1990 by Council Regulation No. 1210/90. This Regulation was subsequently amended by Council Regulation No. 933/1999 and then again by Regulation No. 1641/2003 of the European Parliament and the Council. The decision to locate in Copenhagen was taken in 1993 and the Agency has been operational in that city since 1994.

observation network (Eionet), based on the infrastructure for collection, analysis, assessment and management of data shared with the European Commission services, EEA member countries and international organisations, agreements and conventions.

Our strategic goals for the 2004–2008 period are to:

Our mission is to:

- *be the leading public body in Europe committed to providing environmental information to policy-makers and the public, to support sustainable development, and to help achieve significant and measurable improvements in Europe's environment;*
- *assist the European Community institutions and EEA member countries to identify, frame, prepare and implement sound and effective environmental policy measures and legislation; and to monitor, evaluate and assess actual and expected progress in the implementation and results of such measures;*
- *establish and coordinate the European environment information and*

- *further develop information systems and networks;*
- *provide information to help tackle climate change; on biodiversity loss and towards understanding spatial change; on sustainable use and management of natural resources and waste; and to protect human health and quality of life;*
- *provide information about the EU in the wider world, including support to sustainable development and environmental policies;*
- *improve balance and diversity of staffing;*
- *be the leading organisation reporting on environmental performance.*

The information provided by the Agency comes from a wide range of sources. The main source is the



European environment information and observation network (Eionet), a partnership linking some 300 institutions in EEA member and collaborating countries. These include organisations that together comprise the Agency's five European topic centres (ETCs) covering water, air and climate change, biological diversity, resource and waste management as well as land use and spatial information.

In 2004 the EEA developed an environmental management system to manage its own organisational impacts on the external environment. This system was verified by external auditors for the first time in spring 2005. Subsequently, the EEA became the first EU body to be registered under the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

The EEA environmental management system covers only the Agency premises, situated in two rented buildings in the centre of Copenhagen (the total area of the headquarters is 7 881 m², of which 7 200 m² is situated at Kongens Nytorv 6 and 681 m² at Kongens Nytorv 28). However, in

assessing the environmental impacts of the Agency's activities, business travel paid for by the Agency has also been included for non-EEA staff, for example EEA Management Board members, Eionet partners, ETC representatives and external experts.

Further details on how the EEA manages its environmental impacts can be found in Chapter 10 of this annual report.

Message from the Executive Director



Jacqueline McGlade



The European Union celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome in 2007. The EEA played its own part in marking the occasion, for instance through participation in local events in Copenhagen and also through our website. The anniversary also provided an opportunity to reflect more broadly on where we have come from in terms of European environmental cooperation and where we are heading in the future.

Experience shows that EU environmental policy works. For example, Europe has cleaned up its water and its air, phased out some ozone-depleting substances and doubled rates of waste recycling. However, we need to plan further ahead. In day-to-day life we are continuously confronted with long-term problems. They cannot be solved within the short-term perspective of one or two legislative cycles. Policy-making needs to raise its game to meet these challenges and become more far sighted.

Robust, far-sighted policy requires better, more detailed information. We have made a lot of progress in this direction. We already know, for example, many facts about climate change and demographic patterns. Long-term studies have been developed for the future of agriculture, transport and energy, climate change and air pollution, to name just a few. But we are only beginning to realise the full potential of environmental information. The EEA seeks to drive technology, particularly the internet, in new directions in terms of its

interaction with the environment through the Shared Environmental Information System for Europe (SEIS).

Environmental information is currently collected by a multitude of organisations using techniques ranging from satellite observation from space to volunteers knee-deep in mud collecting water samples for laboratory analysis. We aim to gather together all this information, make it user-friendly and available electronically in one place for decision-makers and individual citizens alike.

The Agency continues to work towards this vision with Eionet, our partnership network of experts in national organisations dealing with environmental information. The partnership with Eionet and national focal points (NFPs) is therefore crucial to the EEA. The Shared Environmental Information System programme of country visits undertaken in 2007 was an important building block in strengthening this partnership yet further.

As we approach the final year of our current five-year strategy 2004–2008, await the results of an independent external evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of that strategy and start to plan for the five-year strategy 2009–2013, the Agency remains committed to being the leading European institution in providing environmental data, information and knowledge to policy-makers and the public.

Message from the Chairman of the Board



Lars-Erik Liljelund

2007 was a year in which climate change dominated the environment policy agenda and received unprecedented media and political attention. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published its fourth assessment report and concluded that global warming is unequivocal and that it will have far reaching consequences, with possibly irreversible and potentially catastrophic changes to the global environment. The European Environment Agency continued to play a vital role by providing the environmental data, information and knowledge required by European Community institutions and EEA member countries to inform policy.

The political and media attention given to climate change is of course welcome, but it should not mean that other pressing environmental problems are neglected. This annual report shows that the EEA led the way in ensuring that information was made available across a broad range of environmental priorities — for example, biodiversity and land use, air pollution, fresh and marine water.

The annual report also shows that 2007 was a significant year for the development of the Shared Environmental Information System for Europe (SEIS) and that the Agency and its networks played an important role throughout the year in supporting the European Commission's preparation of a SEIS Communication. The Management

Board of the Agency's advice that SEIS discussions in the countries should be developed through a step-by-step approach, relying on INSPIRE (the Directive for developing an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe) and GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) as building blocks was likewise an important contribution.

It should again be underlined that the Agency could not fulfil its role as the leading European body committed to providing environmental information to policy-makers and the public without the support of the network upon which it relies. On behalf of the Management Board, I would therefore like to thank not just Agency staff but also the members of the European environment information and observation network (Eionet) and other stakeholders for their ongoing commitment to the work of the Agency.

However, in seeking to be the leading public body in Europe committed to providing environmental information to policy-makers and the public, to support sustainable development, and to help achieve significant and measurable improvements in Europe's environment, the EEA can always learn from its own successes and failures. That is why the Agency decided in autumn 2007 to commission an external and independent evaluation of its activity under the current corporate strategy (effectiveness and impact)

in order to inform the preparation of the EEA's corporate strategy for 2009–2013. The evaluation will take into account the views of the stakeholders at both Community and member country level. The final report of the evaluation committee will be available in summer 2008 and should ensure that the EEA is even fitter to face the challenges of the coming years.

1 Introduction



The EEA continued to deliver a major contribution to the European Community's Sixth Environment Action Programme (and its mid-term review) in 2007, at the same time as developing further its information systems and networks, providing support to the European Parliament and meetings of the Council of Ministers, and underpinning initiatives in the wider world.

Meeting the goals of the corporate strategy 2004–2008

The EEA was able to make further progress in 2007 towards delivering on its strategic goals for 2008. As the Agency approaches the final year of the corporate strategy 2004–2008, it is important to recall the main strategic goals to be achieved by 2008:

- Full development of the Eionet
- Development of an integrated spatial information system
- Increased emphasis on communication
- Established role for the EEA in EU policy cycles
- Sectoral policy integration
- Economic analysis of policy interventions
- Assessments of health and quality of life

- Development of future environmental scenarios
- Assessments of Europe's impact on the global environment
- Support for environment in sustainable development.

Shared Environmental Information System for Europe (SEIS)

2007 was a significant year for the development of the Shared Environmental System for Europe (SEIS). The Agency, its networks and its governance structures played an important role throughout the year in supporting the European Commission's preparation of a SEIS Communication (COM(2008)46 final).

The scope of SEIS is to establish an integrated and sustained environmental information system to improve the sharing of data within Europe and beyond. It should lead to an improvement, both in the quality of environmental data and information, and in its management, use and dissemination.

SEIS will create a 'system of systems' for environmentally-relevant information, in which current systems based on managing information centrally are

increasingly replaced by decentralised systems based on access and interoperability.

An important element of SEIS is to create services that make it possible to share the information put together at the European level with information at the national, regional or local level. SEIS also aims to facilitate access to data in both the Member States and in the European data centres.

At its June 2007 meeting, the EEA Management Board decided that the EEA should continue to take forward the SEIS concept with the Group of Four (namely the cooperation agreement between EEA and the three European Commission services of the Directorate-General for the Environment, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat). In particular, discussions were initiated on the preparation of a concrete and detailed SEIS implementation plan.

In order to discuss the SEIS with countries and to analyse the current state of available information systems, EEA was also tasked with undertaking a series of SEIS country visits. Moreover, the Management Board advised that SEIS discussions in the countries should be developed through a step-by-step approach, relying on INSPIRE



(the directive for developing an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe) and GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) as building blocks. Nine country visits were carried out in 2007, namely to Belgium, Finland, Latvia, Germany, Czech Republic, Spain, Estonia, Sweden and Slovakia.

SEIS implementation was also discussed at the EEA Management Board meeting on 22 November 2007. For that discussion the EEA prepared a document setting out 16 activities that will be carried out in partnership with the EEA member countries and cooperating countries in 2008 and beyond, aiming at an SEIS implementation plan during that period.

Integrated assessment: the Belgrade report

2007 saw the preparation and launch of the fourth pan-European assessment report (the Belgrade report). The latest in a series of assessments of the pan-European environment published by the EEA over the past 15 years, the report assessed environmental progress in 53 countries — an area with a total population of more than 870 million people. The region includes: Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

(EECCA), South East Europe (SEE), as well as Western and Central Europe (WCE).

In June 2007 the report was finalised and made available to the countries ahead of the Belgrade ministerial conference in October. A Russian version of the report and an executive summary were also produced, increasing the accessibility and dissemination of the report to a wider pan-European audience.

The fourth pan-European assessment report was officially presented on 10 October 2007 during the opening session of the Belgrade conference. The report set the scene for the conference and was a widely cited reference document for the participants both from governments and non-governmental organisations. It stressed the need for improved implementation of existing policies and the setting of clear, realistic targets. Moreover, it emphasized that a shared environmental information system is urgently required to deal with a prevailing lack of reliable, accessible and comparable environmental information across the region.

The strong partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) developed throughout the preparation process was confirmed at the conference with the presentation and launch of a set of coordinated reports complementing and further developing the main findings of the Belgrade report. The support provided by the CARDS programme (Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation) and the TACIS programme (Community financing programme for 12 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia) continued throughout the year, ensuring a good dialogue and engagement of the countries from the Western Balkans and East Europe Caucasus and Central Asia.

Initiating consultation on the new corporate strategy 2009–2013

In 2007, EEA started to lay the foundations for the new EEA strategy for 2009–2013. This will serve as the multi-annual work programme (as required by the EEA Regulation), defining priorities for the Agency's work in the period up to 2013. It will also be the basis for the development of the annual work programmes from 2009 onwards. Discussions were

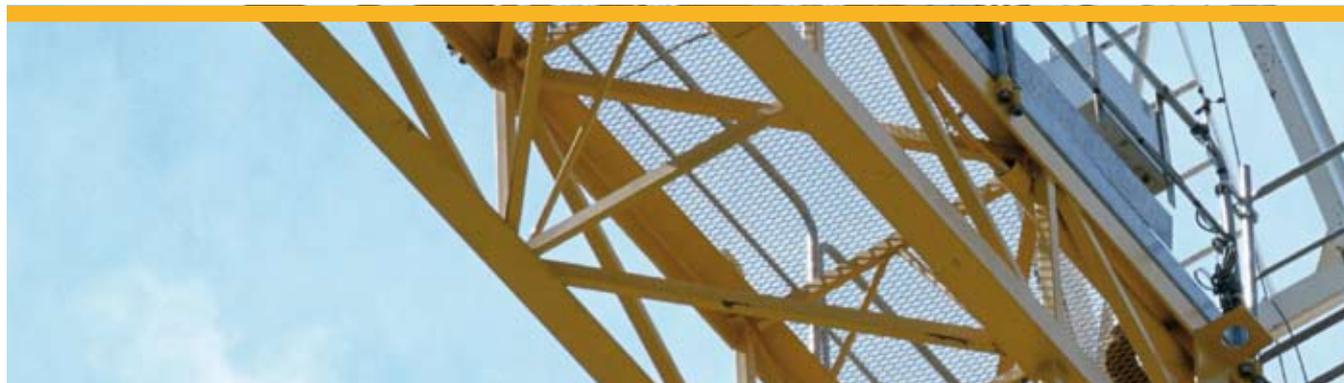


therefore launched with stakeholders and partners in 2007 in good time to prepare the adoption of the new strategy in 2008.

The current EEA Strategy 2004–2008 sits within the framework and the timeframe of the European Community's Sixth Environment Action Programme (6th EAP) 2002–2012. Over the course of the last six years, this programme has confirmed its relevance. The new corporate strategy 2009–2013 will build upon the 6th EAP, projecting its four key priorities into the period to 2013, and addressing new initiatives and challenges as they emerge. Initial discussions have confirmed that these will include: the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and the central role that the EEA is foreseen to play therein; the production of the 2012 European ecosystem assessment as listed in the Commission's 2007 Biodiversity Action Plan; the EEA's role as co-ordinator of the *in-situ* component of the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES-Kopernikus) programme; the development of the Marine Framework Directive and Maritime Strategy and the increasing emphasis on bioenergy, climate change adaptation, and disaster prevention and management.

In autumn 2007, EEA decided to commission an independent evaluation of its activity under the current corporate strategy (effectiveness and impact) in order to support the preparation of the EEA's corporate strategy for 2009–2013. It therefore contracted a commercial company to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its multi-annual strategy 2004–2008. The final report of this evaluation will be available in summer 2008.

2 Information systems and networks



NFP/Eionet coordination

Eionet is a partnership network of the EEA and its member and cooperating countries. It consists of a network of experts in national organisations dealing with environmental information. The partnership with Eionet and national focal points (NFPs) is crucial to the EEA. Throughout 2007 the NFP/Eionet group was fully engaged in facilitating data collection, supporting the national Eionet networks, contributing to the development of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS), and distributing information on Europe's environment.

As in 2006, one of the leading topics discussed by the Eionet group in 2007 was the development of SEIS. As a result of the discussions at various NFP and national reference centre (NRC) meetings, the EEA, in cooperation with Eionet, prepared a document entitled *Activities in 2007–2008 with Eionet towards SEIS Implementation Plan 2007–2008* which was approved at the Management Board meeting in November as an annex to the EEA Annual Management Plan 2008.

The NFP/Eionet group also significantly contributed to discussions on the content of the Commission's Communication 'Towards a shared environmental

information system'. In order to provide information on SEIS, discuss its concept and benefits with stakeholders and reach a common understanding on SEIS in the EEA countries, the Agency embarked upon a series of country visits to EEA member and cooperating countries. The country visits offer an opportunity to analyse the situation and ascertain countries' readiness for SEIS in all the relevant areas. The visits also enable the Agency to identify commonalities among the countries and to provide feedback to both national administrations and the Commission. In 2007 country visits were undertaken to nine Eionet countries.

The Eionet also played an active role in preparations for the new EEA corporate strategy, where the Eionet members actively contributed to identification of countries' priorities for the period 2009–2013.

With the help of a grant from the CARDS (Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation) programme covering 2007–2008, the EEA has continued its cooperation with the West Balkan countries. Following its independence, Montenegro joined Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia in the Eionet network. Moreover, the rankings of the West

Balkan countries in the EEA priority data flows have continued to improve. Two other important activities which have now begun are the final phase of the Emerald Network, to compile a complete inventory of sites of European importance compatible with Natura 2000, and the Corine land cover (CLC2006) update to map land cover changes. It is hoped that participation in both of these projects will help the West Balkan countries to bring their systems up to standards similar to those in other European countries.

In recognition of the importance of the Eionet for EEA work the Agency has continued its efforts to further strengthen coordination and improve the work of the Eionet network in 2007. At the beginning of the year a new NFP/Eionet coordinator was appointed, responsible for coordination with the NFP/Eionet group and general EEA interaction with Eionet. To improve the visibility of the Eionet a re-designed Eionet public website was launched in mid-2007 (<http://eionet.europa.eu/>) and the network has been promoted at various international meetings.

The Agency's internal network of country desk officers was reactivated in 2007 with the aim of ensuring regular contacts between the Agency, Management Board members and NFPs.

The Network of Heads of European Environmental Protection Agencies

The Network of Heads of European Environmental Protection Agencies (EPA network) is an informal network that brings together heads of environmental agencies and similar bodies from EEA member countries and other countries participating in the EEA work programme, along with the Executive Director of the EEA and representatives of the European Commission.

The purpose of the network is to exchange views and experience on information issues of common interest to organisations involved in the practical day-to-day implementation of environmental policy. The EEA hosts the secretariat for the network, which was created in 2003 to fill a gap recognised by EEA member countries. The meetings in 2007 took place in Helsinki, Finland in April and in Zagreb, Croatia in September.

Throughout 2007 the network remained very active in sharing experience in the areas of climate change, sustainable use of natural resources, better regulation, construction product directive, contaminated sites and soil protection, SEIS and GMES/Global Earth Observation.

Building the infrastructure for SEIS data management

The scope of SEIS is to establish an integrated and sustained environmental information system to improve the sharing of data within Europe and beyond. It should lead to an improvement, both in the quality of

environmental data and information, and in its management, use and dissemination.

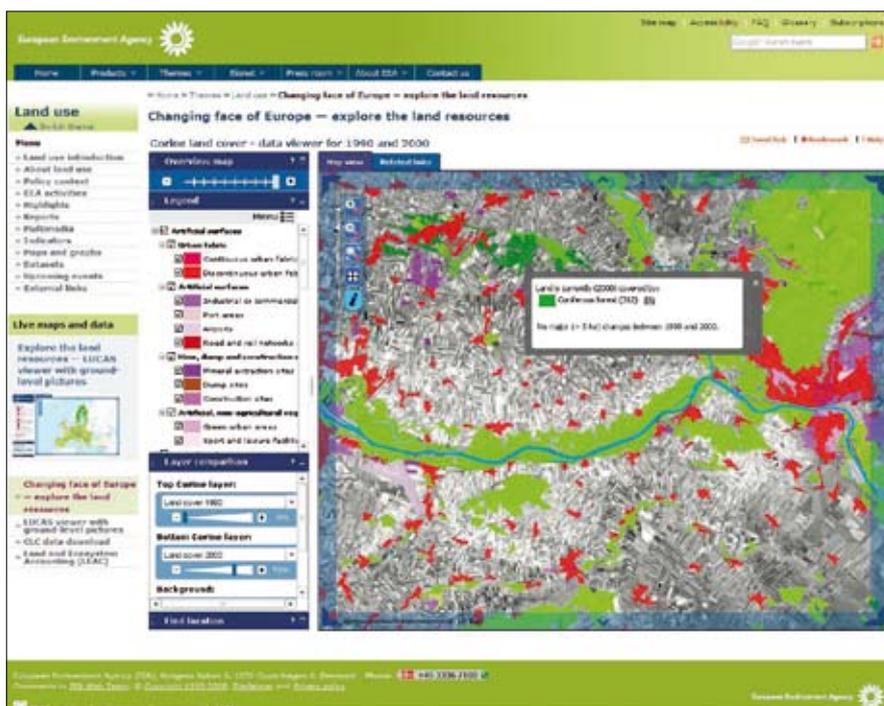
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SEIS – Eionet priority data flows and reporting tools

The EEA, in cooperation with Eionet, has identified a set of priority data flows covering a variety of environmental themes. Quality of the delivered country data, in particular timeliness and completeness, are continuously monitored and summarised in annual progress reports.

The priority data flows report tracks progress against agreed, stable, well-defined objectives in order to allow countries to focus their resources on putting regular reporting procedures

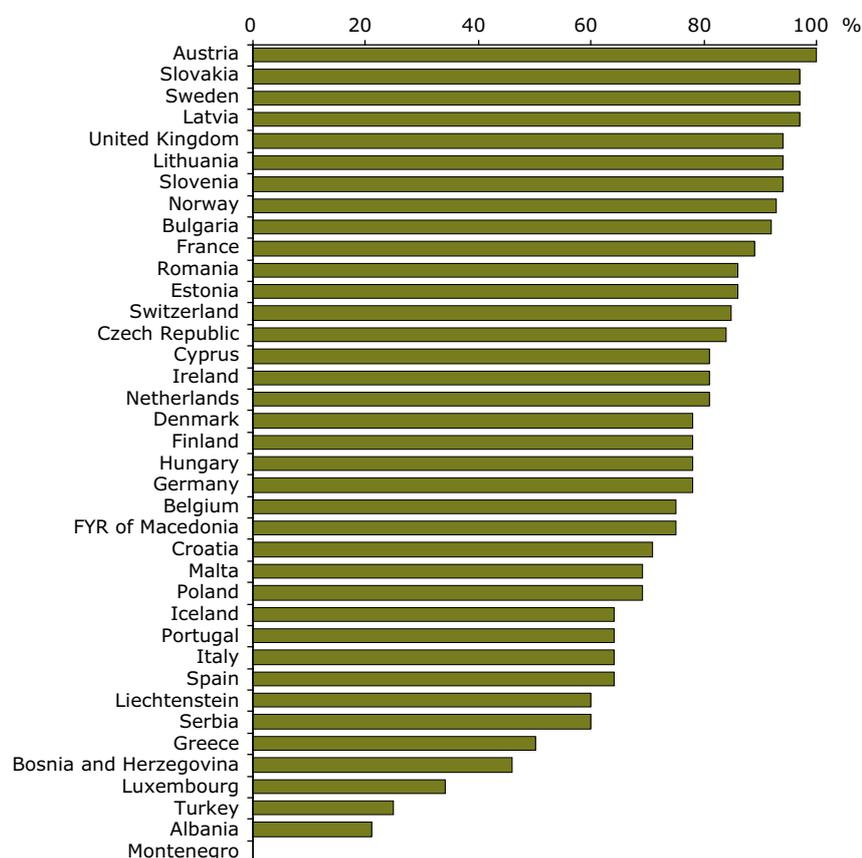
in place. The objective of the progress reports is to encourage countries towards better performance through competition amicale concentrating on praise for achievements rather than blame for failures.

For the eleventh report, progress has been assessed in nine priority areas rather than the traditional twelve. EEA and national focal points agreed that the data flows for rivers, lakes and groundwater would be included for information only because of substantial changes in the reporting process. Austria again achieved 100 %. Latvia, Slovakia and Sweden were close behind in second place. 17 countries have scores of 80 % or above and the average score is now over 70 %. Several countries have increased the resources for reporting and this is reflected in their improved results. However, there are still five countries that failed to achieve a score of 50 % so the network cannot be complacent. Countries that are having difficulties with specific data flows are encouraged to discuss their problems with the Agency.

The EEA continued to work intensively with countries to step up their efforts as the provision of high quality data by Eionet is fundamental for EEA's mission to provide timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy-making agents and the public.

Eionet priority data flows provide the data needed for regular EEA products. All 32 member countries of the Agency and six cooperating West Balkan countries now participate in the priority data flow exercise — a substantially broader geographical coverage than in other ranking exercises and a key added value of EEA/Eionet collaboration. The latest information can be found at <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows>.

Figure 1 Performance in data delivery from the countries (monitoring cycle covers period from May 2007 to April 2008)



Source: <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows>.

Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES)

GMES integrates satellite observation, terrestrial monitoring and analysis to deliver information services, and potentially offers big benefits for the EEA, as a means of supporting integrated and more sophisticated environmental analysis. Although the GMES proposition originated in 1998, 2007 saw a marked increase in momentum, as the recognition of the importance of non-space data grew, and as further financial resources became available.

The Agency became increasingly engaged as a partner in the initiative, including through the recruitment of a secondee to work alongside the GMES Bureau in the European Commission. A crucial step was the adoption of strategic plans for each of the initial GMES services, against the background of a political commitment, reaffirmed in the 'Munich Road Map', to deliver some operational services in 2008. Agency staff played an important role in the Implementation Groups developing these plans and following them up.

EEA work in the Eionet context to prepare for the Shared Environmental Information System increasingly focussed on the links with GMES — particularly in Eionet discussions in autumn 2007 and the projects set out in the SEIS Implementation Plan. The country visits undertaken during the second half of the year also provided an opportunity to discuss the application of GMES at country level.

In addition to its interest in GMES as a user of its products, the Agency also has a role to play in building on its networks to support the provision of non-space data for the emerging services. It was agreed in December that the Agency would play a coordinating role between Member States and between other bodies with interests in the supply of such data at European level.

GMES is regarded as the EU's key contribution to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and the Agency took part in the GEO-IV meeting in Cape Town in December, emphasising the importance of the non-space component to global observation systems.

Water Information System for Europe (WISE)

Work in this area continued to grow as EEA took on responsibility for the integration of more existing data flows into the water data centre as part of the Water Information System for Europe (WISE). In 2007 there was a greater focus on improving data and information on water quantity issues linked to floods, water scarcity and drought, not at least in the light of climate change. In the marine area, work focused on links with the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODNet), providing support to the Marine Directive, the Maritime Strategy and GMES, in order to develop also the basis for future EEA assessment work in the marine area.

WISE was launched on World Water Day 2007 (22 March) by Commissioner Dimas and the Executive Director of the EEA. Further work focused on the development of the spatial reference data in WISE. The necessary data have now been transferred from the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission to EEA and will be incorporated into a common reference dataset available to all EU bodies and Member States.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Eionet priority data flows May 2007–April 2008* (Eleventh progress report). <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows>
- WISE: <http://water.europa.eu>

3 Tackling climate change



Climate change

In 2007 climate change received unprecedented media and political attention. The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published its fourth assessment report and concluded that global warming is unequivocal and that it will have far reaching consequences, with possibly irreversible and potentially catastrophic changes to the global environment. However, action is both technically feasible and affordable compared to the high costs of unabated climate change. The UN climate change conference in Bali (December 2007) adopted the Bali Roadmap with the main elements for further work in the coming two years aimed at achieving a global post-2012 climate change agreement by end of 2009 in Copenhagen.

During the Spring Council on 8–9 March 2007, EU leaders agreed on the following binding targets to be achieved by 2020: 20 % of its overall energy mix from renewable energy by 2020; the share of road transport fuels coming from biofuels to increase to 10 % (provided this can be achieved in a sustainable way); and, a 'unilateral' 20 % reduction in greenhouse-gas emissions (and 30 % if other developed countries join in). On energy efficiency, the objective of saving 20 % of total

primary energy consumption by 2020 was reiterated.

In 2007 the EU had to demonstrate its capacity to account for its emissions and assigned amount for the first commitment period (2008–2012) under the Kyoto Protocol. To that end, the EEA prepared the European Community's initial report under the Kyoto Protocol. The EEA also prepared the annual EU greenhouse gas inventory and the assessment on trends in emissions of greenhouse gases and projections to 2010 for EU Member States and other EEA member countries.

Climate change and its impacts are becoming more visible in Europe and are projected to become more pronounced in the future. EEA published a report on climate change adaptation in the water sector. In 2007 the EEA published a number of other reports on climate change and energy and held various workshops and expert meetings.

Progress of the EU to meet the Kyoto Protocol targets

The annual EEA report *Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2007* was published on 27 November 2007 and launched through coordinated

EEA and European Commission press releases. Based on Member State projections, the report says that existing domestic policies and measures will reduce EU-15 greenhouse gas emissions by a net effect of 4.0 % below base-year levels. When additional domestic policies and measures (i.e. those planned but not yet implemented) are taken into account, the EU-15 could reduce emissions by an additional 3.9 %. The projected use of Kyoto mechanisms by ten of the EU-15 will reduce emissions by a further 2.5 %. The use of carbon sinks, such as planting forests to remove CO₂, will reduce emissions by an additional 0.9 %. As a result, the EU-15 could even achieve an 11.4 % reduction, the report says. All new Member States with a target expect to meet their target. The EU Emissions Trading Scheme will bring significant emission reductions between 2008 and 2012.

The transport sector is a substantial and increasing source of GHG emissions and therefore EEA started preparing a draft technical report on 'good practice' with regard to effective measures in the road transport sector to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Such measures are often at local level (government and/or businesses). The report was prepared and sent for country review at the end of 2007.



Greenhouse gas inventories and emission trading

The annual EU greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory was published and the data were made available through a new 'GHG web viewer' linked to the EEA data service (June 2007). An accompanying press release showing the trends and underlying data for 1990 to 2005 was also published. The report focused on EU-15, with detailed data, but also included data on the 12 new EU Member States. The press coverage of the report was substantial within and also outside Europe.

The European Community's initial report under the Kyoto Protocol (sent to UNFCCC in December 2006) was reviewed by an international expert team from 2 to 7 July 2007 at DG Environment of the European Commission in Brussels. The report from the team was received at the end of 2007 which confirmed that the EC initial report was largely in line with the requirements. It is expected that in early 2008 the report will be approved and by then the assigned amount for the EU-15 (i.e. the maximum quantity of greenhouse gas emissions the EU-15 may emit during the period 2008–2012 under the Kyoto Protocol) will be agreed.

The EEA technical report on *Application of the Emissions Trading Directive by EU Member States — Reporting year 2006* was published in February 2007. It sets out Member States' experiences with the EU Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) in 2006, for example on the national legislation, coverage of activities and installations, monitoring, reporting and verification and the allocation process for the first phase of the EU ETS between 2005 and 2007.

EEA developed a prototype viewer for 2005–2006 emission data of installations in the EU ETS based on data reported by countries to the Commission. The tool will be reviewed by countries and published early in 2008 including 2007 data.

A successful workshop on emissions from aviation and maritime transport was held in Oslo 4–5 October 2007 (co-organised and co-chaired by EEA jointly with the government of Norway) with 90 participants from governments, business, researchers, the UNFCCC, IMO (International Maritime Organization) and ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization). The findings of the workshop were also presented at the UNFCCC climate change conference in Bali (December 2007).

An EU climate change committee workshop on consistency between GHG inventories and EU ETS data was held at EEA (13–14 September 2007), co-chaired by DG Environment. The workshop showed the need for improving consistency which can be enhanced through coordination of future revisions and amendments of the ETS monitoring guidelines and the revision of the EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Decision (in 2008).

Impacts and adaptation to climate change

Work started early in 2007 on a report on climate change impacts in Europe. This report was prepared jointly by EEA, JRC and WHO, with contributions from a range of European topic centres. The report is an update and extension of the earlier (2004) EEA report on climate change impacts. An External Advisory Group was arranged to provide advice on the outline, content and data for the report. The group consists of representatives from the European Commission, EEA Scientific Committee, ADAM, ECMWF (European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting), IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), NGOs, and various major EU research programmes. The advisory group and the authors team

met several times in 2007 to discuss drafts. The report is expected to be finalised and published in September 2008.

The EEA technical report *Climate change and water adaptation issues* was published in February 2007. The report reviews the challenges facing Europe in adapting to the impacts of climate change on water resources. Water is a critical sector for people's lives and the economy. Increases in global temperature and the associated impacts, including those on water availability and flooding, are expected for many decades to come. Using a policy analysis at European level, and a survey, the report reviews practices in countries and concludes that countries are aware of these impacts and have started to adapt to them, but that there is still much to do. A briefing was also prepared to summarise the key messages. The report was launched at a major German Presidency conference on climate change and water (12–14 February 2007) at which the Executive Director of the EEA delivered a speech.

A first Eionet workshop on 'Climate change vulnerability, impacts and adaptation' was held on 27–28 November (back-to-back with a meeting of the EPA network's interest group on adaptation) with more than 20 countries attending and a number of experts from major EU research programmes. Recommendations of the workshop for EEA work included: enhance information sharing and communication, guidance on national vulnerability assessments and adaptation plans, further development of indicators, review of actions in countries and good practices, analysis of effectiveness of adaptation actions, integrated assessments, guidance on methods for cost of adaptation at

national and sector levels. An important conclusion was that EEA should develop a European Clearing House on Impacts and Adaptation (together with the European Commission) that would be an entry point for impacts, vulnerability and adaptation activities and knowledge in Europe.

The EEA technical report *Climate change: the cost of inaction and the cost of adaptation* was published in December 2007. It looks at the economic costs of climate change (impacts) at a European level. These costs increasingly shape the climate policy debate but the report highlights the fact that methodological issues and uncertainties remain with regard to cost estimation. The study also concludes that adaptation has an extremely important role in reducing these economic costs. However, information on costs of adaptation is only available for few countries so far. A number of challenges and research needs were identified to help improve our understanding of the economic costs of climate change.

Support was provided to the development and consultation process of the EU Green Paper on Adaptation (published by the European Commission on 29 June). The Executive Director of the EEA delivered a speech at the launch event on 3 July 2007. EEA participated in four Regional Stakeholders Workshops (in Helsinki, Budapest, London and Lisbon).

EEA also participated in a number of conferences and meetings on adaptation, including: the EPA network interest group, the advisory group of the ADAM research project on adaptation and mitigation, ESPACE project conference (European Spatial Planning Adapting to Climate Events),

UNFCCC Workshop on Adaptation Planning and Practices under the Nairobi Work Programme (Rome), European Conference on Applications of Meteorology (ECAM) (Spain). Several articles on adaptation were also prepared for various journals.

Energy and environment

Work on modelling various scenarios on environmental impacts of various competing ways of converting the technical environmentally compatible biomass potential in Europe into useable electricity, fuel or heat, was finalised. A draft technical report was prepared to be finalised in 2008.

A further draft technical report to be presented in 2008 was also prepared on wind energy potential in Europe. This includes initial quantitative estimates of the technical and economic potential, both onshore and offshore which are presented on maps, taking into account climatologic, technical, and economic criteria. How environmental and social factors further impose constraints on the actual potential is discussed in a qualitative way.

A successful first Eionet meeting on energy and environment was attended by 17 EEA member countries and DG Environment, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat. Enhancing current and possible future activities were discussed with regard to renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy and environment reporting. Suggestions for future EEA work included: good practice examples on energy efficiency measures; harmonisation of Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) methodologies and data (GHG emissions and air pollutant emissions); work on other sustainability

criteria; comparing EU-wide wind potentials with wind maps from countries; proposals for additional core set indicators; improved annual energy and environment indicators; and publication of a regular energy and environment report. Some of these ideas were subsequently included in the 2008 EEA management plan.

All indicators on energy and environment, including the core set indicators, were updated with 2004 data and published on the EEA website. Some of these indicators were shared with Eurostat for inclusion in the 2007 'monitoring report' under the EU Sustainable Development Strategy. Contributions were also made to Eurostat on proposals for additional Sustainable Development Indicators while support also continued on the Structural Indicators.

Presentations and contributions on bio-energy were made at various conferences, including in Berlin (15th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, 7–11 May 2007) and at the European Environmental Advisory Council meeting at EEA (May).

Some of the other events at which EEA contributed included the following:

- EEA presented its work on climate change, energy and transport to the European Parliament's new Temporary Committee on Climate Change Committee at an informal meeting on 11 October 2007.
- EEA participated in the UNFCCC meetings in Bonn (June 2007) and the UNFCCC climate change conference held in Bali (3–14 December 2007), covering issues on GHG inventories, carbon sinks and adaptation.
- EEA also participated also in the IPCC working group meetings that discussed and finalised the three IPCC and the final synthesis report, all together forming the IPCC 4th Assessment Report.
- EEA participated in the steering committee of a Plan Bleu study on energy and climate change in the Mediterranean (October 2007).
- Contributions were provided to the joint EEA–JRC and EEA–Eurostat work programmes for the areas climate change and energy.



Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2007*. EEA report No 5/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2007_5/en
- *Annual European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2005 and inventory report 2007*. EEA Technical report No 7/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_7/en
- *Climate change and water adaptation issues*. EEA Technical report No 2/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_2/en
- *Application of the Emissions Trading Directive by EU Member States — Reporting year 2006*. EEA Technical report No 4/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_4/en
- *Climate change: the cost of inaction and the cost of adaptation*. EEA Technical report No 13/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_13/en
- *Climate change and water adaptation issues*. EEA briefing No 1/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/briefing_2007_1/en
- EU greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory on new EEA 'GHG web viewer'. www.dataservice.eea.europa.eu/dataservice/viewdata/viewput.asp?is=148
- Climate change: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate>
- Energy: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/energy>

Workshops and meetings

- EU climate change committee workshop on consistency between GHG inventories and EU ETS data. Co-chaired by DG Environment, 13–14 September 2007, Copenhagen
- Workshop on emissions from aviation and maritime transport (Co-organised and co-chaired by EEA jointly with the government of Norway), 4–5 October 2007, Oslo
- Eionet workshop on climate change vulnerability, impacts and adaptation, 27–28 November 2007, Copenhagen
- Eionet meeting on energy and environment, 25–26 October 2007, Copenhagen

4 Tackling biodiversity loss and understanding spatial change



Nature and biodiversity

Progress in this area has focused primarily on Biodiversity data centre developments, encompassing support to

- the Habitats and Birds Directives;
- the Natura 2000 network and other designated areas;
- the 2010 target indicator framework (Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI) 2010);
- the development of biodiversity-related assessments, most notably SEBI2010 reports, biodiversity and climate change impacts analysis and the first-ever European Ecosystem Assessment (EURECA).

The European Ecosystem Assessment (EURECA) process focused in 2007 on developing options around the framework for the assessment and on discussions with Member States and global partners, notably UNEP, on how to connect analyses across different spatial scales. EURECA is on track for an assessment to be published in 2012.

A key milestone for nature and biodiversity work more generally in the Agency in 2007 was securing a significant increase in budget for biodiversity activities from 2008 onwards, reflecting the marked increase in attention to this policy area

following publication by the European Commission of its Biodiversity Communication in 2006. There was also substantial unforeseen support on producing an assessment of the global economic benefit of biological diversity, the costs of the loss of biodiversity and the failure to take protective measures versus the costs of effective conservation (the so-called Potsdam initiative named after the meeting of G8+5 environment ministers in March 2007 of which the process was launched).

Through the European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD), the EEA provided ongoing support to the Natura 2000 process, which in 2007 saw the first list of sites for the Pannonian biogeographical region published in November 2007. The lists for the Atlantic, Boreal and Continental regions were updated in the same month as part of the accelerated programme to finalise the Natura 2000 lists by 2009 as agreed with Member States and the European Commission in early 2007.

The Reportnet-based tool developed by EEA in 2006 to support streamlined reporting by Member States under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive, was used by 25 Member States for this purpose in 2007. The tool has helped streamline substantially Member States' reporting efforts, enabled automated

routines for quality assurance of their deliveries by the ETC/BD and will considerably simplify the task for the ETC and the European Commission of producing a European assessment for the European Parliament and the European Council in 2009 as required under the Directive.

The Natura 2000 database continued to be analysed in connection with the Corine land cover database (and the integration of these two databases). Discussions were concluded with the Commission on the transfer of the Natura 2000 database to EEA by early 2009, and spatial analysis of Natura 2000 in relation to the CLC proceeded. In this line, an update of the high nature value farmland map was finalised with JRC and launched in the final quarter of 2007. This is an important data layer to support integrated spatial analysis. Together, the Natura 2000 database, the HNV map and the update of Corine land cover for 2006 will allow EEA in 2009 to produce robust integrated assessments of how the use of Europe's territory impacts on biodiversity, ecosystems, and the services ecosystems provide, and the role that nature protection policy can play in mitigating these impacts together with foreseen impacts of climate change.

Biodiversity data centre-related activities started to be developed in line with the principles of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and the INSPIRE Directive. The SEIS principles open the opportunity to engage with the wide range of biodiversity data sources (Member States, research, NGOs) that exist in Europe and globally and developing agreements with these sources will be a key objective in the coming years. An operational agreement between EEA and UNEP-WCMC on further streamlining data flows between the World Database on Protected Areas and the European Common Database on Designated Areas was signed in September 2007, to become fully operational in 2008 and beyond.

The annual Eionet workshop with EEA countries focused on the topic 'from data to assessments' and in doing so reviewed progress with the Eionet priority data flow on Common Database on Designated Areas (CDDA), implementation of the SEBI2010 process as well as providing a multi-annual perspective on future activities which will culminate in the production of a European Ecosystem Assessment (EURECA) by 2012.

The European Community's Clearing House Mechanism was redesigned and further progress made with connecting more biodiversity-related information sources through it, by engineering a link between the EEA thematic website, as well as other EEA information portals. Further work remains to be done in enlarging the country usage of the EC-CHM tool-kit, both by European and third countries.

The most notable assessment outputs in 2007 were the biodiversity chapter in the

Belgrade report (see Chapter 7 of this annual report), the contribution to the preparation of the report of the Council of Europe on 'The Pan-European Ecological Network: taking stock', and the first SEBI report. The Belgrade chapter shows that biodiversity decline and the loss of ecosystem services continue to be a major concern in the pan-European region. Biodiversity loss is inextricably linked to the degradation of the ecosystem services described by the 2005 Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. The main pressures continue to come from urban sprawl, infrastructure development, acidification, eutrophication, desertification, overexploitation, agricultural intensification and land abandonment alongside climate change. The target of halting biodiversity loss will not be met without additional pan-European efforts. Support was also provided to UNEP's Carpathians Environment Outlook 2007 as well as to UNEP's GEO4 Global Environment Outlook – Environment for Development.

Streamlining European 2010 biodiversity indicators (SEBI2010)

The SEBI2010 process is extensive, involving not only elements of Eionet but also a wide range of NGOs and research organisations responsible for collecting European-level quality-assured data sets relevant to biodiversity. SEBI reached a milestone in November 2006 when 26 indicators were selected to be the basis for monitoring progress towards the 2010 target following a workshop involving 80 participants from across Europe. A first report was presented in July 2007 during the CBD-SBSTTA meeting in

Paris and published in October 2007 in conjunction with the Belgrade conference, fully documenting the 26 indicators and setting out future milestones towards a full assessment of progress towards the target by 2010. The report marks the end of Phase 1 of SEBI. Phase 2 got underway in autumn 2007 with a particular focus on integrated assessment across indicators, biodiversity-climate change links and how to communicate effectively future assessment results.

Land use and landscapes

2007 saw substantial progress made on developing the EU land-use data centre, on producing policy-relevant messages around the environmental impacts of Europe's changing territory, on the development of environmental accounting methods and results, and on continued support to the European Commission and Member States on a range of policy processes.

The concept paper for the Land Use Data Centre (LUDC) was developed in line with Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles. The concept paper envisages substantial connections with related topics (biodiversity and water data centres) and activities (GMES fast track services on Land; INSPIRE directive and geospatial data sets). Together, the delivery of the Natura 2000 database, the high nature value map, the intermediate map of pan-European ecological corridors, the update of Corine land cover for 2006, and first results in WISE, will allow EEA to produce robust integrated assessments in 2009 of: how the use of Europe's territory and freshwater ecosystems impacts on biodiversity; the services

ecosystems provide; and, the role that ecosystem services can play in mitigating these impacts together with foreseen impacts of climate change. The prototyping of an environment interactive atlas has shown promising progress both as an analytical support tool and as a user-friendly interface for the Land Use Data Centre with first implementation scheduled for late 2008.

Substantial breakthroughs were achieved throughout 2007 on getting broad acceptance of the ecosystem accounting methodologies that have been under development in EEA since 2005, most notably through EEA's involvement in the 'Beyond GDP' conference in November 2007, our contributions to the G8+5 Potsdam Initiative on the cost of biodiversity loss and through discussions in the United Nations London Group on the 2010 revision of the Strategy for integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA). These breakthroughs mark a significant shift in focus by EEA from the development of concepts to the production of methodologies and accounts. There are now clear short-term demands for results in 2008/2009 (Potsdam), medium-term to 2010 (Beyond GDP, UN-SEEA) and more long-term to 2012 and beyond (EURECA and Millennium Assessment follow-up). The Agency identified a significant opportunity to use accounts as the vehicle to link the intrinsic value of the natural environment for sustaining Europe's economy and societal welfare.

More key-note presentations on *Urban sprawl in Europe* and *The changing faces of Europe's coastal areas* 2006 reports were given at national and international events, the latter at the invitation of US and Asian organisations which

expressed their interest in the change analysis method developed by EEA. Discussions on improved urban information and data took place with Commission services (Urban audit database) and NGOs with a view to coherent updating and further data analysis; partnerships were agreed with key NGOs to publishing jointly in 2008 a report on cities, quality of life and the environment.

Work on maritime space, to support forthcoming EU policy in this area, was initiated around the Atlas of the Sea concept (from the European Commission) and building on the developments of coastal atlases and marine spatial planning approaches in countries. Discussions continued with the Commission through to the end of the year on starting sea-bed mapping activities, as a basis layer in the related information system.

Under the Portuguese Presidency of the Council, EEA support focused on the drafting of the EU Action plan for Territorial Agenda and related discussions with the European Commission (the Directorate-General for Regional Policy) and the new ESPON Programme for spatial development (2008–2013) to address complementary activities where EEA can contribute (e.g. new territorial indicators). In parallel, work was started on an environmental effectiveness analysis of EU territorial and cohesion policies in cooperation with European Commission services and interested Member States.

The latest update of the EEA core set indicator for contaminated sites was published in July 2007. A successful workshop with Eionet on soil was held in September to address the transfer of

Eionet-data flow on contaminated sites to the JRC under the Group of Four technical arrangement and to clarify ongoing activities around country analyses to support a comprehensive soil assessment now scheduled for completion by 2008. A meeting was held with the European Soil Bureau Network representatives in December to consider joint actions including closer collaboration with Eionet, support to the 2008 assessment and collaboration on environmental accounts for soil in an ecosystem services context.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010: Proposal for a first set of indicators to monitor progress in Europe.* EEA Technical Report No 11/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_11/en/
- *Europe's environment — The fourth assessment (the Belgrade report) (Chapter 4 — Biodiversity).* http://reports.eea.europa.eu/state_of_environment_report_2007_1/en/chapter4.pdf
- *The Pan-European Ecological network: taking stock*, Council of Europe Publishing, Nature and Environment nr. 146. http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=39&lang=EN&theme_catalogue=100094
- Biodiversity: <http://eea.europa.eu/themes/biodiversity>
- Beyond GDP: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/beyond-gdp>
- Land use: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/landuse>
- Noise: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/noise>
- Urban environment: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/urban>

Workshops and meetings

Biodiversity and ecosystems meetings in 2007:

- SEBI 2010 Coordination Team Meeting (8), 18–19 January 2007
- SEBI 2010 Coordination Team Meeting (9), 10–11 May 2007
- SEBI 2010 Coordination Team Meeting (ad hoc), 4 July 2007
- SEBI 2010 Coordination Team Meeting (10), 26–27 November 2007
- SEBI 2010 Expert Group 3, Genetic diversity, 6 March 2007
- SEBI 2010 Expert Group 5, Invasive alien species, 21–24 May 2007
- SEBI 2010 Working Group 1, Interlinkages, 11–12 December 2007
- Biodiversity and economics evaluation drafting group, 15–16 February 2007
- Advisory group 'Europe's forest resources' report (1), 7 March 2007
- Presenting European forest types, 6 June 2007
- EC Clearing house mechanism workshop, 28–29 June 2007
- Life Watch project presentation, 21 September 2007
- Advisory group invasive alien species, 25 October 2007
- Biodiversity data rehabilitation workshop, 31 October 2007
- Eionet NRC's nature and biodiversity workshop, 29–30 October 2007
- Advisory group 'European forest resources' report (2), 19–20 November 2007

5 Protecting human health and quality of life



Air quality

The EEA report *Air pollution in Europe 1990–2004* was published in November 2007. The report analyses changes in air pollutant emissions and their possible health or ecosystem impacts in Europe. Despite a decrease in emissions of most air pollutants, measured concentrations in the air of particulate matter and ozone (the main threats to human health from air pollution) have not improved since 1997. The report also highlights that sensitive ecosystems are still affected considerably by acidification and eutrophication.

The EEA technical report *Air pollution by ozone in Europe in summer 2006* was published in March 2007. The report evaluates summer ground-level ozone pollution based on information from Member States submitted to the European Commission under the Directive on ozone in ambient air.

A Preliminary Assessment of the 4th Air Quality Daughter Directive was performed by the European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change (ETC/ACC) pointing to a number of data quality issues. The Directive covers heavy metals and polyaromatic hydrocarbons.

EEA and the ETC/ACC continue to contribute to the drafting of the air quality data flows parts of the draft implementing provisions of the proposed new Cleaner Air for Europe Directive.

EEA contributed to the drafting of the *EMEP Particulate Matter Assessment* report (published in August 2007). In particular, EEA provided an analysis of the particular matter air quality situation at stations all over Europe using EEA's air quality monitoring database AirBase.

The near real-time ozone website has continued to attract media and public interest. The near real-time data exchange has been successfully extended to cover all EEA member countries (except Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey). Data exchange of near real-time particulate matter has been established with a number of countries and data is regularly received with good coverage for six countries.

Air emissions

The EEA published the *Annual European Community LRTAP Convention Emission Inventory report 1990–2005* in

October 2007. This report accompanies the official European Community emissions data submission which is compiled annually by the Agency and reported by the European Commission to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

In 2007, EEA published for the first time a separate *National Emissions Ceiling (NEC) Directive status report* (previously this was included in the *EC LRTAP Convention Inventory report*). The report concludes that a number of Member States are likely to miss legally binding 2010 emission targets for some of the four air pollutants regulated under the NEC Directive.

The joint *EMEP/EEA Inventory review 2007* report, which summarises the results of the EMEP and EEA annual inventory review activities was published in July. The report contained information on two additional data flows that are reported only every fifth year to the LRTAP Convention, namely gridded and large point source data.

The 2007 partially updated version of the *EMEP/CORINAIR Atmospheric Emission Inventory Guidebook* was published in December 2007. A large on-going project to substantially revise



the Guidebook is on track to deliver a restructured, comprehensively updated, and easily maintainable Guidebook by the end of 2008. An Advisory Editorial Group (AEG) was established to supervise this work, consisting of representatives of the UNECE EMEP Centres, the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections (TFEIP), the TFEIP expert panels, DG Environment and EEA. The group is co-chaired by EEA.

EEA continued to provide expert advice to the European Commission and the Member States concerning the revision of the NEC Directive. EEA is also contributing to the updating of the reporting requirements of the current NEC Directive. EEA's role in both cases consists mainly in advising how reporting requirements under the Directive may be improved, both to increase data transparency and to ensure reporting requirements are streamlined as far as possible between the NEC Directive, the EU Monitoring

Mechanism for Greenhouse Gases and the Guidelines for Estimating and Reporting Emission data under the UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP).

As input to the revision of the Integrated Prevention Pollution and Control (IPPC) Directive, an EEA technical report was prepared (for publication early in 2008) assessing the emission reduction potential of SO₂ and NO_x in the large combustion plant (LCP) sector through the implementation of best available technologies as described in the LCP BREF (Best available techniques REFerence document).

EEA contributed the chapter 'Comparing EPER data for reporting year 2004 with national totals for selected greenhouse gases and air pollutants' in the European Commission European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER) Review report (published June 2007).

Transport and environment

The transport and environment reporting mechanism (TERM) report for 2006 was launched in February 2007. It ranks in the top five of EEA publications in terms of press citations. The report concludes that efforts to improve the environmental performance of the transport sector need to be intensified.

While transport contributes to several environmental problems such as climate change, air emissions and noise, the EEA report *Size, structure and distribution of transport subsidies in Europe* (published in March 2007) identified EUR 270–290 billion a year subsidies to the transport sector.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Transport and environment: on the way to a new common transport policy*. EEA Report No 1/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2007_1/en
- *Air pollution in Europe 1990–2004*. EEA Report No 2/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2007_2/en
- *Size, structure and distribution of transport subsidies in Europe*. EEA Technical report No 3/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_3/en
- *Air pollution by ozone in Europe in summer 2006. Overview of exceedances of EC ozone threshold values during April–September 2006*. EEA Technical report No 5/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_5/en/
- *Annual European Community LRTAP Convention Emission Inventory report 1990–2005*. EEA Technical report No 14/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_14/en
- *NEC Directive status report 2006*. EEA Technical report No 15/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_15/en
- *EMEP/CORINAIR Atmospheric Emission Inventory Guidebook — 2007*. EEA Technical report No 16/2007. <http://reports.eea.europa.eu/EMEPCORINAIR5/en/page002.html>
- *EMEP Particulate Matter Assessment Report*. EMEP/CCC Report 8/2007. <http://www.nilu.no/projects/ccc/tfmm/>
- *Inventory Review 2007: Emission Data reported to LRTAP Convention and NEC Directive*. Joint EMEP/EEA report. http://www.emep.int/publ/reports/2007/emep_technical_1_2007.pdf
- AirBase — the European Air quality database website: annual update of the air quality information database hosted by the European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change. http://air-climate.eionet.europa.eu/databases/airbase/index_html
- Near real-time ozone: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/maps/ozone/welcome>
- EPER (The European Pollutant Emission register): <http://eper.ec.europa.eu/eper/flashmap.asp>

Workshops and meetings

- EMEP/CORINAIR Atmospheric Emission Inventory Guidebook: Advisory Editorial Group. 12 February 2007: Copenhagen; 24 May 2007: Dessau; 24 October 2007, Dublin
- COPERT4 user training EEA workshop, 22–23 March 2007, Ispra
- EMEP Bureau Meeting, 27–28 March 2007, Vienna
- Working Group on the revision of the National Emission Ceilings & Policy Instruments (NEC-PI), 29–30 March 2007, Vienna; 19–20 June 2007, Brussels
- Mapping of spatial air quality data, EEA expert review meeting, 27 April 2007, Copenhagen
- Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections (TFEIP), 23–24 May 2007, Dessau
- Eionet Transport and Environment Annual Workshop, 6 June 2007, Copenhagen
- National Emission Ceilings Directive Inter-Service Group consultation, 19 June 2007, Brussels
- Eionet participation to Harmonisation within Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling for Regulatory Purposes conference, 2–5 July 2007, Cambridge
- 12th Annual Eionet Workshop on Air Quality Management and Assessment, 15–16 October 2007, Limassol
- 8th Annual Joint TFEIP/Eionet Workshop on Air Emissions, 23–25 October 2007, Dublin
- Network of Air Quality Modellers (FAIRMODE) — 2nd preparatory meeting, 10 December 2007, Ispra
- EMEP Steering Body meeting, 7 September 2007, Geneva
- Expert meeting on transport emission inventories, 19 November 2007, Ispra
- EMEP Executive Body meeting, 13–14 December 2007, Geneva

Environment and health

In cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumer Affairs (DG SANCO) and JRC on environment and health indicators, EEA participated in the preparation of a baseline report on children's environmental health in Europe and indicator fact-sheets, which were presented by the WHO at the Intergovernmental Mid-term Review meeting in June 2007. Collaboration continued with Eurostat on the Commission's sustainable development indicators, including EEA comments on public health indicators provided for the Eurostat consultation meetings.

The 'Environment and health and quality of life' chapter of the Belgrade report was completed and finalised; chapter development and key messages were presented at the DG SANCO Working Party on Environment and Health. A side event on environment and health, focusing on water and health took place at the ministerial conference in Belgrade on 11 October 2007.

Work continued on improving frameworks for evaluating scientific

evidence, methods to estimate environmental burden of disease, taking into account multicausality and complexity of environment and health interactions. A project on environmental burden of disease was contracted to the Imperial College, London and the draft final report was produced, *Estimation of the burden of selected childhood diseases in Europe due to exposure to chemicals in the environment*.

Contacts with the research community continued, including EEA contribution to the scientific conference on foetal programming, toxicity and development (PPTOX, Faroes), participation in several project and scientific advisory boards, and hosting meetings of several research consortia.

A paper on the precautionary principle and children's environmental health was published in the scientific journal (the International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health).

The second meeting of the NRCs for chemicals was held in January. As a follow-up, EEA participated as observer in the informal expert meeting on effectiveness evaluation under the Stockholm convention. An exploratory meeting (modelling of environmental

concentrations of chemicals) on joint activities based on EPER data was held with JRC and DG Environment.

Three technical reports were completed: *Feasibility assessment of using the substance flow analysis methodology for chemicals information at macro level* (No 1/2007); *Towards a European chemicals information system: a survey on reported monitoring activities of chemicals in Europe* (No 6/2007); *Feasibility study: modeling environmental concentrations of chemicals from emission data* (No 8/2007).

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Feasibility assessment of using the substance flow analysis methodology for chemicals information at macro level*. EEA Technical report No 1/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_1/en
- *Towards a European chemicals information system: a survey on reported monitoring activities of chemicals in Europe*. EEA Technical report No 6/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_6/en
- *Feasibility study: modeling environmental concentrations of chemicals from emission data*. EEA Technical report No 8/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_8/en

Noise

A key milestone for 2007 was the understanding reached with the European Commission on activities in support of the Noise Directive from 2008 onwards, reflecting the marked increase in attention to this policy area in line with implementation of the directive and especially noise mapping requirements. Activities on noise mapping and support to the Commission's working group on monitoring continued according to plan. The proposal for using Eionet/Reportnet for the noise data flow under the directive was further elaborated for implementation from 2008 in connection with the delivery by EU Member States of the noise mapping areas.

Freshwater and marine assessments

Assessment work in the freshwater area focused on the impacts of climate change on water bodies and water resources, and consequences for water resource management. The EEA report *Climate change and water adaptation issues* was presented at the German Presidency Conference 'Time to Adapt – Climate Change and the European Water Dimension' on 12–14 February 2007. Work was also carried out to highlight the importance of small water bodies to aquatic ecosystems, and the need to take them properly into account in the implementation of the Water Framework Directive. Results of this later study will be published mid-2008.

Work in the marine area concentrated on supporting the future implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive adopted late in 2007. EEA co-chaired (with DG Environment of the European Commission) the European Marine Monitoring and Assessment (EMMA) working group aiming at developing a set of marine indicators to support integrated, pan-European marine assessments. Further work focused on the integration of GMES marine core services, cooperation with the European Maritime Observation and Data Network (EMODNet), and the development of a marine module for WISE.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Climate change and water adaptation issues*. EEA Technical report No 2/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_2/en
- *Assessing water quality in Europe using stratification techniques — Results of a prototype application using French data*. EEA Technical report No 10/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_10/en
- *Climate change and water adaptation issues*. EEA Briefing No 1/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/briefing_2007_1/en
- Melting ice a hot topic for Europe's water too in WISE. <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/featured-articles/melting-ice-a-hot-topic-for-europes-water-too>

Workshops and meetings

- EEA/EMMA workshop 'Monitoring and reporting framework for chemical loads and burdens', 17–18 April 2007
- Plenary meeting of the working group on European Marine Monitoring and Assessment (EMMA), 30–31 May 2007
- Joint EEA, Eurostat, OECD and JRC workshop on 'methodological issues and coordination for TAPAS actions — calculating regional gross nutrient balances', 10–11 September 2007

Agriculture and environment

Work on predicting Europe-wide impacts of agriculture upon nutrient water quality identified the importance of developing regionalised gross nutrient balances. A joint EEA/Eurostat/JRC/OECD workshop in September on nutrient balances identified necessary steps towards calculation at a regional scale and towards quantifying the link between nutrient surplus and loss to air and water.

A Memorandum of Understanding for defining the division of responsibility (across the Group of Four and the Directorate-General for Agriculture) for agri-environment indicators from 2008 onwards made good progress. The EEA updated a number of particularly relevant agri-environment indicator fact sheets during the course of the year.

The CIFAS project (Cross-compliance Indicators in the context of the Farm Advisory System) was successfully completed. A substantial effort was put into outreach activities with seminars or presentations in seven EU Member States. A final stakeholder seminar was held at the European Parliament.

EEA agriculture staff also made substantial contributions to work in the area of climate change impacts, the development with the JRC of a joint map of high nature value farmland in Europe, work on territorial cohesion as well as the environmental impact of bioenergy production. The latter resulted in three conference papers and a technical report (No 12/2007). Globally, the EEA was represented at the International Conference on Agricultural Statistics in Beijing in October 2007.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Estimating the environmentally compatible bioenergy potential from agriculture*. EEA Technical report No 12/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_12/en

6 Supporting sustainable consumption and production (SCP), including resources and waste



Support to policy processes

Cooperation with the European Commission, the European Parliament, EEA member countries and other stakeholders (including the United Nations, OECD, business, the scientific community, NGOs and consumer organisations) on sustainable consumption and production, including resources and waste, was continued and strengthened in 2007.

The conference 'Time for Action — Towards sustainable consumption and production in Europe' was organised by the EEA in cooperation with the Government of Slovenia and the UNEP/Wuppertal Institute Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP) on 27–29 September 2007 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The conference made inputs to and developed specific recommendations for the EU Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), national action on SCP and the global United Nations Marrakech process on SCP.

Further support was provided to the Commission in its preparation of the EU Action Plan on SCP and in its work on revision of waste legislation through making available provisional results of ongoing studies by the EEA and the

European Topic Centre on Resource and Waste Management (ETC/RWM). Further EEA contributions were also made to the Global Marrakech process on SCP, in particular to its task force on sustainable lifestyles.

The 10th Eionet conference was held in Kranj, Slovenia, on 25–26 September 2007 and served the purpose of sharing knowledge and experience on sustainable consumption and production with and among EEA member countries.

The EEA Executive Director became a member of the new International Panel on Sustainable Resource Management, founded in 2007.

An open call for tender for a European Topic Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ETC/SCP) to support the EEA in its work in this area in the period 2009–2013 was published in December 2007. ETC/SCP will replace the current ETC/RWM.

Indicators

An activity was started in 2007 to develop a framework and a set of SCP indicators for use in EEA reporting. Work resulted in a first proposal for a

framework. The activity will continue in 2008 and will include consultation and close collaboration with other organisations, including the European Commission (DG Environment, Eurostat and the JRC), OECD, UNEP, UNDESA and the Eionet.

Environmental impacts from consumption and production

The multi-annual study on the worldwide environmental impacts from consumption and production using NAMEA (National Accounting Matrix including Environmental Accounts) resulted in the publication of an EEA brochure in 2007, in advance of the finalisation of the study and publication of its full results in 2008.

The UNEP/EEA report *Sustainable consumption and production in South East Europe and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia — joint UNEP/EEA report on the opportunities and lessons learned* was finalised and launched at the 'Environment for Europe' conference in Belgrade in October 2007. The report highlighted that the ongoing economic restructuring in South East Europe (SEE), Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) offers a unique opportunity to 'leapfrog' towards more sustainable production patterns.

It also provided detailed analysis in selected economic sectors: industry, food, building, transport and waste. The analysis is illustrated with examples of implementation of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) initiatives at the local level, through 18 city studies commissioned specifically for this report.

In the area of waste, the two multi-annual studies on the impacts of transboundary movements of waste and on the impacts of a recycling society were continued and preliminary results made available to the European Commission.

Policy information and evaluations

The policy effectiveness pilot study on the evaluation of taxes and charges on sand, gravel and stone (aggregates) in four EEA member countries (Germany, Italy, Sweden and the United Kingdom) was finalised and the Eionet was consulted.

The policy effectiveness pilot study on the evaluation of waste policies related to the Landfill Directive resulted in the publication of an EEA brochure on *The road from landfilling to recycling: common destination, different routes*.

Detailed evaluations for the six EEA member countries/regions (Estonia, Finland, Flanders, Germany, Hungary, and Italy) were undertaken in 2007 and will be published with a comparative assessment in an EEA report in 2008.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Environmental pressures from European consumption and production — Insights from environmental accounts*. EEA Brochure No 1/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/brochure_2007_1/en
- *The road from landfilling to recycling: common destination, different routes*. EEA Brochure No 3/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/brochure_2007_4/en
- *Sustainable consumption and production in South East Europe and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia — Joint UNEP-EEA report on the opportunities and lessons learned*. EEA Report No 3/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2007_3/en
- Sustainable consumption and production, Chapter 6 in *Europe's environment — The fourth assessment*. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/state_of_environment_report_2007_1/en/chapter6.pdf
- 'Finding the pathways towards sustainable consumption and production in Europe'. Speech by Professor Jacqueline McGlade at the conference 'Time for action — towards sustainable consumption and production in Europe', Ljubljana, Slovenia, 27–29 September 2007. <http://www.eea.europa.eu/pressroom/speeches/finding-the-pathways-towards-sustainable-consumption-and-production-in-europe>

Workshops and meetings

- Conference: Time for Action — Towards sustainable consumption and production in Europe, 27–29 September 2007, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 10th Eionet Workshop on Resource and Waste Management, 25–26 September 2007, Kranj, Slovenia

7 Sustainable development and other environmental policies



Integrated assessment: the Belgrade report

2007 saw the preparation and launch of the fourth pan-European assessment report (the Belgrade report). The latest in a series of assessments of the pan-European environment published by the EEA over the past 15 years, the report assessed environmental progress in 53 countries — an area with a total population of more than 870 million people. The region includes: Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), South East Europe (SEE), as well as Western and Central Europe (WCE).

In June 2007 the report was finalised and made available to the countries ahead of

the Belgrade ministerial conference in October. A Russian version of the report and an executive summary were also produced, increasing the accessibility and dissemination of the report to a wider pan-European audience.

The fourth pan-European assessment report was officially presented on 10 October 2007 during the opening session of the Belgrade conference. The report set the scene for the conference and was a widely cited reference document for the participants both from governments and non-governmental organisations. It stressed the need for improved implementation of existing policies and the setting of clear, realistic targets. Moreover, it emphasised that a shared environmental information

system is urgently required to deal with a prevailing lack of reliable, accessible and comparable environmental information across the region.

The strong partnership with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) developed throughout the preparation process was confirmed at the conference with the presentation and

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Europe's environment — The fourth assessment* (the Belgrade report). <http://www.eea.europa.eu/pan-european/pan-european-environment>

Workshops and meetings

- Launch of the *Europe's environment — The fourth assessment* report at the pan-European ministerial conference, Belgrade, 10–12 October 2007. A range of derived products were produced by EEA and are available for public use: Executive summary, videos and interviews, a general presentation and the EEA Executive Director's speech at the opening session of the conference. <http://www.eea.europa.eu/pan-european/fourth-assessment>





launch of a set of coordinated reports complementing and further developing the main findings of the Belgrade report. The support provided by the CARDS Programme (Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation) and the TACIS programme (Community financing programme for 12 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia) continued throughout the year, ensuring a good dialogue and engagement of the countries from the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Environmental technology assessment and innovation

DestiNet

The website provided support to a number of participants in the Tourism Learning Area (TLA). The purpose was to give a steer on how to improve both formal and informal education and training opportunities in the tourism sector, and show how improvements can be systematically delivered in an inclusive, participative and cooperative process. The gains of making this type of intervention were enhanced communications, streamlining of resources and increased access to knowledge acquisition through partnerships, networks and clustering.

DestiNet has also established a clear model of key multilateral stakeholder participation on analysing strategies for sustainable development of the tourism sector and reviewing their impacts. What did not exist at the time of DestiNet inception more than five years ago, was the recent unprecedented access to information processing capabilities at the fingertips of key European stakeholders. This evolution has in turn affected the nature of the control of DestiNet itself that — based on the needs and feedbacks of such stakeholders — has led to the integration to a new suite of web publishing tools into DestiNet. These tools included products for geographically positioning information at the global level, delegating administration rights to courtiers, regions, or tourism organisations, allowing multilingual operations, providing various level of access security. In addition, DestiNet could offer to the site contributors several content type uploads from simple binary files, to multimedia and interactive features including audio slide shows, photos.

Technologies

A web-based Environmental Technology Atlas was launched in June at the informal environmental council in

Essen under the auspices of the German Presidency of the Council. The Atlas presented more than 15 000 points describing companies, centres of knowledge, and main installations. The Atlas was developed in coordination with the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

The Atlas is part of the EEA's Environmental technology portal. The portal is an entry point to information on technologies suitable to enhance eco-efficiency, support the application of environmental management systems, and identify providers of cleaner production equipment. The portal is the EEA's contribution to the implementation of Action 4 of the European Union's Environmental Technology Action Plan (ETAP). Action 4 concerns the development of existing directories and databases on environmental technologies and the Environmental technology atlas is the most recent step towards its implementation

Negotiations with DG Environment were also initiated to identify the EEA's role in further supporting ETAP with the use of the Technology Atlas. The Commission will prepare a call for projects in 2008, in the framework of Europe INNOVA (funded by the

new Competitiveness and Innovation Programme under DG Enterprise leadership), to fund the first three years of the Eco-Innovation Observatory. An involvement of the EEA in the Networked Observatory is envisaged by offering the use of the atlas to the winner consortium of such call. The Atlas will provide a platform where the consortium members could elicit various types of observatory activities with the purpose of facilitating communication and networking.

Scenarios and forward studies

2007 saw the consolidation of ongoing projects in the area of scenarios and forward studies, in particular finalisation of the Prospective Environmental Analysis of Land Use Developments in Europe (PRELUDE) project, first innovative assessments published covering the wider pan-European area and progress with framing the forward studies components for the next five-year state and outlook report (SOER2010).

The PRELUDE methodology and results continued to interest a wide range of stakeholders across Europe following publication of the final technical report in June 2007. EEA made presentations at a wide range of high-level strategic events, and more and more researchers are interested in using the methodology and analysis to support their own activities. Work started in late 2007 to review the role that scenarios and other forward studies methods play in strategic planning in the public and private sectors. This work will follow on from experiences like PRELUDE and help frame what the EEA might do on such activities under the 2009–2013 EEA strategy.

There was also a substantial improvement in forward looking information for the pan-European area. An overview of available scenarios and projections in the pan-European region was compiled and is available on the web. Outlook indicators covering the pan-European and other global regions were included in the Belgrade report. The EEA Report *The pan-European environment: glimpses into an uncertain future* was published in October 2007 and presented at a side event at the Belgrade conference. This report covers the outlook assessment of key environmental topics in Europe, the main drivers of future environmental change, key uncertainties and how they might unfold in the future, illustrated by existing scenarios. Furthermore, a draft report was produced on South Eastern European countries (Balkans, Turkey), addressing priority issues in the SEE region, and was discussed with stakeholders at the Belgrade conference. This discussion confirmed the need for such an analysis and so a contract was established in December to finalise the analysis with the aim of publishing in the first half 2008.

All available outlook indicators, produced by EEA and other institutions, were put into the EEA Indicators Management System in order to ensure transparency and comparability of projections for the assessment with Eionet and others of the possibilities for their use in regular environmental reporting and assessment. Agreement was reached with Eionet to hold a workshop in spring 2008 that will focus on information sharing and capacity building opportunities around forward studies analysis.

A review of modelling tools for the 'European environment — State and

outlook 2010' report (SOER 2010) was completed. The review describes a restricted number of modelling tools in so-called standardised model descriptions. Furthermore, it provides an extended overview of computer models suitable for interactive meetings and stakeholder participation.

EEA also provided a final contribution in summer 2007 to Chapter 9 on scenarios of the 4th Global Environment Outlook (GEO4) report from a European perspective. The report was launched in October 2007 at several venues and attended by EEA staff in Berlin, London and Dubai. In the final version of the report, very limited information on European scenarios was published owing to the dominance of results from global models and the risks of misrepresenting European realities from these sources. EEA's quality assurance role was crucial for ensuring that Europe was realistically represented in the final report.

Economic instruments

The OECD–EEA database on economic instruments for the environment, which is managed in the framework of the OECD Working Party on National Environmental Policies, was updated for those countries for which the EEA has the responsibility to do so. Direct contact was established with the national officials who deal with economic instruments for the environment through Eionet and the European Commission. Three regional sub-group workshops were organised.

Work also progressed on environmental tax reform and a call for expression of interest on this subject was launched in July 2007, focusing on eco-innovation,



ageing society in Europe and the distributional implications for households. The EEA Executive Director

also gave an opening speech to the Global Conference on Environmental Taxation in Munich in October 2007.

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *The pan-European environment: glimpses into an uncertain future*. EEA Report No 4/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2007_4/en
- *Land-use scenarios for Europe: qualitative and quantitative analysis on a European scale (PRELUDE)*. EEA Technical report No 9/2007. http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_9/en
- More information on scenarios and background information on PRELUDE: <http://scenarios.ew.eea.europa.eu/reports/foI077184> and <http://scenarios.ew.eea.europa.eu/>
- Results of the modelling review project: <http://scenarios.ew.eea.europa.eu/reports/foI881291>
- Results of the review of scenarios studies in the pan-European region: EnviroWindows website: <http://scenarios.ew.eea.europa.eu/foI585720/overview-available-forward-looking-studies>. CIRCA: http://eea.eionet.europa.eu/Members/irc/eionet-circle/envenl/library?!=/foresights/overview_analyses&vm=detailed&sb=Title
- Results of the review of outlook indicators in the pan-European region: EnviroWindows website: <http://scenarios.ew.eea.europa.eu/foI048557>. CIRCA: http://eea.eionet.europa.eu/Members/irc/eionet-circle/envenl/library?!=/foresights/indicators_eecca&vm=detailed&sb=Title

Workshops and meetings

- PRELUDE action outreach workshop, 22–23 February 2007, Copenhagen (Organised by EEA)
- PRELUDE workshop *In die Zukunft schauen. Vier Szenarien für Europa aus dem PRELUDE-Projekt*, 23 March 2007, Vienna (Organised by Austrian Environment Ministry and EEA)
- 2007 Green Week session 'The future of biodiversity and land use', 13 June 2007, Brussels (Organised by DG Environment and EEA)
- Consultation on the UNEP GEO-4 report — Europe, 21–23 June 2007, Geneva (Organised by UN ECE, Geneva)
- Contribution: Facilitation of the consultation on the scenario chapter in the GEO-4 report. Pan-European conference of environmental ministers, 8–13 October 2007, Belgrade (Organised by EEA)
- Side event: Presentation of the EEA Report *Pan-European environment: glimpses into an uncertain future* by Thomas Henrichs (National Environmental Research Institute, Denmark), Anita Pirc Velkavrh (EEA), Elena Veligosh (UNEP/GRID Arendal)

8 Communications and institutional relations



Implementing the communication strategy

The strong emphasis placed on communication, including a targeted media approach combined with systematic highlighting of all reports on the EEA website, generated payoff in the form of a substantial rise in media coverage and in the number of enquiries from both journalists and the public. The documented rise in the number of visitors to the EEA website, inquiries to the Information Centre and requests from other parties to reproduce EEA products are a result of these communication efforts. Further implementation of the communication strategy adopted in 2006 will continue to be a key focus area in the coming years.

Media events

Media-related activity, including the day to day handling of a wide range of media enquiries resulted in many articles in national newspapers, specialised publications and on websites, as well as quotes and interviews on radio and television throughout Europe. Follow-up visits were made to selected members of the EEA's network of journalists.

Extensive media monitoring is now carried out every month by the Information Centre. In addition, external monitoring services were used in connection with the press launch of the EEA report *Europe's Environment: the fourth assessment* at the UNECE ministerial conference in Belgrade in October. This intensified monitoring showed that the launch resulted in media coverage in about 25 television broadcasts, 35 printed media and more than 200 websites.

Other report launches successfully reflected in the media in 2007 included:

- *Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2007*;
- *Annual European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2005 and inventory report 2007*;
- *Transport and environment: on the way to a new common transport policy*;
- *Air pollution in Europe*.

Furthermore, an EEA contribution to a report on public exposure standards for electromagnetic fields — including those from mobile phones — generated widespread international media interest. The EEA chapter addressed the precautionary principle, making reference to case studies showing that harmful exposures can be widespread

before there is both 'convincing' evidence of harm from long-term exposures, and biological understanding of how that harm is caused.

In total, 51 web highlights and four official press releases were produced plus a large number of short briefings for selected press, mainly focusing on EEA outputs, reports, events or other relevant issues. These regular news-items on EEA-reports and events have led to a significant increase in the amount of visitors to the EEA website. An opinion piece was produced for a special publication of the *Financial Times* on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

More direct contact with citizens and stakeholders

In 2007, the number of public enquiries processed by the Information Centre rose to more than 2 500. This is the highest number of public enquiries since the Agency started logging enquiries systematically in May 2004. An increased share of the enquiries relates specifically to the work of the EEA, instead of general enquiries related to the work of other EU bodies and international institutions. Twenty general presentations of the EEA were carried out for visiting groups during 2007.

In order to strengthen the profile of the Agency and its work and make it more widely known amongst the public, stakeholders and key clients, the communications and corporate affairs programme of EEA took part in a range of events, from local to global. Highlights included the following:

- Organisation of the showing of 'March of the Penguins' accompanied by an EEA lecture in collaboration with the Danish Film Institute and Copenhagen University.
- Organisation of film shows and EEA presentations for kids at EEA premises during the Danish Natural Science Festival.
- Hosting exhibition stands at the Open Day at the Joint Research Centre in Ispra, the 'Ecotech' conference during the Informal Council in Essen, the 6th UNECE ministerial conference 'Environment for Europe' in Belgrade, the European Commission's 'Green Week' and the 'Beyond GDP' conference in Brussels.
- Recording a number of young people's visions for Europe's environment for the website in the 'Youth Summit for Tomorrow's Europe' in Rome.
- Organisation of an open-evening at EEA on Copenhagen Culture Night for the second time. More than 2000 people visited the EEA throughout the evening. This year's topic was climate change and the melting of the arctic ice. The event was targeted at families with children and offered amongst other an art competition, theatre performances, experiments, and a multimedia show allowing visitors to see how their choices would impact on climate change. The adult audience could enjoy the opening of the exhibition 'Changing Climate — Changing

People' by Pulitzer-prize-winning photojournalist John McConnico. The pictures were taken in July when EEA staff took part in the Arctic Team Challenge in Greenland. The exhibition is foreseen to travel around Europe in 2008.

- Organisation of a pre-premiere of 'Our Arctic Challenge', an EEA-produced television documentary with his Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, the diplomatic corps in Denmark and the winners of the Arctic Team Challenge 2007.

Public outreach/information on Arctic issues

In 2007 climate change received unprecedented media and political

attention and EEA played its own part by presenting the film 'Our Arctic Challenge': the film highlights climate change in the Arctic and adaptation to climate change in Greenland, using EEA participation in the 'Siku Arctic Extreme Challenge' a multi-sport race in Greenland as a vehicle for the story (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/multimedia/introduction-of-the-film-our-arctic-challenge/view>).

Journalists and a photographer also travelled with EEA staff to Greenland. Their articles and photos have appeared in several international newspapers, and information will be used in a book project about the future for the Arctic.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark and Professor Jacqueline McGlade, Executive Director of EEA.



Eco Agents

Web and multi-media communication

One of the goals of the EEA Communication strategy is to develop the EEA website into a more active and up-to-date communication channel. The aim is also to enhance the use of multi-media in order to increase the spreading of EEA messages to various target groups, including younger audiences. 2007 saw some important progress in this direction.

A new 'multi-media communication' group was established in the Agency's Communication and Corporate Affairs programme. The group is in charge of coordinating and guiding web content and is also in the lead on multi-media productions (such as videos and animations). 2007 also saw the move from a centralized towards a distributed content management system for the web. In practice this means that the responsibility for web content creation and maintenance is now shared among the various thematic groups within the Agency. A cross-EEA strategic web team was created to help steer the web content improvement process, to ensure its link with the EEA strategy and with related activities such as SEIS, and to develop appropriate quality control procedures and guidelines.

Another web focus in 2007 was the reviving and revamping of the EEA Kids Zone website. An entirely new version of the 'Eco Agents' game was developed. It is designed as an international learning platform targeted at children (9–14 year-olds) and educators alike (<http://ecoagents.eea.europa.eu/>).

Within the Eco-Agent context, the need was explored for the development of educational packages for teachers. An international survey was completed amongst teachers in cooperation with the Eco Schools network. The survey helped to identify the subjects for which it would be useful to start developing educational material. As a follow-up, a two day workshop with environmental educators was set up in order to develop teaching materials to be used across European schools.

Other web and multi-media outputs in 2007 included:

- A website dedicated to the pan-European environment, to showcase the Belgrade report and related information, was launched in September 2007. It includes a video on the 'making of' the Belgrade report and audio-interviews with stakeholders.

- To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome and the 35th anniversary of EU environmental policy, EEA launched a multi-media site' on 24 March 2007. It includes an overview and 50 year historic timeline of key environmental events and achievements, a video interview with the Executive Director and videos in which young people and kids explain their ideas for improving the environment.
- Within the context of Epaedia, three additional 'mindstretchers' have been developed, on biofuels, Land Use/ PRELUDE and Coastal zones.

Internal communications

The EEA has grown significantly in number of activities and staff during the course of the current corporate strategy. This has generated new and additional information needs. To meet these needs, the Information Centre organised a series of discussion sessions, where staff had the chance to practice their communication skills and at the same time address cross-cutting issues with colleagues. Internal film events also proved successful for dialogue amongst staff about the Agency's key messages.

EEA governance – the Scientific Committee

At the beginning of 2007 the EEA Scientific Committee welcomed five new experts. The Scientific Committee members were actively involved in reviewing EEA reports and giving opinions on major products (Annual Management Plan 2008, recruitment of scientific staff, priorities for the next strategy, etc.) in accordance with the EEA Regulation. The committee initiated a project entitled 'Research foresight for Environment and Sustainability' and held a workshop on mega trends and surprises back-to-back with its May meeting.

European Parliament

The EEA further consolidated its cooperation with the European Parliament in 2007. One of the important new developments was the nomination by the Parliament's Committee on



*Frédérique Ries, MEP
EEA contact person on the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety.*

the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety of MEP Frédérique Ries as contact person for the Agency. The Executive Director presented the Agency's work to Ms Ries both in Brussels and in Copenhagen. Moreover, the Executive Director met with the new Chairman of the Environment Committee, Mr Miroslav Ouský, and Mr Costa, new Chairman of the Transport Committee, in order to strengthen EEA cooperation with the European Parliament. Moreover, in June 2007 the Executive Director presented the Agency's 2008 work programme to the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food safety as a whole.

The Agency provided ongoing support to the work of MEPs in 2007, which was often focused on climate change. Several smaller events were organised with the aim of contributing data and information into the political decision-making process. The Agency's presentations on broader topics, such as the briefing on EEA's work in the field of climate change to the new Temporary Committee on Climate Change, were successful. The Agency briefed Parliament's rapporteurs on thematic issues, such as Riitta Myller on the mid-term review of the Sixth Environment Action Programme. Input was given in hearings and through the targeted distribution of EEA publications.

As part of the Troika coordinating the Heads of Agencies' network, the Executive Director took part in the 2005 Discharge of the Agencies at the Committee on Budgetary Control. More generally, the EEA cooperated actively with the Committee on Budgets.

Council of the European Union (Council of Ministers) – Support to the Presidencies in Office

The Agency has close working relations with its member countries through its Management Board and Eionet. Moreover, close cooperation has also been established with Council and its Presidencies. Tailored input was given by the Agency to a conference organised by the German Presidency on the water dimension of climate change in February. The Executive Director took part in the GMES Roadmap Initiative of the German EU Council Presidency 2006 in April in Munich. The Environmental Technology Atlas was presented by the Executive Director to Environment Ministers at their informal Council meeting in the city of Essen. The Executive Director also spoke at the Informal Environment Council meeting in Lisbon at the beginning of September on the subject of water scarcity and droughts. Similarly, the Executive Director participated in a high level conference on the European Maritime Policy, organised by the Portuguese Defence Ministry in October. The Agency was invited to the Informal Council meeting on Territorial Cohesion in the Azores in November.

European Commission

The Agency continued to cooperate closely with the European Commission, particularly through DG Environment. Moreover, a meeting with Commissioner Dimas took place at the beginning of the year.

Close contacts were maintained with senior Commission officials, such as the Directors of the Joint Research Centre in April and the Group of Four (Joint Research Centre, Eurostat, DG Environment and the EEA).

Input was given by the Executive Director to the meetings of the Environmental Policy Review Group. Thematic contributions were provided in interventions by the Executive Director at the Brussels Tax Forum in March, organised for the first time by Commissioner Kovács, during Green Week in June where EEA experts organised a workshop on scenarios and land use, and also in a conference on 'Adapting to Climate Change'. One important step on the way towards building a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) was the launch of the Water Information System for Europe (WISE) in March in Brussels.

Cooperation with the Commission services extends across a range of Directorates-General. The Executive Director provided input, together with several other Heads of Agencies, to the staff meeting of the Directorate General for Energy and Transport ('DG TREN Day'). She contributed to the Beyond GDP Conference, organised at the European Parliament in presence

of Commission President Barroso, Commissioners Almunia and Dimas, and Parliament President Pötering. A meeting was held with the Director General of the Directorate-General for Agriculture (DG Agriculture) at which cooperation on agri-environmental issues was explored and the importance of spatial information and climate change highlighted. Close contacts were maintained with the Directorate-General for Research (DG Research) where the Executive Director gave a speech at a conference on the topic 'Towards a post-carbon society – European research on economic incentives and social behaviour'.

European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

The Agency maintained contacts with Mr Derek Osborn, President of the newly created Sustainable Development Observatory of the EESC.

The EEA participated in the first 'think tank' meeting and provided an overview of Europe's challenges in environmental sustainability, including the global dimension and interactions. The EEA has also contributed to the preparations of the programme of work of the observatory.

EEA work with the Heads of European Regulatory Agencies network

The task as co-ordinator of the Network of the Heads of European Regulatory Agencies ended on 28 February 2007. The Executive Director participated actively in all of the meetings of this network. In the framework of this network, a meeting was held with Commissioner Wallström in January 2007 to discuss communication activities and the contribution of the agencies to the 50th anniversary of the Rome Treaty.

9 The EEA in the wider world



Cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme

EEA cooperated with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on a range of issues, including attending the UNEP Governing Council in Nairobi in February, where input was given in particular to the items 'state of the environment' and 'international environmental governance'.

Throughout the year EEA also continued to contribute to UNEP's GEO-4 (4th Global Environment Outlook) report, including chairing the second Global Intergovernmental and Multistakeholder consultation in Nairobi in September, where a final draft GEO-4 Summary for Decision Makers was considered and approved.

Cooperation with international organisations

At the invitation of the Swiss Permanent Representative to the United Nations, the Executive Director took part in an expert panel on the institutional framework of the UN's environmental activities in New York in May.

The Executive Director was also invited to give a keynote address at the OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) Economic and Environment Forum, leading to considerations to intensify cooperation between EEA and OSCE.

Bilateral and regional contacts

In April, EEA hosted the Asia-Europe Environment Forum high-level panel discussion which took place a day before the Asia-Europe environment ministers' meeting in Copenhagen. Later in the year, EEA supported and attended the Asia-Europe roundtable in China on 'Achieving Urban Sustainability: Integrating Environmental Management'.

The EU-North American EcoInformatics network was strengthened by the signing in March of an agreement between the European Commission (DG Research) and the US Environment Protection Agency on EcoInformatics. The regular EcoInformatics network meeting was hosted by EEA in June in Copenhagen and included participants from UNEP, China and CEDARE.

An official contact point for Israel was established within the EEA to jointly look at the range of EEA data flows and to determine how Israel can best contribute to specific activities on a case-by-case basis.

Mediterranean

In February, during the UNEP Governing Council, the directors of EEA and UNEP/MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan) signed a joint work plan defining future cooperation. EEA participated in and actively contributed to a number of UNEP/MAP meetings during the whole year, underlining EEA's commitment to cooperate with UNEP/MAP, especially in the context of Horizon 2020, a Commission-led Euro-Mediterranean initiative which aims to tackle the main sources of pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by 2020. At the first Horizon 2020 Steering Group meeting in June in Marrakech, EEA was elected to become chair of a working group on monitoring, information and research. Prior to the meeting, the EEA prepared a paper laying down the conditions for monitoring progress within the Horizon 2020 initiative 'Reporting on progress with Horizon 2020: MERM-MED, Mediterranean Environment Reporting Mechanism'.



Arctic

EEA reported on climate change in the Arctic on several occasions in 2007 and UNEP's 'Global Outlook for Snow and Ice' was launched by EEA in Copenhagen. A film was made about EEA's participation in a multi-sport event in Greenland, focusing on climate change and adaptation. Expertise has been further developed in the EEA on Arctic issues and relevant contacts have been established, especially to the Arctic Council and its working groups. A dialogue has been initiated with the European Commission, which is about to start a study on European interests in the Arctic region. Arctic issues also featured in the Belgrade report.

10 Running an EMAS-registered environmental management system



Environmental management system

The EEA's environmental management system became registered under the European eco management and audit scheme (EMAS) in 2005 and has published an environmental statement each year since then as a separate publication. The three earlier statements are available on the EEA's website (http://reports.eea.europa.eu/search_results?type=search&SearchTitle=%22environmental+statement%22&Submit2=Search). As of this year, the environmental statement is published as part of the EEA annual report.

Environmental impacts of the Agency's activities

The EEA has identified aspects of the Agency's activities that have significant direct or indirect environmental impacts. When carrying out the activities of the EEA there are impacts on the environment, locally and globally. The Agency monitors routinely the use of electricity, heating, water, paper, CO₂ emissions caused by EEA paid flights and production of different types of waste. EEA also regularly evaluates its activities, thereby helping to optimise work and improve the use of valuable resources thus minimising negative impacts on the environment.

Environmental policy

EEA ENVIRONMENT POLICY



The European Environment Agency recognises that it has a special responsibility, as the only European Union body dedicated exclusively to providing information for protecting the environment, to show leadership in its own environmental management and performance.

On the positive side, the Agency believes that the information it provides has an important beneficial impact on Europe's environment by giving policymakers a sound basis for action and raising public awareness to protect the environment. The Agency is developing systems to assure the quality of its outputs and to evaluate their effectiveness in environmental terms.

However, like other organisations, the EEA also consumes natural resources and pollutes the environment through its operations. Therefore, the Agency is committed:

Our commitments

» to minimising the environmental impact of its everyday work, e.g. using recycled paper and printing on both sides.

» to continuously improving its environmental performance, e.g. meeting increasingly demanding in-house energy efficiency targets.

» to complying with all environmentally relevant legislation in its host country.

This will be done while taking into account the need to safeguard the occupational health and safety of those working at the Agency.

The Agency recognises the need to give priority to minimising the environmental impacts of

- running of EEA offices;
- procurement;
- business travel.

These will be reviewed as part of the annual review and preparation of annual management plan. The EEA will keep other areas under review and give priority to minimising their impacts as and when the need arises.

Regarding travel by Agency employees to and from the workplace, the EEA's policy is to encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport.

The EEA environment policy covers Agency staff as well as all non-EEA personnel working on a regular basis at the Agency's premises in Copenhagen, such as consultants and catering contractors.

February 2007

Prof. Jacqueline McGlade
Executive director





Environmental management structure

The structure of the EEA's environmental management system is designed to form a natural part of the EEA's management plan system. This system allows employees to determine easily their environmental responsibilities and activities. Employees are actively engaged through personal responsibilities and by working in groups on environmental improvements projects.

All new employees receive a one-hour introduction to the environmental management system and the longer-established staff participate yearly in a one-hour EMAS refresher seminar. All other communication flows through the line management system. The environmental management system is documented in a handbook where each section has been written by the managers and employees responsible. The handbook describes who is responsible for doing what, when and how.

The intention is to integrate the environmental management system with the EEA quality system under construction during 2008.

Environmental performance in 2007

EEA awareness raising

As one of its EMAS-related indirect effects the EEA continues to assist other EU bodies and institutions to raise their awareness of their environmental impacts. The greening network that the EEA created in 2006 now consists of 15 member organisations. The EEA environmental coordinator organised greening workshops at two of these in 2007: the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market (OHIM) and the European Training Foundation (EFT). OHIM is now in the phase of becoming EMAS-registered.

In addition to running a series of virtual meetings through teleconferencing, the EEA has helped the European Parliament in internal environmental auditing and information activities.

Running of EEA offices

Most of the environmental impacts of running the EEA offices in Copenhagen derive from consumption of electricity, district heating and water, as well as generation of waste, waste water and nuisances like noise and smell. The

latter two, however, are not addressed directly in EEA environmental policy as these are considered to be insignificant.

Waste water is only generated through normal office activities and is as such of sanitary, kitchen or cleaning origin. All waste water is discharged to the public sewer and through Agency efforts to minimise water consumption it should follow that the amount of water discharged is reduced. Cleaning and catering services are purchased and accordingly issues with regard to pollutants in waste water are covered by the Agency's green procurement policy.

Even though it becomes progressively more difficult over time to identify scope for improvement in relation to EEA direct impact on the environment, the Agency managed to reduce its use of resources in many areas; consumption of electricity, water and paper, emissions of CO₂ due to business travel as well as production of different types of waste.

The external audit report in May 2007 mentions as especially noteworthy results the criteria on CO₂ emissions built into the tender on travel services, the 47 closed issues in the EMAS improvement register and the mechanism in the electronic calendar



system for easy monitoring of video conferences replacing missions.

Electricity

The environmental impacts of EEA consumption of electricity stem from the power generation of Dong Energy. Late in 2007 EEA made a contract with Dong Energy to purchase 100 % electricity from renewable sources in order to support production of green electricity.

The EEA target for electricity consumption was to decrease the consumption per full-time equivalent (FTE) ⁽¹⁾ by 3 % in 2007 compared with 2006 in the main EEA building. The result was 6.5 % decrease per FTE.

The result was mainly due to the efforts of the EEA IT-department through a thorough review of cooling installations in the main server room. A new cooling system was installed late in autumn 2007. The IT department has also monitored how many computers were left on standby during weekends and found a considerable improvement during the year. It has distributed 130 power strips to the staff to make it

easier to switch off electrical appliances. Furthermore, the IT-department has prolonged the life time of PCs by upgrading them with more RAM.

As shown in Table 1, the electricity consumption per square meter is considerably higher than the average for Danish office buildings. This is due to the fact that EEA is a computing intensive organisation providing among other services GIS and satellite data, which requires a lot of processing and storage capacity. Gradually the EEA is replacing its old servers with new and more efficient ones,

Heating

The steam used by EEA for heating its premises comes from the district heating provided by Københavns Energi. EEA consumption of steam in 2007 was 634 900 kWh, which is an increase of 3–6 % from the previous year. However it is still regarded as reasonable taking into account the age of the building (which dates from 1899) and amount of meeting rooms, corridors and offices. No improvement target has been set for 2008.

Table 1 Consumption of electricity in 2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Benchmark
In total kWh	758 040	897 696	715 320	796 858	768 424	N/A
kWh/FTE/year	6 317	6 234	5 961	5 902	5 516	N/A
kWh/m ² /year	105	104	99	111	107	45 *

Note: * Average for Danish office buildings, August 2005 (Danish Energy Authority).

⁽¹⁾ Full-time equivalent (FTE) is a measurement unit that is calculated as follows: 37.5 hours (normal working week) times 52 weeks equal 1 950 hours. In 2003, 2004 and 2005 there were 120 FTEs, in 2006 the number was 135 and in 2007 the total number was 139.5 at Kongens Nytorv 6. In addition, there were 4.5 FTEs working at Kongens Nytorv 28.



Paper

Paper is the only office supply for which EEA has set quantitative targets over recent years since the consumption both in absolute terms and per FTE has been regarded as very high compared to other comparable office organisations.

In 2007 in-house paper consumption was reduced by 53 % in absolute terms and by 52 % per FTE, exceeding the modest 2 % target many-fold. However, this steep decrease can only be explained partly by the measures taken in 2007 to reduce paper consumption. The main measure was the management decision in the beginning of the year to stop sending paper copies of meeting materials to Management Board members and to members of the EEA's Scientific Committee. Instead these were only uploaded to a common extranet site, and meeting participants were provided with laptops at meetings. Even if this practice was also spread to other big meetings held in house, there remains a reduction of paper consumption that can not be explained in this way and it has to be seen if the reduction of paper consumption in 2007 will be maintained in the following year.

In 2006 EEA established a baseline of about 9.9 million pages in our publications, which are printed at external printing houses. In 2007 this amount increased to over 14 million pages. This reflects the increase in print runs of the most popular reports.

Water

EEA consumption of water reduced slightly from 1 581 m³ in 2006 to 1 545 m³ in 2007 despite an increase of number of employees and the new practice to only serve tap water at meetings and conferences.

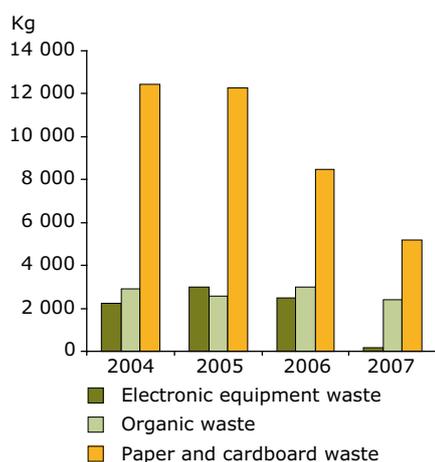
Table 2 Consumption of heating energy, paper and water in 2007

		2004	2005	2006	2007	Benchmark
Heating	kWh		578 200	613 000	634 900	
	kWh/m ² /year		80.3	85.1	88.2	99.6
Water	m ³	1 173	1 456	1 581	1 545	
	l/m ² /year	163	202	201	260	260
Paper consumption (in-house)	Number of sheets	1 655 000	1 378 000	1 534 265	725 500	
	Sheets per FTE	13 792	11 483	11 365		
Paper consumption (external)	Number of pages in publications			9 944 120	14 047 732	

Waste

EEA sorts waste into the following fractions: electronic, organic, paper and cardboard as well as other household waste. In all these fractions EEA managed to reduce the amount of waste except for 'other household waste', for which, however, the Agency did not have a precise figure for 2006. The amount of household waste was 26 570 kg in 2007. The reduction of electronic waste was mainly due to the Agency's new policy to upgrade PCs thus prolonging their lifetime to six years. The reduction of paper and cardboard waste matches the reduction of paper consumption but could also be a consequence of less packaging waste, e.g. for electronic goods.

Figure 2 Waste production



Procurement

Mainstreaming environmental aspects in procurement has proceeded according to plan. The green procurement cycle now spans from an 'environmental impact statement' included in the 'procurement proposal' over specific, targeted, robust environmental criteria (selection/award) and 'environmental considerations' in the tender specifications to an annex of the evaluation reports requiring a brief review of the environmental criteria used with a view to their continuous improvement.

Inter alia, these improvements respond to a remark in the external audit report from spring 2007 according to which award criteria in tenders were insufficiently specified to allow an objective evaluation of the documentation supplied by the tenderers.

Business travel

Early in 2007 EEA concluded a contract with the German company Atmosfair, which now offsets carbon emissions caused by flights that were booked through the EEA's travel services. In this way, the Agency compensates for the amount of its flight-related CO₂ emissions.

It is unlikely that the target of reducing CO₂ emissions from missions and meetings was met. Currently EEA has no consistent method to measure the emissions arising from missions and meetings. This will be available from 2008 on for staff missions booked by the new EEA travel agent. So far the Agency can only take the number of trips as an indication for the CO₂ emissions. For 2007 it shows a further increase in the number of trips – 1 426 against 1 224 in 2006 (Table 3). The increase can at least partially be explained by the rising number of staff (6 %) and the stronger focus of the agency on communication and European and international cooperation as well as an increase of travel of meeting participants booked by the EEA travel agency. In 2007 about 800 external experts attended meetings at the Agency.

Table 3 Missions

Year	No of entries	Increase in %
2002	631	N/A
2003	728	15.37
2004	918	26.10
2005	1 034	12.64
2006	1 224	18.38
2007	1 426	16.50

With regard to the target of increasing the number of video conferences, the result was that video and telephone conferences could only play a minor part in avoiding the need for missions and meetings. In 2007, 13 missions were replaced by video conferences and seven by telephone conferences. However, conferences replacing a mission can only be counted if staff members earmark their reservation, but this is not for sure. Therefore some of the other 37 video conferences might have replaced a mission. There is also no counting of Skype or other internet-based conferences replacing missions.

In 2008 we will continue promoting the use of telephone and video conferencing as alternatives to meetings by a poster campaign and providing help in how to set up such conferences and register them correctly in the Outlook calendar system.

Environmental targets for 2008

Environmental aspect	Activity and target in 2008
EEA information products and services	
• Effectiveness evaluation	Finalise the evaluation of EEA's 5-year strategy for 2004–2008
Running of EEA offices	
• Electricity	Reduce EEA's electricity consumption by 3 %
• Greening the canteen	Reduce consumption of food with high environmental impact
• Sustainable balanced scorecard	Create sustainability targets for the EEA balanced scorecard
• Green communication/Awareness raising	Develop and implement an integrated approach to awareness raising for reduction of energy and materials consumption
Procurement	Propagate established green EEA standards
Business travel	Reduce quantity of CO ₂ emissions caused by EEA missions and meetings

11 Internal developments



Effectiveness evaluation

Since its creation the Agency has conducted two large-scale evaluations of its performance and efficiency; one in 1999 and another in 2003. Results of these evaluations were generally positive and recommendations emanating from them were duly incorporated in the later activities. The Commission Communication of 2003 (COM(2003)800 final) included as a recommendation that 'the EEA must continue to strive for reliability of its products and services as it is a cornerstone of its credibility. Systematic evaluation of quality and impact should be introduced'.

The Agency's response to this recommendation was twofold: it introduced a system of activity based management (ABM) and carried out a series of specific evaluation activities. ABM brings together four elements: strategic planning and budgeting; operational programming and management; monitoring and reporting; evaluation. Under ABM, evaluation results must be fed back into the planning and programming process, the quality of which depends essentially on sound evaluation results.

The aim of specific evaluation activities was to set up an evaluation framework

enabling EEA to get a critical view on how its products are used and regarded by its target groups. The evaluation framework that was created focused on the following four criteria: image; relevance; effectiveness; and quality/transparency. It was used in the period 2004–2006 to survey non-governmental organisations, the media as well as officials in Community institutions and in national administrations concerning several of the EEA's key products. One survey also addressed EEA's national focal points regarding the production of the state-of-environment report 2005 on EEA governance structures.

In its vote in 2007 on the budget discharge for 2005 for the EEA, the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety requested that 'before 1 January 2010 and every five years thereafter, the Agency shall commission an independent, external evaluation of its achievements on the basis of the Regulation and the work programmes decided by the Management Board. The evaluation will assess the working practices and the impact of the Agency. The evaluation will take into account the views of the stakeholders at both Community and national level'.

In autumn 2007 the EEA found it timely to anticipate this requirement for an

evaluation of its activity under the current corporate strategy (effectiveness and impact) in order to inform the preparation of the EEA's corporate strategy for 2009–2013. It therefore contracted a commercial company to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of its multiannual strategy 2004–2008.

The evaluation is guided by a steering group appointed by the management board. This group consists of members from the management board, one from the scientific committee and one from the NFP-network. The methodology employed consists mainly of internet surveys of different stakeholder groups, interviews of key stakeholder representatives as well as desk research. The final report of the evaluation committee will be available in summer 2008.

Administrative and organisational development: the EEA balanced scorecard 2007

The balanced scorecard offers a wide-ranging overview of strategy accomplishment — first and foremost by operating with multiple approaches to identifying effectiveness and secondly by integrating content oriented



performance indicators with more quantifiable aspects of efficiency.

The EEA balanced scorecard as presented in Annex J shows strategic indicators of EEA performance at a highly aggregated level. These indicators are derived from a wide range of metrics measuring performance and cover widely across the four different perspectives constituting the balanced scorecard:

- resource perspective
- client perspective
- business perspective
- learning and growth perspective.

The top level of the EEA balanced scorecard attempts to give an easy overview of how the Agency performs as an organisation in order to enable rapid intervention in areas where performance are below the desired level. Indicators at this level are displayed as achievements according to set targets (weighted scores ⁽²⁾) easily conveying how close the Agency is to the target.

The metrics chosen are a blend between performance and process indicators trying to capture the complexity that is required when describing progress in

strategy. The relation between resources – business process – client perspective should be seen as an attempt to unfold the entire 'value chain' of EEA. Each perspective should not be considered in isolation as that easily can lead to sub optimisation where one perspective is improving at the expense of another. Global optimisation is our primary concern.

Supplementing these three perspectives is the 'learning and growth' perspective that seeks to describe the state of development of the organisation and its staff.

Some indicators shown in Annex J do not have a long history and comparative benchmarks therefore do not exist. They are included to give a comprehensive overview and to help establish a baseline that will serve as a benchmark for the years to come.

The EEA balanced scorecard does not try to be the answer to all the challenges in running an organisation like the EEA – but it will prove to be a powerful tool to assess the achievement rate of the set objectives, to help us manage more effectively and to communicate progress to our stakeholders.

⁽²⁾ Weighted score indicators are compounded by a collection of metrics measuring performance in actual numbers (e.g. number of datasets updated against target number). This level of detail is not available in the annual report.

Annex A Certificate of EMAS registration

Certifikat for EMAS-registrering Certificate of EMAS-Registration



European Environment Agency

Kongens Nytorv 6
DK 1050 København K

Registreringsnummer
Registration Number
DK-000244

Registreret første gang
Date of first registration
05-04-2005

Certifikatet er gyldigt indtil
This certificate is valid until
01-08-2009

Udstedelsesdato
Date of issue
05-06-2008

Denne organisation har indført et miljøledelsessystem, og udarbejdet en miljøredegørelse i henhold til forordning (EF) nr. 761/2001 med det formål at fremme en løbende forbedring af organisationens miljøindsats og resultater, og informere offentligheden herom. Miljøledelsessystemet og miljøredegørelsen er verificeret af en uafhængig tredjepart.

This organisation has established an environmental management system and prepared an environmental statement according to Regulation (EC) No. 761/2001 to promote the continual improvement of environmental performance and to inform the public hereof. The environmental management system and the environmental statement are verified by an independent third party.

Ole Christiansen
Direktør
Director-General

Ulla Ringbæk
Funktionsleder
Deputy Head of Division

Miljøstyrelsen
Miljøministeriet

Annex B Statement on financial position

Table B.1 Income 2003–2007 (million EUR)

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
EU subventions	21.4	27.2	26.9	27.6	29.0
EFTA contribution	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
New EEA member countries' contributions	5.7	3.3	3.8	4.7	4.2
Miscellaneous revenues	0.0	2.5	0.8	4.2	1.3
Total	27.5	33.6	32.1	37.1	35.1

Note: As the figures above are rounded, the sum of the individual figures may differ slightly from the total.

Table B.2 Expenditure (E) 2003–2006, budget (B) 2007 (million EUR)

	2003 E	2004 E	2005 E	2006 E	2007 B
Staff and administration	14.4	16.7	18.3	20.2	21.1
Operational expenditure	13.1	16.9	13.8	16.9	14.0
Total	27.5	33.6	32.1	37.1	35.1

Note: Figures for 2007 reflect the final status of the budget before the definitive closing of the 2007 accounts in June 2008 and the move of salary costs for contract agents from Operational expenditure to Staff and administration.

Table B.3 Operational expenditure and related staff allocations (FTE) for 2007 by programme area and project group

Programme area and project group non-resource lines	EUR 1 000			Full time employees (FTE)		
	Core funds	Other sources	Total	Core funds	Other sources	Total
1 Providing an information system	1 497	2 378	3 875	17.9		17.9
2 Climate change and energy	125	103	228	8.0		8.0
3 Nature and biodiversity	164	60	224	4.8		4.8
4 Water and agriculture	117	192	309	5.8		5.8
5 Air and transport	273		273	5.7		5.7
6 EEA in the wider world	80	67	147	2.8	0.7	3.5
7 Sustainable consumption and production, including material resources and waste	33		33	2.2		2.2
8 Land use and landscapes	150		150	6.5		6.5
9 Scenarios	173		173	2.8		2.8
10 Integrated assessments and supporting sustainable development	227		227	7.6	0.7	8.3
11 EEA operations	212		212	36.5		36.5
12 Administration				20.0		20.0
13 Corporate affairs and communications				10.0	0.9	10.9
Subtotal	3 051	2 800	5 851	130.6	2.3	132.9
Resource lines						
ETCs	6 005	395	6 400			
Communication	636		636			
IT Infrastructure	1 978		1 978			
Meetings	805	197	1 002			
Translations	488	2	490			
Subtotal	9 912	594	10 506	130.6	2.3	132.9
Total	12 963	3 394	16 357			

Note: The figures are based on the actual commitments in 2007. Leave and absence are excluded in FTE. Other sources consist of Europe Aid 4, TACIS and CLC.

Table B.4 Breakdown of committed funds for ETCs (EUR)

	Water	Air/Climate change	Nature protection and biodiversity	Resource and waste management	Land use and spatial information	Total allocation
1 Providing an information system	23 000	29 000	0	8 000	298 000	358 000
2 Climate change and energy	4 000	867 000	0	51 000	0	922 000
3 Nature and biodiversity	0	0	754 000	0	0	754 000
4 Water and agriculture	697 000	0	0	0	0	697 000
5 Air and transport	19 000	1 084 000	0	0	0	1 103 000
6 EEA in the wider world	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Sustainable consumption and production, including material resources and waste	0	0	0	583 000	0	583 000
8 Land use and landscapes	0	0	0	0	483 000	483 000
9 Scenarios	0	0	0	64 000	0	64 000
10 Integrated assessments and supporting sustainable development	0	11 000	0	81 000	0	92 000
11 EEA operations	158 000	208 000	116 000	173 000	294 000	949 000
Total	900 000	2 200 000	870 000	960 000	1 075 000	6 005 000

Note: The figures are based on the actual budget allocation in 2007 (EEA Management Plan System).

Annex C Status on human resources

Officials, temporary agents, contract agents and national experts

Table C.1 Staff development, 2003–2007

Category	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
A (academic staff)	43	49	47		
B (technical staff)	26	28	32		
C (secretarial staff)	22	25	24		
D (service staff)	4	4	4		
AD				49	51
AST				61	60
National experts	9	10	16	17	21
Contract agents			18	30	34
Total	104	116	141	157	166

Note: The categories in 2006 and 2007 are according to the new staff regulation.

Table C.2 Staff by category and nationality on 31 December 2007

	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Cyprus	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Greece	Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania	Netherlands	Norway	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Slovak Republic	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	Turkey	United Kingdom	Total
AD	1	3			6	1	5	6	2	1	1	2				3		1	2	2	1		1	5	3	8	51
AST	1	2	2		29	2	3	3					1			1		1	1				6	4		4	60
National experts				1					3		1	1	2				1	1	1		1		1	3	3	2	21
Contract agents		1			15	1		2	5			1		1	1				1			1	1		1	3	34
Total	2	6	2	1	50	1	3	10	17	2	2	3	5	1	1	4	1	4	4	2	3	1	8	12	4	17	166

Table C.3 EEA promotions in 2007

Category AD	AD 5-6	AD 6-7	AD 7-8	AD 8-9	AD 9-10	AD 10-11	AD 11-12	AD 12-13	AD 13-14	AD 14-15	Total AD
Number of staff promoted	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	4
Category AST	AST 1-2	AST 2-3	AST 3-4	AST 4-5	AST 5-6	AST 6-7	AST 7-8	AST 8-9	AST 9-10	AST 10-11	Total AST
Number of staff promoted	0	1	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	6

Note: Grading reflects the situation after the new staff regulation. Officials and temporary agents only.

Annex D Members of the EEA Management Board

As of 31 December 2007

Austria	Elisabeth Freytag (<i>Vice-Chair, Bureau member</i>)	Federal Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry Environment and Water Management
Belgium	Philippe Bourdeau Professor	Université Libre de Bruxelles
Bulgaria	Dimitar Vergiev Executive Director	Executive Environment Agency
Cyprus	Antonis Antoniou Director of the Environment Service	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
Czech Republic	Veronika Hunt Šafránková Director EU Department	Ministry of Environment
Denmark	Ole Christiansen Director General	Danish Environmental Protection Agency
Estonia	Allan Gromov Deputy Secretary-General	Ministry of Environment
Finland	Markku Nurmi Director General	Ministry of the Environment
France	Guillaume Sainteny Directeur de la Direction des études économiques et de l'évaluation environnementale	Ministère de l'Écologie et du Développement durable
Germany	Karsten Sach (<i>Vice-Chair, Bureau member</i>) Deputy Director General Directorate for International Cooperation	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und Reaktorsicherheit
Greece	John Vournas Director-General for Environment	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
Hungary	Erzsébet Gergely (<i>Vice-Chair, Bureau member</i>) Head of Department	Department of Environmental Policy and Strategy Ministry of Environment and Water
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Ireland	Tom O'Mahony Assistant Secretary	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
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Lithuania	Aleksandras Spruogis Undersecretary	Ministry of Environment
Luxembourg	Eric de Brabanter Economiste	Ministère de l'Environnement
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Netherlands	Jaap Enter Deputy Director-General for Environmental Planning/Director for Strategy and Policy	Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment
Norway	Harald Rensvik Secretary General	Ministry of Environment
Poland	Marek Mroczkowski Director General	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection
Portugal	António Gonçalves Henriques Presidente	Instituto do Ambiente Ministério do Ambiente e do Ordenamento do Território
Romania	Zoltan Levente Nagy President	National Environmental Protection Agency
Slovak Republic	Stanislav Stofko Director General	Slovak Environmental Agency
Slovenia	Silvo Žlevir Director General	Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia

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	Martin Eriksson Director Environmental Assessment Department	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
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As of 31 December 2007

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Christian Heidorn		Eurostat

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As of 31 December 2007

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European Topic Centre on Resource and Waste Management (ETC/RWM)	Birgit Munck-Kampmann European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows Copenhagen, Denmark

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Executive Director's Office (EDO)	
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HOFFMANN, Ulrike	Secretary/Resource officer — EDO support
LOWSON, Robert	GMES Bureau — European Commission, Brussels
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DAHM, Lise	Secretary — EDO support
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SCHILLING, Johannes	Project manager — Brussels Liaison Office
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HOFSTÖTTER, Michael	Project manager — Legal advice
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OLSEN, Henriette Bille	Secretary — Competitions
PEDERSEN, Lene Bang	Project officer — Personnel
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ERHARD, Marcus	Project manager – Environmental accounting analyst
KJELD, Peter	Project manager – IT system analyst and developer

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PETIT, Sebastian	Project manager – GIS System Management
RÖNDELL, Bernt	Project manager – NFP/SEIS
SOUSA, Ana	Project Manager – Spatial data
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ROUG, Søren	Project officer – Linux systems and ReportNet developments
RØRUP, Lars	Project officer – System administration
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MAUTONE, Orsola	Project Manager – Economic analysis
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Annex I List of acronyms and abbreviations

ABM	Activity Based Management
ADAM	Adaptation And Mitigation strategies for Europe
AEG	Advisory editorial group
AirBase	European Air quality dataBase
BREF	Best available techniques REference document
CARDS	Programme of Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBD-SBSTTA	CBD – Subsidiary Body and Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
CDDA	Common Database on Designated Areas
CEDARE	Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe
CIFAS	Cross-compliance Indicators in the context of the Farm Advisory System
CIRCA	Communication and Information Resource Centre Administrator
CLC	Corine land cover (see Corine below)
CLRTAP	Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
CMS	Content management system
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
Corinair	Programme to establish an inventory of emissions of air pollutants in Europe
Corine	Coordination of information on the environment
CSCP	Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production
DestiNet	Sustainable Tourism Information portal
DG Agriculture	The European Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development
DG Enterprise	The European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry
DG Environment	The European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment
DG Research	The European Commission's Directorate-General for Research
DG SANCO	The European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection
EC	European Community

ECAM	European Conference on Applications of Meteorology
EC-CHM	European Community's Clearing House Mechanism
ECMWF	European Center for Medium range Weather Forecasting
EEA	European Environment Agency
EECCA	Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia
EESC	European Economic and Social Committee
EFT	European Training Foundation
Eionet	European environment information and observation network
EMAS	EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
EMEP	Cooperative programme for monitoring and evaluation of the long-range transmission of air pollutants in Europe
EMMA	European Marine Monitoring and Assessment
EMODNet	European Maritime Observation and Data Network
EPA network	Network of Heads of European Environmental Protection Agencies
Epaedia	Environmental encyclopaedia developed by EEA
EPER	European Pollutant Emission Register
ESPACE	European Spatial Planning Adapting to Climate Events
ESPON	European Spatial Planning Observation Network
ETAP	Environmental Technology Action Plan
ETC/ACC	European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change
ETC/BD	European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity
ETC-LUSI	European Topic Centre on Land Use and Spatial Information
ETC/RWM	European Topic Centre on Resource and Waste Management
ETC/SCP	European Topic Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production
ETC/W	European Topic Centre on Water
ETS	Emission Trading Scheme
EU	European Union
EU-15	The fifteen Member States of the European Union prior to 1 May 2004, i.e. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom
EURECA	European Ecosystem Assessment

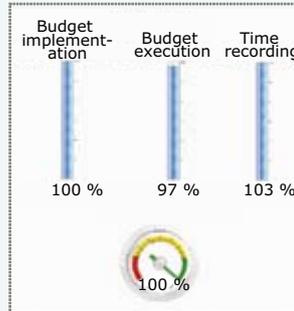
Eurostat	Statistical Office of the European Communities
FTE	Full-time equivalent
G8+5	Heads of government from the G8 nations (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States), plus the heads of government of the five leading emerging economies (Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa)
GDP	Gross domestic product
GEO4	4th Global Environment Outlook report
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GMES	Global Monitoring for Environment and Security
Group of Four	Cooperation agreement between EEA and the three European Commission services of DG Environment, JRC and Eurostat
HNV	High nature value
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INNOVA	Europe INNOVA is an initiative for innovation professionals supported by the European Commission
INSPIRE	EC directive for developing an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
IPPC	Integrated pollution prevention and control
JRC	Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
LCA	Life cycle analysis
LCP	Large combustion plant
LRTAP	EC Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention
LUDC	Land Use Data Centre
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
MERM-MED	Mediterranean Environment Reporting Mechanism
NAMEA	National Accounts Matrix including Environmental Accounts
NEC	National Emissions Ceiling
NFP	National focal point
NGO	Non-governmental organisation

NO _x	Nitrogen oxide
NRC	National reference centre
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OHIM	Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PPTOX	Scientific conference on foetal programming, toxicity and development
PRELUDE	PRospective Environmental analysis of Land Use Development in Europe
Reportnet	System of integrated IT tools and business processes creating a shared information infrastructure optimised to support European environmental reporting
SCP	Sustainable consumption and production
SEBI2010	Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators 2010
SEIS	Shared Environmental Information System for Europe
SEE	South East Europe
SEEA	Strategy for integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting
6th EAP	European Community's Sixth Environment Action Programme
SO ₂	Sulphur dioxide
TACIS	Community financing programme for 12 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
TERM	Transport and environment reporting mechanism
TFEIP	Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections
TLA	Tourism Learning Area
UN	United Nations
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WHO	World Health Organization
WCE	Western and Central Europe
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WISE	Water Information System for Europe

Annex J Balanced scorecard — four perspectives

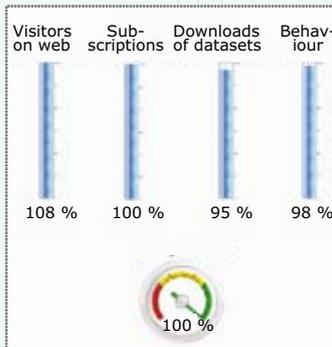
Resource perspective

1.1 Budget

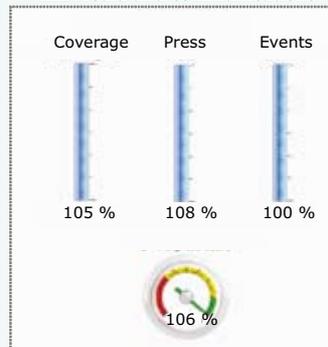


Client perspective

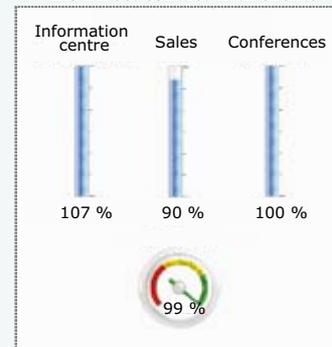
2.1 Website



2.2 Media and communications

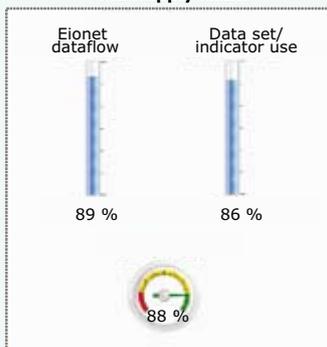


2.3 Direct contact with clients

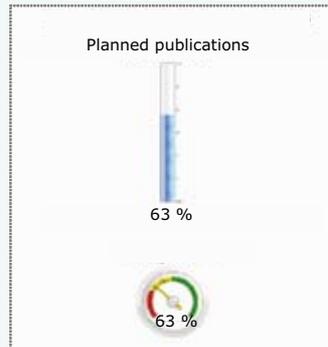


Business perspective

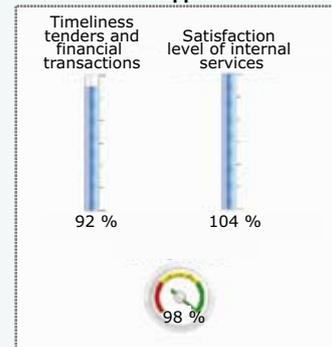
3.1 Supply chain



3.2 Production — timeliness

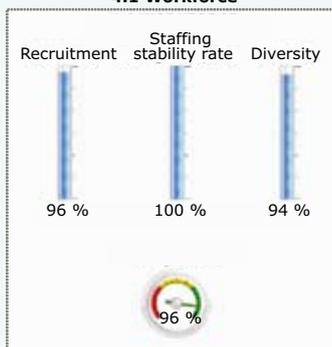


3.3 Internal support — timeliness

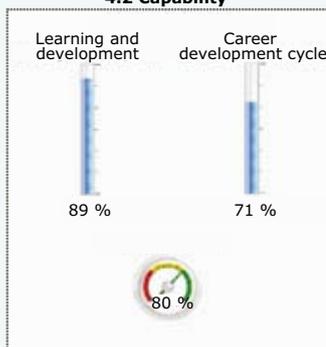


Learning and growth perspective

4.1 Workforce



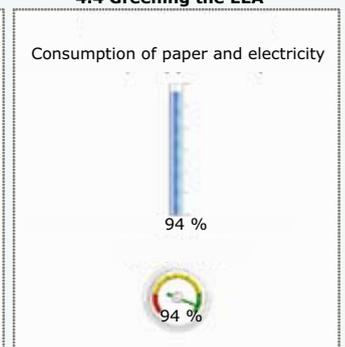
4.2 Capability



4.3 Motivation



4.4 Greening the EEA



European Environment Agency

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