

European Environment Agency



Consolidated Annual Activity Report

European Environment Agency

2016

June 2017

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MANAGEMENT BOARD'S ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

The EEA Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) 2014–2020 — *Expanding the knowledge base for policy implementation and long-term transitions* ⁽¹⁾ sets out the overall objectives for the work of the European Environment Agency (EEA) and the European Environment Observation and Information Network (Eionet) in line with the provisions of the EEA/Eionet Regulation ⁽²⁾.

The MAWP is delivered through annual work programmes. This Consolidated Annual Activity Report for 2016 (CAAR 2016) documents the delivery of the Agency's Annual Work Programme (AWP) for 2016 ⁽³⁾.

The EEA Management Board welcomes this second CAAR, in accordance with Article 47 of the EEA Financial Regulation ⁽⁴⁾ and the Commission guidelines on the template to be used by decentralised agencies for their CAAR (CAAR guidelines) ⁽⁵⁾. The CAAR 2016 provides for the EEA's annual activity report, including comprehensive information on the implementation of the Agency's work programme, budget, staff policy plan, and management and internal control systems.

The report is structured in four main parts:

- Part 1: Achievements of the year
- Part 2:
 - (A) Management
 - (B) External evaluations
- Part 3: Assessments of effectiveness of the internal control systems
- Part 4: Management assurance

The EEA Management Board analysis follows the same structure.

¹ https://www.eea.europa.eu/ds_resolveuid/l4R52CP08M

² Regulation (EC) No 401/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:126:0013:0022:EN:PDF>

³ <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/eea-annual-work-programme-2016>

⁴ Financial Regulation of the European Environment Agency (005/EEA/MB-WP-ADM(FinReg)2014) of 23 April 2014

⁵ Communication from the Commission on the guidelines for programming document for decentralised agencies and the template for the Consolidated Annual Activity Report for decentralised agencies, C(2014) 9641 final

ANALYSIS FROM THE EEA MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Board analysis of the EEA's Consolidated Annual Activity Report includes observations for all parts of the CAAR 2016.

PART 1 ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

The Board welcomes the comprehensive account of the activities carried out by the EEA in 2016, as well as the overview of performance against the expected outputs defined in EEA's AWP 2016.

The Board made the following observations:

- Overall, the EEA delivered well on the targets set out in the AWP 2016, which included a considerable number of high quality deliverables across the EEA's four strategic areas defined in the MAWP 2014–2020.
- The work delivered included also two specific areas of work financed through non-core funds, namely contributions under the Copernicus programme and the European Neighbourhood Instrument.
- Although the delivery rate in some strategic areas was rather low compared to other strategic areas, the Board understands that these work areas have been impacted either by the limitation of staff resources, or the late delivery of input data for a number of foreseen outputs, or unforeseen delays in completing complex projects. The CAAR documents sufficiently the external factors causing the delays or partial deliveries, and the Board concluded overall that the lower delivery rates should not be interpreted as a lack of performance by the EEA.
- As a networking organisation in the field of environmental information and knowledge, the EEA continued effective cooperation with the Eionet, which includes 33 member and six cooperating countries; as well as extensive cooperation with EU institutions, including the European Commission (EC) and the European Parliament.
- The EEA has increased its investment in further developing the shared knowledge-base of the EEA and its stakeholders through various initiatives, including active involvement in the Environmental Knowledge Community (EKC), strengthening of the EEA Scientific Committee and the EEAcademy.

PART 2 (A) MANAGEMENT

Management Board

The EEA Management Board is of the opinion that the composition (including also representatives from non-EU Member States) and working methods of the Board and Bureau are effective; it is also of the opinion that these contribute to the achievement of the Board and Bureau mandates.

The Board appreciates the transparent and effective governance process applicable to the formal interactions between the Board/Bureau and EEA's senior management team, while also recognising the added value of frequent informal interactions.

The Board is satisfied with its role in the establishment of the EEA's annual and multiannual work programming, which is based on a balancing of the interests of the various stakeholders against the EEA's mandate and available resources for the EEA and Eionet partners.

In December 2016, the Management Board organised a seminar on 'The EEA and Eionet, Shaping our future together' with the overall aim of co-creating a common understanding of the future of the EEA and Eionet in the face of changing contexts, including policy and transition needs, and to explore ways to evolve and adapt to upcoming demands on the network for information and knowledge sharing.

Major developments

The Board agrees with the proposed future role of the EEA and Eionet in the field of the Energy Union and welcomes the proposal of the European Commission to make available additional resources to the EEA in relation to the proposed new tasks.

The Board is concerned about the continued reduction of staff allocated to the EEA in light of the foreseen 10 % reduction in posts resulting from the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014–2020 and the establishment of a 'redeployment pool' for agencies with new tasks. The Board would encourage the EU institutions to consider the allocation of resources to the EEA from the redeployment pool in light of the continuously increasing tasks of the EEA in particular in the field of environment policy.

Budgetary, financial and human resources management

The Board notes that the Agency's initial core budget for 2016 amounted to EUR 41 809 234, which was less than the requested EUR 42 730 580 that had formed the basis for the AWP 2016. Furthermore, the initial budget was reduced by an amendment in relation to adjustments to contributions from European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and member countries of EUR -121 737.

The Board congratulates the EEA with its budget monitoring efforts resulting in a 99.9 % budget execution rate of the available core-budget appropriations (EC subsidy and contributions from EFTA and Turkey and Switzerland in 2016).

The non-core budget for 2016 amounted to EUR 8 800 000, which was included through a budget amendment and related to the Copernicus delegation agreement with DG GROW as part of the implementation of the EUR 87 000 000 over the period 2014–2020.

The Board notes that the Agency achieved an occupancy rate for temporary agents of 99.2 % with 129 staff against 130 posts available and takes note that the last post is reserved for known reduction in the establishment table in 2017.

Audit results and follow-up on recommendations

The Board is satisfied with the level and frequency of information provided by the EEA's Internal Audit Capability (IAC) to the EEA's Management Board and Bureau.

The Board takes note of the positive outcome of the audit by the Internal Audit Service (IAS) on the *European environment — state and outlook 2015 report* (SOER 2015) process, which concluded that

the audited processes were generally fit-for-purpose and ensured an efficient and effective internal and external coordination of the complex multiannual project.

The Board takes note of the positive opinion from the European Court of Auditors (ECA) in relation to the 2015 Annual Accounts.

In relation to ECA's special report on *Agencies' use of grants — not always appropriate or demonstratively effective*, the Management Board decided in December 2016 to evaluate alternative funding options for the contractual arrangements with European topic centres (ETCs) from 2019 onwards, and to adopt an opinion at its June 2017 meeting.

The Board is pleased with the decision of the European Parliament, as the Discharge Authority, to grant the discharge in respect to the EEA budget, including the decision on the closure of the EEA accounts related to 2014.

The Board is satisfied with the further improvement of the ex-ante and ex-post verification in light of the observations from the Discharge Authority in the Agency's Discharge for 2014, while noting with concern the resource intensity of the detailed verification processes.

PART 2 (B) EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS

The Board welcomes the Better Regulation evaluation of the EEA and Eionet which is being undertaken by the European Commission, as well as the foreseen consultation with representatives of EEA member countries and Management Board members in this regard.

The ongoing evaluation differs from former EEA reviews, which were Management Board led. The Board encourages the Commission to take into account member countries' views and priorities.

The Board highlights the importance of building on the findings of the 2013 EEA evaluation and of ensuring a thorough analysis of all elements of relevance for future informed decisions on the future priority setting and the potential revision of the EEA/Eionet Regulation.

PART 3 ASSESSMENTS OF EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

Risk management

The Board notes that appropriate measures are in place to identify, monitor and manage risks.

The external risks in relation to the continuous decrease of resources, as well as the uncertainty in relation to the future resource allocations to EEA, in light of the announcement from the United Kingdom to invoke Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty to withdraw from the European Union during 2017, are of increasing concern for the Board, which also notes that resources assigned to the EEA do not always reflect the additional work for the EEA agreed by European institutions.

The Board recognises that the Agency has been effective in adjusting to the decreasing resources, but that its capacity to further respond adequately to policy developments will depend on an increase in allocated core resources or the discontinuation of present core tasks.

In relation to the Eionet reporting platform Reportnet, the Board welcomes the initiative of the EEA to establish a project plan in cooperation with the European Commission to adjust the platform to the recent reporting evolutions i.e. Reportnet 2.0, leading to the significantly increased complexity and volume of the data reported.

PART 4 MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE

The Board takes note of the systems in place to support the Executive Director's declaration of assurance and takes note of the declaration of assurance of the Agency's Executive Director.

The Board takes note of the fact that no reservations were made.

CONCLUSIONS FROM EEA'S MANAGEMENT BOARD

In assessing the CAAR 2016, the Management Board concludes the following:

- The overall performance of the EEA is in line with the objectives included in the Agency's AWP for 2016.
- Sufficient justification is provided for the relatively few specific outputs, which were delayed or only partially delivered.
- The cooperation with Eionet, including the ETCs, has been at the core of the EEA's achievements for 2016.
- The governance processes ensure an effective functioning of the Management Board and Bureau in line with their mandate set out in the EEA/Eionet Regulation and the EEA Financial Regulation.
- The ongoing policy development in relation to the Energy Union, opens a potential opportunity for the EEA and Eionet to engage further on the integration and assessment of climate mitigation and energy work.
- The continuing the EEA staff reduction resulting from the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014–2020 poses a risk for the Agency to deliver its MAWP 2014–2020 to the full, while also limiting the EEA's capacity to respond to policy developments.
- The budgetary, financial and human resources management during 2016 have been assessed as an example of sound management.
- The Internal Audit Capability has managed all EEA audit activities adequately and informed the Board appropriately on audit outcomes.
- The Better Regulation evaluation of the EEA and Eionet constitutes an opportunity for all stakeholders to engage in informed reflection on key elements of importance for further strategic orientation of the Agency.
- Overall, the EEA has appropriate measures in place to identify, monitor and manage risks, although the risks associated with the continued decrease in resources have become increasingly difficult to manage.

- EEA systems are in place to support the Executive Director's declaration of assurance and no reservations were made.

Finally, the members of the EEA Management Board would like to thank all EEA staff for their efforts over the course of the year, as well as EEA stakeholders for assisting the EEA in the delivery of its work programme, and in particular:

- all partners in the Eionet network in the member and cooperating countries, including the national focal points (NFPs), national reference centres (NRCs), and the six European topic centres (ETCs) in the areas of air and climate change, biological diversity, climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation, water, land use and spatial information and analysis, and waste and materials in a green economy;
- the EEA Scientific Committee members; and
- all thematic experts and bodies providing support to the work of the EEA and Eionet.

Copenhagen, 13 June 2017

Signed

Elisabeth Freytag-Rigler
Chair, EEA Management Board and Bureau

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE 2016 WORK PROGRAMME

EEA's Annual Work Programme (AWP) 2016, which is structured around the Agency's four strategic areas (SA) as set out in the Agency's Multiannual Work Programme (MAWP) 2014–2020, defines the following 2016 highlights:

Strategic area 1 (SA1): Informing policy implementation

- Follow-up on UNFCCC COP21 outcomes, including EU proposals to implement the 2030 climate and energy objectives and vision to 2050.
- Assess climate change impacts and vulnerability in Europe and climate change and urban adaptation/mitigation.
- Initiate analysis of the 2nd round of River Basin Management Plans as reported by Member States under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and 1st round of Flood Risk Management Plans under the Flood Directive (FD).
- Re-analyse 25 years' time series of European land cover/land use data focussing on critical environmental and territorial issues.
- Deliver first results for ecosystem capital accounts and upgrade mapping and assessments of ecosystems and their services.

Strategic area 2 (SA2): Assessing systemic challenges

- Publish a first indicator report monitoring the implementation of the 7th Environment Action Programme (7th EAP).
- Further develop the knowledge base for transitions, based on SOER 2015 outcomes and in line with the 7th EAP objectives: planetary limits, governance of long-term systemic risks and prospects for green/circular economy transitions.

Strategic area 3 (SA3): Knowledge co-creation, sharing and use

- Explore ways to enhance the structure of Eionet with elements concerning research collaboration, horizon-scanning and knowledge co-creation.
- Contribute to the UNEP GEO-6 process, and to regional processes in the pan-European, Mediterranean, Black Sea and Arctic regions.
- Coordinate the implementation of the European and local component of the Copernicus land monitoring services and *in situ* data access, together with further support for Inspire implementation.
- Establish regular activities of the EEAcademy and contribute to the further development of the Environmental Knowledge Community (EKC).
- Communicate around the above issues following the principles in the EEA communication framework.

Strategic area 4 (SA4): EEA management

- Further improve EEA process and quality management systems along the Knowledge, Assessment, Indicators, Data and Monitoring (MDIAK) chain.
- Ensure appropriate management structures and resources to enable proper implementation of the Copernicus Delegation Agreement.

ACHIEVING ANNUAL GOALS

The goals of the EEA are to provide European decision-makers and citizens with access to timely and relevant information and knowledge, to provide a sound basis for environmental policies.

This includes to help answer citizens' questions about the environment as it affects their daily lives, and to ensure that environmental thinking is brought into the mainstream of decision-making.

In order to assure the relevance and quality of data, information and analyses provided by the EEA, the AWP 2016 was undertaken with Eionet partners (NFPs, NRCs and ETCs), cooperating countries and a wide range of partner institutions, including the European Commission's directorate-generals, government departments and agencies, international conventions, UN bodies, the scientific technical and research communities, the private sector and civil society.

Structuring the work of the EEA are the pillars of EU and international legislation, agreements and aspirations. The 7th EAP *Living well, within the limits of our planet*, which is the EU's framework for a sustainable future, outlines three key objectives: a low carbon society, a green, circular economy and resilient ecosystems, as the basis for citizens' well-being. Reaching these objectives by 2050 is the key challenge facing us as a society.

As a knowledge actor, the EEA and its partners respond to these challenges by contributing to the knowledge-base and supporting policy implementation towards systemic, long-term solutions. The EEA response in 2016 is clearly represented in the examples below, which illustrate the unique position that the EEA and Eionet occupy in the science-policy arena. The examples also reinforce the central role that co-development of information and analysis occupy in the EEA/Eionet approach.

The EEA report *Transforming the EU power sector: avoiding a carbon lock-in*, launched in October, assesses the extent to which the thermal power sector in the EU has the potential to facilitate the necessary transition towards long-term EU energy and climate objectives. The assessment addresses the risks inherent to the current practice of extending the lifetime of fossil-fuel based power plants or building new ones by 2030, and the need to increase investment in clean technology in order for the EU to remain on a path to its long-term climate goals.

The process and analysis on which this assessment is built shows clearly the value the EEA and Eionet provide in combining disparate data sources (such as the Electric Power Plants (WEPP) database and the Large Combustion Plants (LCP) and the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) datasets) with evidence collected from across the network, to explore what the concepts of sustainability transitions and transformations mean in practice, and how the EEA and Eionet can help develop the knowledge needed to support systemic change in Europe.

Urban sprawl in Europe, a joint report published by the EEA and the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) in June, provides a comparable measurement of urban sprawl for 32 European countries at different levels for two years (2006 and 2009). The analysis is based on the Copernicus system which monitors the Earth and collects data by different sources. The results confirm the conclusions of earlier EEA reports, namely that in many parts of Europe current levels of urban sprawl have contributed to detrimental ecological, economic and social effects. This gives cause for concern and such effects may increase alongside planned urban development. Again, this report is built on a layering of technologies, sources and partnerships to tell a story of relevance to all of Europe and beyond.

Sustainable transitions: now for the long-term, an assessment developed jointly with Eionet, draws on evidence collected from across the network to explore what the concepts of sustainability transitions and transformations mean in practice, and how the EEA and Eionet can help develop the knowledge needed to support systemic change in Europe. Recognising the need for collaboration in creating knowledge for transitions, it represents an initial attempt by Eionet's partnership of experts and institutions across Europe to explore how they can respond to their shared knowledge challenges. It illustrates the potential for such a collaboration to create new forms of knowledge to guide and inspire change. In doing so, it provides a valuable input to future deliberations on the role and operations of the EEA and Eionet.

Co-development of information and analysis increasingly also happens through the Environment Knowledge Community (EKC) where key European institutional actors cooperate and develop knowledge innovation projects (KIPs). In 2016, two EEA pilot documents were finalised in this context in relation to the continued development of the Natural Capital and ecosystem services Accounting (KIP-INCA) project. The projects on EU-level Ecosystem Extent Accounts and Integrated Marine Fish Accounts will feed into the wider EEA work on ecosystem and natural capital accounting.

Another key milestone in 2016 was the EEA's Management Board seminar, on the subject 'EEA and Eionet — Shaping our Future Together', which took place in December with a view to strengthening and developing the network to continue to 'answer' in the context of the demanding policy questions associated with realising a sustainable Europe by 2050.

In the context of the European Commission's communication package in support of the EU Circular Economy (CE) package published in December 2015, the EEA published its first assessment report *Circular economy in Europe — Developing the knowledge base* in January 2016. The report addresses CE from the perspective of reducing the environmental pressures and impacts from material resource use. This EEA report was also an input into the process to develop a monitoring framework for the circular economy in cooperation with European Commission services.

In relation to EEA's *multiannual (2014–2020) delegation agreement with DG GROW on Copernicus*, 2016 concluded with the successful awarding of framework contracts for the Local Component (Urban Atlas, Riparian Zones and Natura 2000), followed by specific contracts totalling EUR 4.1 million for the first phase of the work. The total commitment in 2016 was EUR 15.7 million, covering the Local Component, the update of the high resolution layers on land cover characteristics and other contracts. As a result, the project had by year-end fully procured and committed the EUR 18.1 million pre-financing received from DG GROW.

INTRODUCTION

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EEA) AND ITS MISSION

BACKGROUND — EEA/EIONET REGULATION

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is an agency of the European Union. The Agency's main task is to provide sound, independent information on the environment. The Agency is a major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy, and also the general public.

The [EEA/Eionet Regulation](#) establishing the EEA was adopted by the European Union in 1990⁽⁶⁾. It came into force in late 1993, immediately after the decision was taken to locate the EEA in Copenhagen, where the EEA has been operational since 1994. EEA's founding regulation also established the European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet). EEA's mandate established in the EEA/Eionet Regulation is:

- to help the European Community and the EEA member countries make informed decisions about improving the environment, integrating environmental considerations into economic policies and moving towards sustainability;
- to coordinate the European environment information and observation network (Eionet).

KEY GOALS 2014–2020

The nature of environmental challenges has evolved over decades, requiring parallel adaptations to information flows and their assessment. Looking ahead at the challenges Europe is likely to face in coming decades, there is a need to maintain and improve the knowledge-base that supports established and developing policies across the policy-cycle while speeding-up the adaptation of environmental information flows and assessments in order to support transition objectives while

Continuously emerging, new and updated scientific insights into environment and climate issues improve the knowledge base for environment and climate policies. To fulfil its science-policy interface role, the EEA is working closely together with the Directorate-General (DG) for Research and Innovation (RTD), the Joint Research Centre (JRC), EEA's Scientific Committee and others seeking to help inform decisions made in relation to the European Union (EU) framework research programmes (e.g. Horizon 2020 and earlier), which will play a major role in developing such insights.

⁶ The EEA 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. In the interests of clarity and rationality, the regulation was codified by Regulation (EC) No 401/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009.

Based on this and the mandate set out in the EEA/Eionet Regulation, the key goals of the EEA for the period of the MAWP 2014–2020 are as follows:

- to be the prime source of knowledge at European level for informing the implementation of European and national environment and climate policies;
- to be a leading knowledge centre for the knowledge needed to support long-term transition challenges and objectives;
- to be the lead organisation at European level that facilitates knowledge sharing and capacity building in the field of the environment and climate change.

To secure the knowledge and evidence-base for the developing EU policy framework, the MAWP is structured around the following four strategic areas (SA):

- Strategic area 1: Informing policy implementation (SA1)
- Strategic area 2: Assessing systemic challenges (SA2)
- Strategic area 3: Knowledge co-creation, sharing and use (SA3)
- Strategic area 4: EEA management (SA4)

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

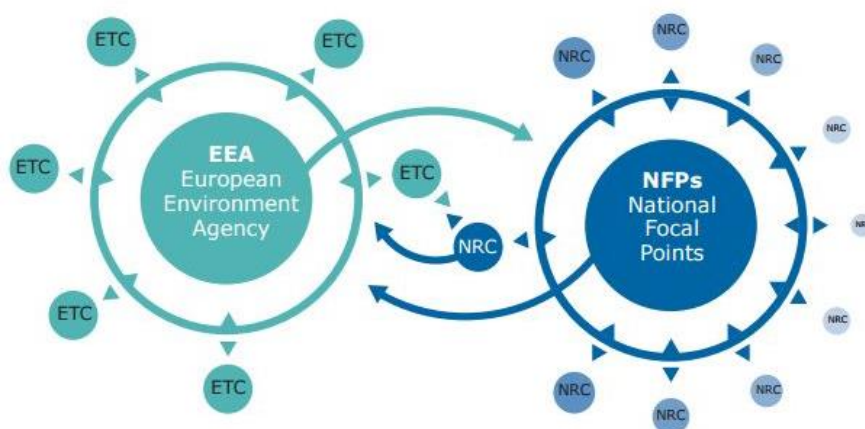
EIONET — COOPERATION ACROSS EUROPE

The European Environment Information and Observation Network ([Eionet](#)) finds its origins in the EEA/Eionet Regulation. Eionet is a partnership network of the EEA and its member and cooperating countries.

Eionet consists of the EEA itself, six European topic centres (ETCs) and a network of around 1 500 experts from 39 countries ⁽⁷⁾ in up to 400 national bodies that deal with environmental information. Country experts are designated as national focal points (NFPs), typically national environment agencies or environment ministries, and national reference centres (NRCs).

Through the EEA/Eionet Regulation, the EEA has been established as a network organisation, which is responsible for developing the network and coordinating the network's activities.

⁷ The 33 member countries include the 28 European Union Member States together with Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland and Turkey. The six cooperating (West Balkan) countries are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia as well as Kosovo under the UN Security Council Resolution 1244/99. See also [EEA's webpage on 'Countries and Eionet'](#).



The six European topic centres cover the following areas:

- Air Pollution and Climate Change Mitigation (ETC/ACM)
- Biological Diversity (ETC/BD)
- Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (ETC/CCA)
- Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters (ETC/ICM)
- Urban, Land and Soil Systems (ETC/ULS)
- Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (ETC/WMGE)

More information on the network is available on the [EEA's webpage on 'Countries and Eionet'](#) and in the brochure [Eionet Connects – Sharing environmental information in Europe](#).

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Most environmental issues are of a transboundary nature and many have a global scope. They can only be addressed effectively through international cooperation. The tasks of the EEA include promoting the incorporation of European environmental information into international environmental monitoring programmes, cooperating with regional and international bodies and programmes and with countries. In 2016, the EEA adopted a framework for International Engagement, to facilitate the planning and carrying out its international activities.

Regional cooperation

The EEA cooperates with various regional processes and bodies that cover geographical areas with close or transboundary geographic or geo-political links to the EU, and where there are well-defined EU policies.

In addition to cooperation within the Eionet network, the EEA also cooperates and fosters partnerships with its neighbours and other countries and regions in the context of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). In 2016, the EEA started two new multiannual (2016–2019) projects with six Eastern partnership and nine Southern Mediterranean partner countries to support promoting environmental protection and strengthening environmental governance. The activities

are conditional on non-core funds allocated through the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) to EEA.

Cooperation on a regional level includes: the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Arctic Council, the Nordic Council and the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC).

Cooperation with international organisations

The EEA also cooperates with international organisations at global and region level, in areas of common interest and in the context of the EEA's MAWP 2014–2020.

Cooperation at the global level includes: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), World Health Organisation (WHO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and Secretariats of Global Conventions such as of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

After the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the [Sustainable Development Goals](#), the framework for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda needs to be made more concrete at the national, regional and global levels. The EEA will have a particular role to play at the regional level in contributing to the monitoring and review work. This work will be carried out in close co-operation with the European Commission and EU Member States.

CONDITIONS AND CHALLENGES UNDER WHICH EEA OPERATES

CONDITIONS

The following section includes a concise summary of the main conditions for the Agency's operation as defined in the EEA/Eionet Regulation.

The EEA is a decentralised agency of the European Union. The Agency is set up as an independent body with its own legal personality and for an indefinite period. EEA funding consists of a European Union subsidy (subject to authorisation by the budgetary authority) and payments for services rendered. The EU Financial Regulation (and its Rules of Application) and the Framework Financial Regulation applies to the Agency. The European Parliament is the Agency's discharge authority.

With respect to human resources, the Staff Regulations define the overarching principles for EEA staff and implementing provisions have to be adopted in agreement with the European Commission. Furthermore, the establishment and mandate for both the EEA Management Board and Scientific Committee are defined, as well as the responsibilities and accountability of the Executive Director as the legal representative of the Agency.

Finally, the EEA's founding regulation includes the provision that the Agency is open to countries which are not members of the European Union, but for which there are agreements with the EEA in the context of Article 300 of the Treaty.

CHALLENGES FOR 2016

Misalignment between the estimated budget used as a basis for activities set in the Programming Document (PD) 2016–2018 and the adopted EEA budget

The establishment of the EEA budget for 2016 followed the procedures laid down in the Financial Framework Regulation for decentralised bodies (FRR). This includes the sending of a provisional draft estimate of its revenue and expenditure by 31 January 2015. The final EEA budget, including the amount of the contribution, and the establishment plan were adopted by the budgetary authority by the end of 2015. The revenue was reduced by EUR 1 043 083 and the staffing by three temporary agent posts.

The EEA PD 2016–2018, including the AWP 2016, was drafted and adopted in line with the requirements in the Financial Framework Regulation for decentralised bodies. The draft PD 2016–2018, including the scope of activities for 2016 was submitted to the EU institutions on 31 January 2015. The tasks for 2016 as laid down in the final PD 2016–2018, adopted by the EEA Management Board at the end of 2015, were not adjusted to reflect a reduction in the budget for 2016.

It was only during the course of 2016 that the temporary agent posts to be reduced were identified and a reallocation of funds across activities was executed. By and large, the reductions were absorbed without hampering the overall delivery of the planning and programming document, but where references are made to resource constraints in this report, it is meant as a reference to the above explanation.

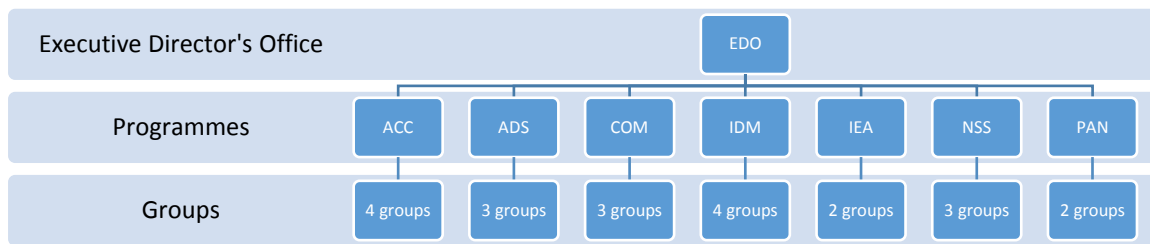
EEA financial resources for 'cruising speed' part of the Agency

In light of the implementation of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2014–2020 requiring a 5 % reduction of the establishment plan and in line with the additional 1 % levy proposed by the Commission to ensure the overall human and financial resources required for all decentralised agencies, EEA's number of posts in the establishment plan have decreased from 138 in 2013 to 124 in 2018. For more information see also section 2.2 Major developments.

ORGANISATION/ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

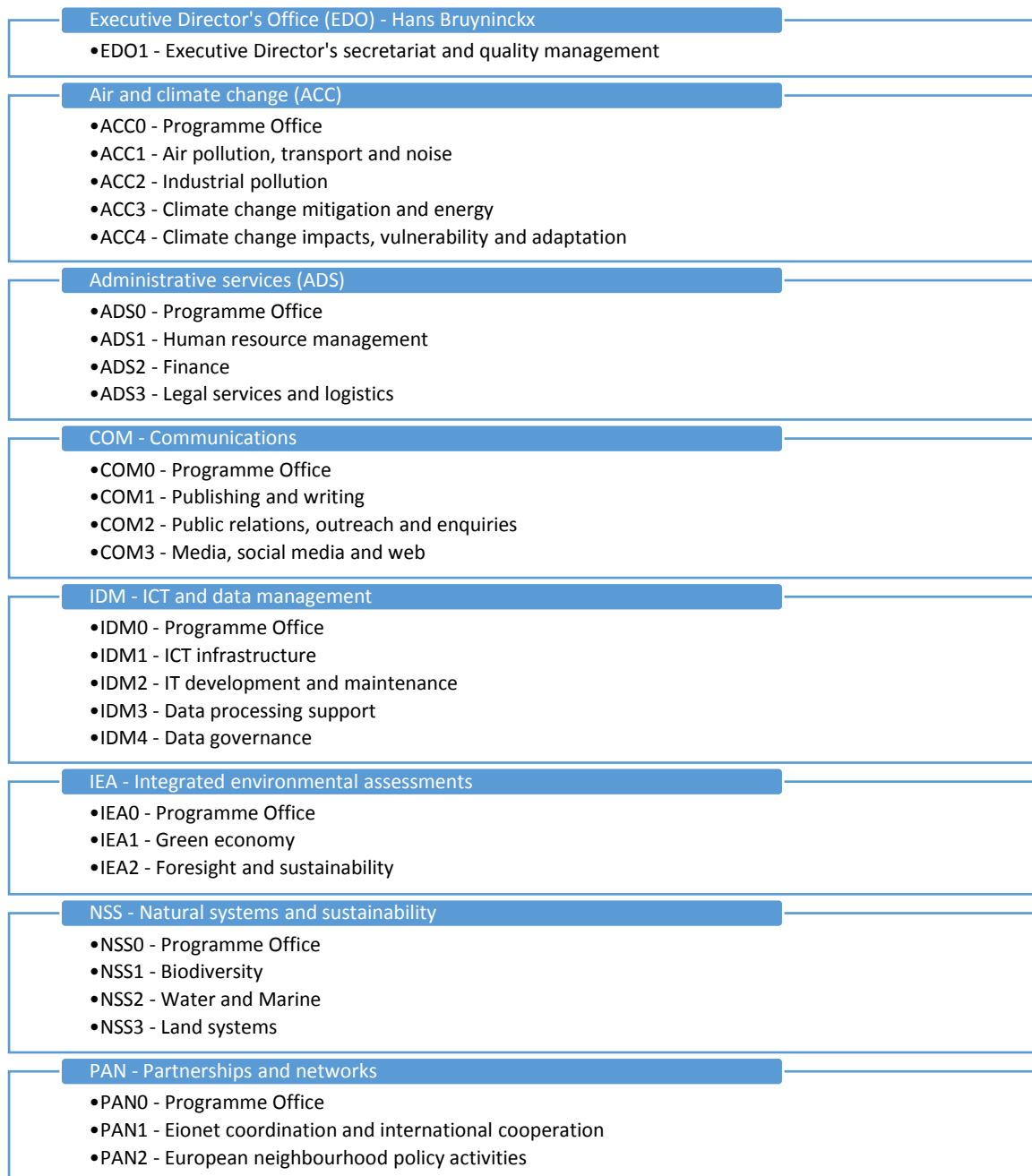
EEA's organisational structure includes three hierarchical levels:

- Executive Director's Office (EDO), led by the EEA Executive Director
- Seven programmes, led by Heads of Programme
- 22 groups (of which one under EDO), led by Heads of Group



Staff members reporting directly to the Executive Director or a Head of Programme, and who are not line managers, are included in EEA's organigram (see also Annex 3) in the relevant Programme Office.

The organisation structure within the Executive Directive's Office and the programmes is as follows



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

In 2004, the EEA developed an environmental management system to manage its own impact on the environment. It was verified by external auditors for the first time in the spring of 2005. Detailed information is published on the [EEA webpage on environmental management \(https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/emas\)](https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/emas).

PART 1 ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

Part 1 of this Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) for 2016, provides an overview of the achievements in 2016 and is structured around Agency's four strategic areas (SA) as set out in EEA's MAWP 2014–2020. The achievements for 2016 are placed into the context of the multiannual goals, key objectives and performance indicators from the MAWP 2014–2020 and are reported on against the expected outputs defined in EEA's AWP 2016.

1.1 INFORMING POLICY IMPLEMENTATION (SA1)

Multiannual goal

To improve the content, accessibility and use of European-level environmental information by providing policy-relevant feedback to long-established and emerging policy frameworks, objectives and targets through reporting on progress on recognised environmental themes across the 'driving forces–pressures–state–impacts–responses' (DPSIR) assessment chain.

Multiannual key objectives

- To tailor, harmonise and speed up data flows (including near-real time data flows if appropriate) and their integration into information systems for the production of indicators and assessments, in order to be relevant and up to date by, in particular, providing targeted technical and methodological assistance for reporting obligations and information requirements under legislative processes and related structured implementation and information frameworks (SIIFs).
- To allow the timely provision, analysis and dissemination of data sets, indicators and assessments across the policy cycle for the themes and sectors of most relevance to achieving environmental policy implementation and effectiveness analysis on different geographical scales.
- To close important information gaps by further developing concepts, analytical methods and indicators, in order to better understand the interlinkages between different themes and sectors, and support enhanced policy coherence.
- To mainstream new data and information needs through incorporating the outcomes of EU-FP7 and Horizon 2020 research projects, as well as of similar ventures at national and international level;
- To continuously and actively engage with stakeholders through a policy–science interface across themes and sectors to ensure that relevant findings are taken up and used, thereby contributing to the achievement of significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment.

Multiannual key performance indicators

- The measurable uptake of EEA findings in policy documents.
- The measurable and acknowledged contribution to reporting processes under EU comitology and multilateral agreements.
- The timely and reliable delivery of annual briefings and workshops, as well as assessments, indicators, databases and information services, based on a timetable agreed with EEA stakeholders.

AIR POLLUTION, TRANSPORT AND NOISE (SA1.1)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the areas of air pollution, transport and environment, and noise by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Data reported by EEA member countries collected, processed, quality-assured, stored and disseminated according to agreed deadlines in a timely manner.
- EEA member countries assisted effectively in their reporting and capacity-building support provided as needed.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of reported information and with direct policy support.
- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs.
- Sound, timely and policy-relevant indicators and assessments, including policy effectiveness assessments of air pollution, transport and environment, and noise, interactions between various environmental areas and policies, and impacts on health, the environment, climate change and the economy.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/ACM

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Annual report: reporting status under NEC Directive; EU emissions inventory report under LRTAP Convention	Reports and assessments	Eionet NRCs Mitigation of air pollution and climate change, DG ENV, MS	National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC);	Done
Annual report: EU emissions inventory report under LRTAP Convention	Reports and assessments	Eionet NRCs Mitigation of air pollution and climate change, DG ENV, MS	LRTAP Convention and its protocols	Done
Air quality in Europe 2016 report	Reports and assessments	Eionet NRCs Air Quality, and Mitigation of air pollution and climate change, DG ENV, WHO	Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC); Fourth Air Quality Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC, National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC)	Done
Annual Transport and Environment Reporting Mechanism report (TERM)	Reports and assessments	EP, DG CLIMA, DG MOVE, DG ENV, Eionet NRCs Environment and Transport	Transport White Paper (COM/2011/0044); other relevant Regulations and Directives	Done
Annual report: Monitoring CO2 emissions from passenger cars and vans	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, DG MOVE, MS	Regulations on CO2 from passenger cars (No 443/2009) and vans (No 510/2011);	Done
Annual report: Fuel Quality Directive reporting	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, DG MOVE, MS	Fuel Quality Directive (2009/30/EC)	Done
Technical studies supporting air pollution, transport and noise assessment reports	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG JRC	Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC); Fourth Air Quality Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC, Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	Done
Updated country factsheets on air pollution	Reports and assessments	Eionet, DG ENV	EC Air quality package, Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC), National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC)	Not done (Postponed until 2017 due to resource constraints: an earlier staff departure and subsequent reassignments)
Updated country factsheets noise	Reports and assessments	Eionet, DG ENV	Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	Done
Annual overview of summer ozone exceedances in Europe – 2016	Reports and assessments	Eionet, DG ENV	Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Updated indicators at European level on air pollutant emissions, air quality, noise, transport and environment	Indicators	Eionet, DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG MOVE, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG AGRI LRTAP Convention CCE, WHO	EEA, Europe 2020 Semester; resource efficiency scoreboard; EU SDS	Done
Updated compilations of air quality data sets, including for cities	Data and maps	Eionet NRCs Air quality, MS, DG ENV, DG JRC, DG ESTAT, DG REGIO	Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC), Air Quality Implementing Decision (2011/850/EU)	Done
Updated compilations of air pollutant emission data	Data and maps	Eionet NRCs Mitigation of air pollution and Climate change, MS, DG ENV, DG JRC, EMEP, CEIP	National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC), LRTAP Convention and its Protocols	Done
Updated compilations of data of CO ₂ and NO _x emissions from new cars and vans	Data and maps	MS, DG CLIMA, DG ENV, DG JRC	Regulations on the monitoring of CO ₂ emissions from new passenger cars and light-duty vehicles (443/2009, 510/2011), Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC), National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC)	Done
Updated compilations of noise data	Data and maps	Eionet NRCs Noise, MS DG ENV	Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	Done
Updated air quality maps for EEA member countries	Data and maps	Eionet NRCs Air quality, DG ENV, EMEP	Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC); Fourth Air Quality Daughter Directive 2004/107/EC	Done
Annual Eionet workshops on air pollutant emissions, on air quality, on transport and environment, and on noise	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs on: Mitigation of air pollution and climate change, Air quality, Environment and Transport, Noise	EEA/ Eionet Regulation	Done
Provision of policy support	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, LRTAP Convention	Air Quality Directives and implementing provisions, National Emission Ceilings Directive, LRTAP Convention and its protocols, Environmental Noise Directive, Regulations for monitoring of CO ₂ from new passenger cars and light-duty vehicles etc.	Done
Cooperation with Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service	Contributions and joint products	CAMS/ECMWF (European Centre	Copernicus Regulation	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
(CAMS), including participation in expert meetings		for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts)		

Highlights for 2016

Air pollution

As in previous years, a priority in 2016 was the on-going support provided to countries and the European Commission with data reporting obligations, i.e. the submission of data and information under the EU Air Quality Directives (via the air quality (AQ) e-Reporting system), the National Emission Ceilings (NEC) Directive and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP).

AQ e-Reporting is now fully operational for all AQ data flows, except the automated reporting of AQ modelling results. Difficulties in reporting information were unfortunately experienced by a number of countries especially around reporting deadlines, due to on-going instabilities in the Eionet platform. A number of interim actions were taken to stabilise the system and all countries were subsequently able to report the necessary information.

A specific project to support the implementation of AQ e-Reporting was undertaken in the West Balkan countries, supported by an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) grant. The EEA also hosted the first AQ Technical IPR meetings in April and November (replacing the former IPR 'Pilot' meetings). Good progress has also been made on the development of new interactive data viewers for AQ e-Reporting information, these will be launched in 2017.

The annual *Air quality in Europe — 2016 report* was published in November 2016. According to EEA estimates, air pollution continues to be responsible for more than 430 000 premature deaths in Europe.

Concerning air pollutant emissions, the annual *NEC Directive status report* (briefing) and data set was published in June 2016. A key message was that air pollution from sources such as transport and agriculture is still being emitted above the 2010 national emission ceilings in 10 European Union (EU) Member States.

The annual *EU CLRTAP emission inventory* submission and accompanying inventory report highlighted the increase in ammonia (NH₃) emissions reported by several countries in 2014. The inventory was provided to the European Commission (EC) for onward official submission to the UNECE LRTAP Convention. The respective EEA report was published in July 2016.

A major update of the *European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme (EMEP)/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook* was published in September 2016. The Guidebook provides updated technical guidance to prepare national emission inventories required under CLRTAP and the NEC Directive. The EEA continues to support the annual review of emissions inventories, performed jointly by the EEA and EMEP.

The EEA continued to provide support to the implementation of legislation across a number of areas, including through regular participation at meetings of the Air Quality Expert Groups, CLRTAP/EMEP Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections, and the expert networks FAIRMODE and AQUILA.

Meetings of the Eionet NRCs for air quality, and NRCs for mitigation of air pollution and climate change were held during the year.

Transport

The EEA's annual *Transport and Environment Reporting Mechanism (TERM) report*, published in December 2016, assessed the latest environmental trends in transport and presented examples of the different transitions needed in terms of technology, urban planning and societal behaviour to make transport more sustainable. The report was supported by the publication of a number of updated TERM indicators. Further supporting EEA's activities on potential transitions in the mobility sector, two assessments were published in 2016.

The first, a briefing *Electric vehicles and the energy sector — impacts on Europe's future emissions* assessed the impact of different scenarios that take into account the increased use of electric cars and their effect on the EU's energy system, and on emissions of greenhouse gases and selected air pollutants. This was accompanied by *Electric vehicles in Europe*, a guide, which provided a non-technical summary of the latest information on electric cars in Europe, including those with hybrid technologies.

The Eionet NRCs for Environment and Transport also discussed transitions in the transport system necessary to achieve a more sustainable mobility system.

The report *Monitoring CO₂ emissions from passenger cars and vans in 2015*, published in December 2016, provides an overview of the performance of car and van manufacturers with regard to meeting their 2015 carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission targets. The average collective CO₂ emissions from cars and vans registered in 2015 are well below the respective 2015 and 2017 targets, although it is now broadly accepted that the laboratory-based measurements do not accurately reflect real-world driving performances.

Concerning vehicle emissions, the EEA participated in a hearing of the European Parliament's Committee of Inquiry into emission measurements in the automotive sector (EMIS) on 24 May. The Committee's mandate is to investigate alleged contraventions and maladministration in relation to emission measurements in the automotive sector. As part of the EMIS committee's evidence-gathering activities, the EEA presented information and addressed questions concerning the Agency's mandate and activities on vehicle emissions, how the EEA has communicated information highlighting the difference between real-world and official laboratory test emission measurements over the past years, and how these emissions impact on Europe's air quality.

In January 2016, the non-technical report *Explaining road transport emissions* was published, describing how vehicle emissions occur; how they are tested and the reasons for the gap currently seen between tested and real-world driving emissions.

The *European Aviation Environmental Report 2016* was published in January jointly by the European Aviation Safety Agency, the EEA and Eurocontrol. It describes the environmental performances of Europe's aviation sector, including key performance indicators on noise, GHG emissions and air pollution. The report was launched at a press event hosted by Commissioner for Mobility and Transport Bulc.

Noise

On the theme of noise, the focus in 2016 was again on supporting implementation of reporting under the Environmental Noise Directive by quality checking reported noise information and providing country-specific feedback to national reporters. Based on reported information, a series of country fact sheets on noise were published, presenting a summary of key statistics about environmental noise reported by EEA member countries. Due to incomplete reporting of required information, it was not possible to prepare a factsheet for all EEA member countries.

Quiet areas in Europe: the environment unaffected by noise pollution, a report published in June 2016, provided a first mapping assessment of potential quiet areas in Europe's rural regions.

The Eionet NRC Noise meeting in 2016 focused on providing participants with an update of European and international developments, as well as exchanging information on national studies and projects being undertaken at local level to abate noise pollution.

2016 publications

Air pollution

European Union emission inventory report 1990–2014 under the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP), EEA report No 16/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/lrtap-emission-inventory-report-2016>)

EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook — 2016, EEA report No 21/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/emep-eea-guidebook-2016>)

NEC Directive reporting status 2015, EEA Briefing No 1/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/air/national-emission-ceilings/nec-directive-reporting-status-2015>)

Air quality in Europe — 2016 report, EEA report No 28/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/air-quality-in-europe-2016>)

Inventory review 2016 – review of emission data reported under the LRTAP Convention and NEC Directive EMEP/EEA inventory review report 2016, EMEP/CEIP and EEA, (http://ceip.at/fileadmin/inhalte/emep/pdf/2016/DP-148_InventoryReport_2016.pdf)

Transport

Electric vehicles and the energy sector - impacts on Europe's future emissions, EEA briefing No 2/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/transport/electric-vehicles/electric-vehicles-and-energy>)

Electric vehicles in Europe, EEA report No 20/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/electric-vehicles-in-europe>)

Monitoring CO2 emissions from new passenger cars and vans in 2015, EEA report No 27/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/monitoring-co2-emissions-from>)

Explaining road transport emissions — A non-technical guide (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/explaining-road-transport-emissions>)

Transitions toward a more sustainable mobility system — TERM 2016: Transport indicators tracking progress towards environmental targets in Europe, EEA Report No 34/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/term-report-2016>)

EU fuel quality monitoring — 2015. EEA report No 36/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/eu-fuel-quality-monitoring-2015>)

European Aviation Environmental Report 2016, EASA, EEA, Eurocontrol, (<https://www.easa.europa.eu/eaer/>)

Noise

Quiet areas in Europe — The environment unaffected by noise pollution, EEA report No 14/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/quiet-areas-in-europe>)

Noise in Europe, Set of country fact sheets (http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/human/copy_of_noise-fact-sheets/noise-fact-sheets-2015)

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION (SA1.2)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of emissions from industrial sources by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Data reported by EEA member countries (and/or economic operators) collected, processed, quality-assured, stored and disseminated according to agreed deadlines in a timely manner.
- EEA member countries and industry assisted effectively in their data reporting towards the European Commission, international bodies and the EEA; reporting consolidated and streamlined where possible; support for capacity building provided as needed.
- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of reported information and with direct policy support.
- Sound, timely and policy-relevant indicators and assessments, including policy-effectiveness assessments of industrial pollution and impacts on the environment, health and economy and of co-benefits of policy measures undertaken in these areas.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/ACM

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Annual internal EU reports (confidential) on ODS and F-Gases, EU submission on ODS to the Montreal Protocol	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, single contact points in Member States (MS), companies	F-Gas Regulation (517/2014/EC), ODS Regulation (1005/2009/EC), Montreal Protocol	Done
Annual technical reports on the trade and production of ODS and F-gases	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, single contact points in MS, companies	F-Gas Regulation (517/2014/EC), ODS Regulation (1005/2009/EC), Montreal Protocol	Done
Annual technical report on the application of the EU ETS in Member States	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, MS	EU ETS Directive (2003/87/EC)	Done
Updated indicator at European level on ODS and further development of the industrial pollution indicator framework	Indicators	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, Montreal Protocol	ODS Regulation (1005/2009/EC), Montreal Protocol, Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU), Large Combustion Plant Directive (2001/80/EC), E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC), industrial emissions policy area	Done
Updated indicator at European level on F-gases and revision of indicator on F-gases	Indicators	DG CLIMA	F-Gas Regulation (517/2014/EC)	Not done (Postponed until 2017 owing the complexity for a robust methodology (HFC phase-down) and the need for further discussion with DG CLIMA)
Country fact sheets on environmental pressures from industry	Reports and assessments	Eionet NRCs on Industrial Pollution and relevant thematic NRCs, DG ENV, DG CLIMA, MS	Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU), Large Combustion Plant Directive (2001/80/EC), E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC), industrial emissions and relevant thematic areas (such as air pollution, water, waste, policy energy)	Done
Updated compilation and publication of E-PRTR data sets (including publication on E-PRTR website hosted by EEA)	Data and maps Information systems	Eionet NRCs Industrial Pollution, DG ENV, MS, E-PRTR Committee members, UNECE PRTR Secretariat, OECD PRTR Task force	E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC)	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Updated compilation and publication of LCP data	Data and maps	Eionet NRCs Industrial Pollution, DG ENV, MS	LCP Directive (2001/80/EC)	Done
Updated linkage between E-PRTR and LCP datasets	Data and maps	Eionet NRCs Industrial Pollution, DG ENV, Eionet, MS	E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC), LCP Directive (2001/80/EC)	Done
Updated (confidential) compilation ODS and F-Gases provided	Data and maps	DG CLIMA, single contact points in Member States (MS), companies	F-Gas Regulation (517/2014/EC), ODS Regulation (1005/2009/EC)	Done
Support to development of IED reporting framework and integrated E-PRTR & LCP reporting framework, and to the update of the E-PRTR website	Contributions and joint products	Eionet NRCs Industrial Pollution, DG ENV, Eionet, MS reporters	Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU), E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC)	Done
Annual Eionet workshop on industrial pollution	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs Industrial Pollution	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Provision of policy support	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, UNECE PRTR Protocol, UN Montreal Protocol, OECD	F-Gas Regulation (517/2014/EC), ODS Regulation (1005/2009/EC), EU ETS Directive (2003/87/EC), LCP Directive (2001/80/EC), Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU), PRTR Protocol, Montreal Protocol, E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC)	Done
Streamlining of industrial emissions data collection processes under IED	Contributions and joint products	Eionet NRCs Industrial Pollution, DG ENV, DG CLIMA, IEEG members, E-PRTR expert group	Industrial Emissions Directive (2010/75/EU), E-PRTR Regulation (166/2006/EC), EU ETS EU ETS Directive (2003/87/EC), UNECE PRTR Protocol, LRTAP Convention, National Emission Ceilings Directive (2001/81/EC)	Done

Highlights for 2016

Industrial pollution work in 2016 focused on data reporting, compilation and technical support to countries for:

- the plant-by-plant inventory data on large combustion plants (LCP) and the European pollutant release and transfer register (E-PRTR);
- the implementation of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) in Member States;

- the data quality checks performed on ozone-depleting substances (ODS) and fluorinated gases (F-gases) information reported from around 1 300 companies.

Updated data sets on LCP and E-PRTR releases to the environment were compiled, quality assured and disseminated.

The report *Application of the EU Emissions Trading Directive*, assessing national responses under Article 21 of the EU ETS Directive in 2015 was published in March 2016.

An updated tool for company-based reporting of F-gases was implemented in 2016, in accordance with the reporting requirements of the revised F-gas Regulation. The *Fluorinated greenhouse gases 2015* report, published in December 2016, documented the information reported to the EEA concerning the production, imports, exports and supply of F-gases. The annual EU submission on ODS to the Montreal Protocol was compiled, and the annual EEA report on *'Ozone Depleting Substances 2015'* was published in September. Separate confidential reports on company-based F-gases and ODS information were provided to the official contact points in Member States and the European Commission.

Ongoing support was provided to the European Commission and Member States on developing a future framework for streamlining industrial pollution reporting with a dual focus on:

- establishing an 'EU registry on industrial sites' and
- the integration of reporting under the E-PRTR Regulation and LCPs under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This work was presented to Member States in the E-PRTR and industrial emissions expert meetings, as well as to the Eionet NRCs on Industrial Pollution.

A set of 33 country profiles on industrial pollution was published, summarising information from countries and based on close cooperation with the Eionet NRCs on industrial pollution.

The EEA also provided ongoing policy support concerning implementation and facilitated networking across a number of areas, including through the joint meeting of the IED and the E-PRTR expert groups, the F-gas Committee, and a meeting of Eionet NRCs on Industrial Pollution.

2016 publications

Application of the EU Emissions Trading Directive — Analysis of national responses under Article 21 of the EU ETS Directive in 2015, EEA report No 6/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/ets-directive-2015>)

Ozone-depleting substances 2015, EEA report No 19/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/ozone-depleting-substances-2015>)

Fluorinated greenhouse gases 2015, EEA report No 33/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/fluorinated-greenhouse-gases>)

Industrial pollution (2016), Set of 33 country profiles (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/industry/industrial-pollution>)

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ENERGY (SA1.3)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy developments and implementation in the areas of climate change mitigation and energy by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Data reported by EEA member countries collected, processed, quality-assured, stored and disseminated according to agreed deadlines in a timely manner.
- EEA member countries assisted effectively in their reporting, and capacity-building support provided as needed.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis, compilations of reported information and direct policy support.
- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs.
- Sound, timely and policy-relevant indicators and assessments, including policy effectiveness assessments, on past and future effects and/or combined sets of policies and measures in the fields of climate change mitigation and energy.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/ACM

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Assistance to the European Commission in relation to Articles 6-9, 12-19, 21, 22 and 24 of the EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC)	Reports and assessments Data and maps Information systems	DG CLIMA, MS	EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC) and Implementing/Delegated Acts	Done
Implementation of the comprehensive review of Member States' GHG emission inventories under the Effort Sharing Decision	Contributions and joint products	DG CLIMA, MS	EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC) and Implementing/Delegated Acts	Done
Technical report: EU GHG inventory 1990-2014 (Official EU submission to UNFCCC); assessment of reasons behind past GHG emission trends; support to Member States, GHG inventory reporting	Reports and assessments	UNFCCC, DG CLIMA, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, MS	UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC) and Implementing/Delegated Acts	Done
Provision of policy support to the EU in the context of UNFCCC and COP21, including support to the annual review of the EU inventory	Contributions and joint products	UNFCCC, DG CLIMA, MS	UNFCCC, IPCC, EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation, EU ETS	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
under the Convention and the Protocol, the review of the initial report for CP2 and the Biannual Report			Directive, 2030 proposal, 2050 roadmap	
Technical report: Approximated EU GHG inventory for the year 2015	Reports and assessments	UNFCCC, DG CLIMA, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, MS	UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC) and Implementing/Delegated Acts	Done
Updated EEA Climate Change Data Centre with relevant EU greenhouse gas and energy data sets, including policies and measures (PAMS) and projections and EU ETS information; country profiles	Data and maps	DG CLIMA, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, MS	EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC) and Implementing/Delegated Acts	Done
Annual Eionet workshop on climate change mitigation and energy	Workshops and meetings	Eionet, DG CLIMA, DG ENER, DG ESTAT	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Updated indicators at European level on climate change mitigation and energy including possible improvements to the current set of energy indicators taking into account new data sets and/or new perspectives	Indicators	Eionet, DG ESTAT	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
EEA report: Progress towards meeting GHG emissions, energy efficiency and renewable energy targets in Europe (Annual 'Trends and Progress' report)	Reports and assessments	Eionet, DG CLIMA, DG ENER, DG RTD, DG JRC, Eionet, IEA	UNFCCC, 2030/50 roadmaps, EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC) and Implementing/Delegated Acts, EU ETS Directive	Done
Technical report: From vision to defining strategies and climate and energy policy: Evaluation of low-carbon development strategies of EEA member countries and role of currently implemented policies and measures	Reports and assessments	Eionet, DG CLIMA, DG ENER	EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (525/2013/EC), 20150 roadmaps, UNFCCC	Partially done (Good progress made and ETC report completed, in order to update the analysis with new information submitted by Member States in March 2017, the EEA report was postponed until 2017)
Support to the European Energy Union Report	Contributions and joint products	DG CLIMA, DG ENER, DG MOVE	EU Energy Union	Done
Technical report: Using an energy efficiency index to evaluate energy efficiency policies across countries and sectors and their impact on meeting energy efficiency targets	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, DG ENER, Eionet, IEA	2020 and 2030 Climate and Energy targets	Partially done (Good progress made but further work required to consolidate and finalise the index methodology, the EEA

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
				report is postponed until 2017)
Technical report: progress in renewable energy including a section on methods to estimate avoided air pollutant emissions due to the deployment of RES (SO _x , NO _x , PM)	Reports and assessments	Eionet, DG CLIMA, DG ENER	2020 and 2030 Climate and energy targets, Energy Union	Done

Highlights for 2016

The EEA published the *Annual European Union greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2014 and inventory report 2016*, complemented by an analysis of the key trends and drivers in GHG emissions in the EU. The data were subject to an international expert review under the UNFCCC in September. The EEA also published *Approximated EU greenhouse gas inventory: Proxy GHG estimates for 2015*, a report based on preliminary estimates reported by Member States and gap filled by the EEA.

The EEA coordinated the first comprehensive review of national GHG inventories under the EU's Effort Sharing Decision (ESD), in assistance to the EC and as part of the annual compliance cycle with respect to ESD targets.

The EEA compiled and published updated data and information on GHG emission projections and on national climate mitigation policies and measures. An Eionet meeting on reporting and evaluation of national climate change mitigation policies and measures was organised in September.

Two reports on the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) were published:

- *The Application of the EU ETS Directive* — mentioned above, based on information reported by Member States;
- *Trends and projections in the EU ETS in 2016* — The EU Emissions Trading System in numbers based on key ETS data collected by the EEA from the Commission.

The report *Renewable energy in Europe 2016 — Recent growth and knock-on effects* was published, assessing progress in using renewable energy sources in the EU and comparing EU trends with those of other parts of the world.

Later in the year, the report *Transforming the EU Power Sector: Avoiding a Carbon Lock-in* was published, analysing replacement rate of thermal power plants in Europe under different lifetime assumptions, in the context of medium-term EU climate objectives.

The annual report *Trends and projections in Europe 2016 — Tracking progress towards Europe's climate and energy targets*, assessing progress towards climate and energy targets in Europe, was published for the first time as a web-based report. The report was complemented with online country profiles. The EEA also provided relevant data supporting the preparation of the European Commission's second *State of the Energy Union* report.

The EEA provided continued support to the Commission in setting up a governance system for the European Energy Union and attended a number of key meetings with the Commission and Member States on this matter.

The EEA also carried a number of activities in the area of climate finance. It initiated work on assessing the state-of-play of domestic climate finance tracking in Europe. In October, the EEA hosted and co-organised an expert meeting on 'Domestic landscapes of domestic climate finance in Europe'. Finally, the EEA was invited to participate in a High-Level Expert Group on Sustainable finance, established by the European Commission, and which will help developing an overarching and comprehensive EU strategy on sustainable finance to integrate sustainability in EU financial policy.

2016 publications

Annual European Union greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2014 and inventory report 2016, EEA report No 15/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-union-greenhouse-gas-inventory-2016>)

Approximated EU greenhouse gas inventory: Proxy GHG estimates for 2015, EEA report No 23/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/approximated-eu-ghg-inventory-2015>)

Trends and projections in the EU ETS in 2016 — The EU Emissions Trading System in numbers, EEA report No 24/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/trends-and-projections-EU-ETS-2016>)

Renewable energy in Europe 2016 — Recent growth and knock-on effects, EEA report No 4/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/renewable-energy-in-europe-2016>)

Transforming the EU power sector: avoiding a carbon lock-in, EEA report No 22/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/transforming-the-eu-power-sector>)

Trends and projections in Europe 2016 - Tracking progress towards Europe's climate and energy targets, EEA report No 29/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/trends-and-projections-in-europe>, <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate/trends-and-projections-in-europe>)

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS, VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION (SA1.4)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- EEA member countries supported in an effective and timely manner in their development and implementation of national adaptation strategies.
- EEA member countries assisted effectively in their reporting to the EU, and capacity-building support provided as needed.

- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis, compilations of reported information, and direct policy support.
- EEA information systems (Climate-ADAPT) adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs, increased user uptake.
- Sound, timely and policy-relevant indicators and assessments, including assessments of policy preparedness/effectiveness and/or combined sets of policies and measures, in the fields of climate-change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/CCA

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Publication of the EEA assessment report on 'Climate change impacts and vulnerability in Europe' and related indicators (in close connection to and consistent with the report)	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, DG ENV, DG JRC, DG RTD, WHO, ECDC, ECMWF, Eionet/NRCs for climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation	EU Adaptation strategy (Commission communication) 7th EAP	Done (Publication of the finalised report was postponed until early 2017, to ensure more effective outreach)
Publication of the EEA assessment report on 'Cities coping with climate change'	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, DG ENV, DG RTD, DG ECHO, DG REGIO, ICLEI, ISDR, WHO, Eionet/ NRCs for climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation	EU Adaptation Strategy (Commission communication) EU Urban Agenda 7th EAP	Done
Updated and improved European Climate Change Adaptation Platform Climate-ADAPT (e.g. regular content updating and review, improved content on cities; various improved functionalities, migration to EEA content management system)	Information systems	DG CLIMA, DG ENV, DG JRC, DG RTD, DG ECHO, DG REGIO, WHO, ECDC, ISDR, Regional conventions, EPA Network, Mayors Adapt, Eionet/ NRCs for climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation	EU Adaptation Strategy (Commission communication) 7th EAP, Europe 2020 Strategy European Commission/EEA Work plan on Climate-ADAPT	Done
Developing an assessment report on disaster risk reduction and links to climate change adaptation (to be published in 2017)	Reports and assessments	DG CLIMA, DG ENV, DG ECHO, DG JRC, DG RTD, ISDR, Eionet/ NRCs for climate change	EU Adaptation Strategy (Commission communication)	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
		impacts, vulnerability and adaptation	EU civil protection and disaster risk reduction policies (including the Civil Protection Mechanism)	
Follow-up work on monitoring, reporting and evaluation of national adaptation policies (follow-up to technical report in 2015)	Contributions and joint products	DG CLIMA, Eionet/ NRCs for climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation	EU Adaptation strategy (Commission communication)	Done
Eionet workshop on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation (and expert meetings)	Workshops and meetings	DG CLIMA, Eionet/NRCs for climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Contribution to the Commission (DG CLIMA) Mayors Adapt initiative and the annual ICLEI conference on urban adaptation Contributions to other conferences and meetings Collaboration with ECMWF, including participation in expert meetings	Workshops and meetings	DG CLIMA, Mayors Adapt, ICLEI UNFCCC, IPCC, ISDR, WHO, UNEP-PROVIA, EPA network Copernicus climate change service	EU Adaptation Strategy (Commission communication) Copernicus Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

The EEA continued support to the EU climate change adaptation strategy and attended meetings of the Climate Change Committee's working group on adaptation. The European Commission published a roadmap on the evaluation of the strategy, to take place during 2017-2018. Many of the EEA outputs in work area 1.4 are expected to be relevant.

The EEA published the report *Urban adaptation to climate change in Europe 2016 — Transforming cities in a changing climate* in July. The report, launched by the EEA Executive Director at the Open European Day at the Resilient cities conference in Bonn, analyses progress in urban adaptation over the past years and considers the extent to which this leads to attractive, climate-resilient cities.

The European Climate Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) was updated with new case studies, policy information and results from many research. An expert meeting was held with countries on national adaptation knowledge platforms. Webinars were held with users and providers of information and six newsletters were published and disseminated. On the request of the European Commission, countries provided updated information on adaptation at national level. Based on this information, the EEA is updating country profiles on Climate-ADAPT, to be finalised in early 2017.

A draft report on climate change, impacts and vulnerability was finalised by the end of 2016, but the publication/launch was postponed to January 2017. Indicators on global and European temperature and damage costs from extreme weather and climate related events were updated.

An expert meeting was held and a draft report was prepared on the topic of enhancing coherence of the knowledge base and policies between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in Europe. The report will be finalised in 2017.

A meeting was organised at the EEA with the Director of the Copernicus climate change service and the atmosphere service (coordinated by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)) to further enhance collaboration. The EEA gave input to the development of the climate change service, from a user perspective, to various expert meetings organised by the ECMWF.

The EEA participated in and presented at many conferences and workshops on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP22) in Marrakech in November.

2016 publications

Urban adaptation to climate change in Europe 2016 — Transforming cities in a changing climate, EEA report No 12/2016)
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/urban-adaptation-2016>)

WATER MANAGEMENT, RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS (SA1.5)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of water management, resources and ecosystems by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Data reported by EU Member States and EEA member countries collected, processed, quality-assured, stored and disseminated according to the agreed deadlines in a timely and reliable manner; additional data-reporting flows (Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD) and the Drinking Water Directive (DWD) established in line with the Structured Implementation and Information Framework (SIIF) developments and additional data flows (NiDi) evaluated and established if possible.
- EEA member countries assisted effectively in their reporting, and capacity-building support provided as needed.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of reported information and with direct policy support.
- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs: full operation of WISE 2.0 achieved, linking with BISE and Climate-

ADAPT, on the basis of the WISE Implementation Plan 2013–2015, with all relevant upgrades and in full agreement with EU partners in WISE (DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC).

- Sound, timely, and policy-relevant methodologies, indicators, and assessments, including policy-effectiveness analysis, in particular of Water Framework Directive (WFD) Second River Basin Management Plans and other water-related policies, applying environmental accounting methodologies and ecosystem (services) approaches.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/ICM

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Based on the 2015's integrated assessment framework start to analyse the data reported by March 2016 under WFD 2nd RBMPs, with cross walks to assessments under Flood Directive (EEA 2015 analysis), BD2020 and MFSD	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, MS, Eionet	WFD, EU Blueprint for Water (the 'Blueprint')	Done
Regular update on the Industry Directives report, covering: Bathing Water; Urban Waste Water Treatment; Drinking Water	Reports and assessments	DG ENV	Bathing Water Directive Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive Drinking Water Directive	Done
Preparing a working document on emissions to water based on information from WFD, WISE SoE, E-PRTR, UWWTD and other data flows depicting diffuse and point sources from nutrients and as far as possible chemicals	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG JRC, DG ESTAT, MS, Eionet	WFD, E-PRTR	Done
Providing regular European results for water balances as input for water accounts, environmental accounts and indicators on resource efficiency	Reports and assessments; Indicators; Data and maps	DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, MS, Eionet	WFD, Blueprint, 7th EAP	Done
A report on water management aspects in large European cities. The report will be based on case studies from large cities	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, Eionet	Blueprint for Water	Done
European assessment of eutrophication abatement measures, based on the 2015 EEA pilot study	Reports and assessments	DG ENV	WFD, Blueprint, 7th EAP	Partially done (Postponed until 2017 due to the need to perform further data work)
Deliver contribution to integrated European assessment on eutrophication across land-based sources (incl. point and diffuse pollution) for inland and coastal waters (link to MAES ecosystem assessment)	Reports and assessments Data and maps	DG ENV DG ESTAT, DG JRC, MS, Eionet	WFD, Blueprint, 7th EAP	Done (ETC technical report)

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Updated core set of indicators on water with the revised WISE SoE data flows and directive data flows as needed	Indicators	Eionet, DG ESTAT	WFD, Blueprint	Partially done (Postponed until 2017 due to late in-coming data)
Further develop the infrastructure for shared access and efficient dissemination of data and assessment via WISE and the Water Data Centre in line with SEIS and INSPIRE, taking into account the SIIF concept	Information systems	DG ENV, MS, Eionet	WFD, Blueprint, Inspire Directive	Partially done (Progress made but finalisation postponed until 2017 due to WISE Steering Committee postponed by EC to 2017)
Chairing WISE technical group; co-chairing WFD-FD CIS groups where appropriate (e.g. reporting or water accounts), support to DG ENV in all other relevant WFD & FD CIS activities	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, MS, Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation, WFD, FD, Blueprint	Done
Eionet Freshwater Workshop to prepare the new data call for WISE SoE data after the 2015 review and to start discussions on the upcoming water assessment 2017/18	Workshops and meetings	DG ENV, MS, Eionet	MAWP 2014–2020	Done

Highlights for 2016

The EEA report *Flood risks and environmental vulnerability — Exploring the synergies between floodplain restoration, water policies and thematic policies* was published in January 2016. It analyses ecosystem aspects of flood prevention, nature related measures and their integration in overall flood hazard and disaster management.

In connection with the World Water Day, the EEA published a new indicator on *Use of freshwater resources*. The indicator shows that while water is generally abundant in Europe, water scarcity and droughts continue to affect some regions, especially those that are densely populated and have high demands for water from agriculture and tourism during the summer.

In October, the EEA published *Rivers and lakes in European cities: Past and future challenges*, a report that assesses the strategies and measures authorities have taken in urban centres to improve the state of local rivers and lakes thus the potential for ecosystems services. These can serve as useful examples of lessons learned on urban planning and design approaches for socially and environmentally-resilient cities.

In terms of water quality, the EEA report *European water policies and human health*, published in November, provides a combined review of the three key legislative acts that underpin water management in the EU: the Bathing Water, the Drinking Water and the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directives, which altogether make a significant contribution towards ensuring public health across Europe. Pollution from agriculture and storm water overflows continues to pose problems, as much nitrogen and phosphorus from treatment plants and industry; fertilisers and

manure remain the main sources of nutrient and organic pollution. Importantly, the report also highlights the emergence of chemicals present in low concentrations but which may have harmful effects; micro-plastics, such as those found in personal care products, and micro-organisms resistant to antibiotics, present risks which need to be better understood.

A main activity in 2016 was to prepare the EEA 2017 State of Water assessment, which will serve as background analysis for the European Commission's 5th Water Framework Directive implementation report and as background for framing future EU water policies (review of WFD in 2019). The report will also be the source document for SOER 2020 and other EEA water briefings.

2016 publications

Flood risks and environmental vulnerability — Exploring the synergies between floodplain restoration, water policies and thematic policies, EEA report No 1/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/flood-risks-and-environmental-vulnerability>)

European bathing water quality in 2015 (including country reports), EEA report No 9/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-bathing-water-quality-2015>)

Rivers and lakes in European cities, EEA report No 26/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/rivers-and-lakes-in-cities>)

European water policies and human health — Combining reported environmental information, EEA report No 32/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/public-health-and-environmental-protection>)

Bathing water quality in 2015, Set of 30 country reports (<https://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/water/status-and-monitoring/state-of-bathing-water/state-of-bathing-water-2#eea-report-european-bathing-water-quality-in-2015>)

MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENT AND MARITIME ACTIVITIES (SA1.6)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of marine and coastal environment and maritime activities by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Data reported by EEA member countries collected, processed, quality assured and disseminated according to the agreed deadlines in a timely and reliable manner.
- EEA member countries assisted effectively in their reporting, and capacity-building support provided as needed.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of reported information, and with direct policy support.

- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs: the marine component of WISE established.
- Sound, timely and policy-relevant indicators and assessments, including policy-effectiveness analysis, building on agreed frameworks related to integrated marine/maritime assessments including socio-economic perspectives and the ecosystem (services) approach.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/ICM

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
WISE-Marine and HOPE indicators development	Information systems	DG ENV, Regional Sea Conventions, DG JRC, DG-MARE ICES, Eionet	Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Maritime Spatial Planning Directive, Nature Directives	Done
Update of WISE SoE transitional coastal and marine waters data set	Data and maps	Eionet	Water Framework Directive	Done
Marine LitterWatch implementation and outcomes	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG MARE	Marine Strategy Framework Directive, 7th EAP	Not done (Due to resource constraints the work has been postponed until 2017)
Support to MSFD policy process and implementation of MSFD art 19.3 through organising workshops and working papers	Workshops and meetings; Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, MS, Regional Sea Conventions	Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)	Done
Marine protected areas: technical paper on criteria for analysing MPAs ecological coherence	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, MS, Regional Sea Conventions	Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Habitats Directive, and Biodiversity Strategy	Done
Fisheries and aquaculture assessment report, with a focus on sea food system	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG MARE, DG JRC, ICES, Eionet	Marine Strategy and Water Framework Directives, Integrated Maritime Policy, Common Fisheries Policy, 7th EAP	Done
Finalise draft report on a European analytical framework for developing European marine ecosystem (services) assessment	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, MS, Eionet	EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, EU Directors' 'Vilnius process'	Partially done (Finalisation postponed until 2017 due to a higher complexity than originally anticipated)
Eionet Marine Workshop	Reports and assessments	Eionet	Marine Strategy Framework Directive	Done

Highlights for 2016

In October, the EEA published *Seafood in Europe; a food system approach for sustainability* to link marine assessments with the systemic challenges of the 'blue' economy agenda. The report takes an in-depth look at the increasingly complex evolution of the global food system and what this means for seafood issues in Europe. Part of the growing demand for food is to be met by fish, which will mostly come from aquaculture. In Europe's seas, overfishing remains high and globally, as we reach the natural limits for fish stocks, the rapid expansion of aquaculture will be the main driver of growth in production. In 2014, for the first time in history, more fish for human consumption have originated from farms than from wild capture. The report observes that there is limited information available beyond market data that enables tracing the EU's need for seafood outside its borders and that international trade and market dynamics mask vital signs from ecosystems, such as the state of local fish stocks.

In the context of the Common Implementation Strategy for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), the Working Group on Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange (WG DIKE) endorsed the establishment of WISE-Marine (Water & Marine Information System for Europe). The system aims to be a web-based portal and infrastructure for sharing information with the marine community on the marine environment at EU level. It will focus on the state of the marine environment at the European scale, thereby complimenting similar coverage at regional and national level, such as in the Regional Sea Conventions and Member States, and other EU marine information systems. It will make available data and information products according to common standards, and will try to contribute to better decision-making to conserve and sustainably use the marine environment. It is expected that the information shared will both inform on the state of the marine environment, and will also provide a European perspective on the ecosystem-based approach to management of the marine environment. The target audience for information in WISE-Marine is the wider Marine community (experts and policy makers not necessarily directly engaged in the MSFD process itself).

Based on the information in the biodiversity data centre, the EEA with the help of the ETC Biological Diversity supported the Commission in the conduct of the marine Natura 2000 seminar in September to assess the sufficiency of proposed Sites of Community Importance in the Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Macaronesian marine regions.

2016 publications

Seafood in Europe — A food system approach for sustainability, EEA report No 25/2016
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/seafood-in-europe-a-food>)

BIODIVERSITY, ECOSYSTEMS, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS (SA1.7)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of biodiversity and ecosystems (natural capital), including agriculture and forests ecosystems, by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Data reported by EEA member countries and other sources collected, processed, quality-assured, stored and disseminated according to the agreed deadlines in a timely and reliable manner.
- EEA member countries and Commission assisted effectively in their Nature Directives reporting activities, and capacity-building support provided as needed.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of reported information within a direct policy context.
- EEA information systems developed according to the policy needs as emerging from the Nature Directives, the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the Global Biodiversity Strategy. To this end, full development and implementation of BISE in partnership with relevant Commission Services (linking to other systems — e.g. WISE and Climate-ADAPT — as appropriate).
- Develop indicators and assessments based on sound, timely and policy-relevant methodologies, including needs from policy-effectiveness analysis, in particular concerning the mid-term review of the Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and sub-global/regional ecosystems assessments, as well in support to policy–science interface platforms at European and global levels (e.g. IPBES).
- Establish relevant partnerships with major operators in biodiversity monitoring, data gathering, and agriculture and forests ecosystems data and observation networks, in order to reinforce information provision as well as assessment capacities.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/BD

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Contributing to the maintenance and development of the Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE) in partnership with DG ENV in support of the knowledge base underpinning the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Aichi targets (global).	Information systems	DG ENV, DG AGRI, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG CLIMA, MS	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP	Partially done (Due to resource constraints, work in 2016 was limited to BISE maintenance, finalisation postponed until 2017)

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Advance work on the inventory of national indicators used to monitor national targets and crosslinking EU and AICHI targets				Not done (Postponed until 2017 due to resource constraints)
Continue to develop EUNIS (habitats and species) in support of ecosystems assessments: i) grassland habitat types; ii) study using COPERNICUS in-situ component for collection of in-situ vegetation data in countries	Data and maps Information systems	DG ENV, countries	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP	Done
Explore the results contained in the EEA Technical Report on the conservation status of Species and Habitats of EU interest - 'State of nature in the EU: Results from the Reporting under the Nature Directives 2007-2012' in support of other assessments requirements	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, countries	Habitats and Birds Directives; EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP	Done
Update and upgrade SEBI and AEI indicators within the EEA core set of indicators framework	Indicators Data and maps	DG ENV, DG AGRI, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG CLIMA, MS	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP	Done
Update of European ecosystem map and methodological assessment work on integrating time series information (MAES work programme).	Contributions and joint products	DGENV, DG JRC, DG ESTAT, MS, Eionet	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP	Done
Support to EKC KIP on 'Within Limits of the Planet'	Contributions and joint products	EKC partners	Priority objective 5 of the 7th EAP	Done
Technical report on tipping points in ecosystems	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, MS, Eionet	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, Priority objective 5 of the 7th EAP	Cancelled (Topic is being reconsidered under the EKC KIP WiLoP project, postponed until 2017)
Prepare update of the HNV farmland map based on CLC 2012	Data and maps	DG ENV, DG AGRI, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG CLIMA, MS	EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP	Done
Contribution to the 2016 climate change adaptation and vulnerability assessment and other EEA reports as key reports such as Annual Indicator Report Series 2016.	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, MS	7th EAP	Done
Continue to deliver and make accessible key data flows in the area: CDDA and Natura 2000. Consolidate partnership with LIFE-Nature on sharing reported site data and indicators.	Data and maps	DG ENV, MS	Habitats and Birds Directives; EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP; LIFE programme	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Contribute to continuation of Inspire implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDDA streamlining pilot exercise • Reporting under Article 12 (Birds Directive) and Article 17 (Habitats Directive) – exercise of 2013-2018 	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG JRC, MS	Habitats and Birds Directives; EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020; 7th EAP, INSPIRE Directive	Done
Continued support to the establishment of the Emerald network	Data and maps Information systems	CoE, MS	EU and Global Biodiversity Strategy to 2020	Done
Eionet NRC meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Data and Information Systems • Biodiversity and ecosystems indicators and assessments 	Workshops and meetings	DG ENV, other relevant DGs, Strategic partners (Eionet)	EEA/Eionet Regulation; EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (mid-term review 2015); 7th EAP	Done

Highlights for 2016

The Fitness Check evaluation of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, released in December 2016 concluded the directives remain: *‘highly relevant and are fit for purpose. However, the full achievement of the objectives of the Nature Directives will depend on substantial improvement in their implementation in close partnership with local authorities and different stakeholders in the Member States to deliver practical results on the ground for nature, people and the economy in the EU’*.

In this respect, the EEA in cooperation with the ETC/BD developed the formats, guidance and reference values for the 2013–2018 nature directives reporting, which were endorsed by the corresponding EU expert groups. The EEA chairing of the ad hoc group of favourable reference values was an important element in fostering high quality, relevant and comparable information from MS for forthcoming EU level assessments.

Towards the review of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, the EEA provided factual evidence on ecosystems (biodiversity) condition, trends and challenges. A summary is provided in the *Mid-term review of the EU biodiversity strategy to 2020, EU assessment of progress towards the targets and actions, jointly published by the European Commission and EEA*.

Conversely, all countries are actively involved in the second phase of mapping and assessing the state of ecosystems and their services (MAES initiative). In this context, the new EEA report *European forest ecosystems: state and trends* gives an updated health check on how our forests play their part in providing key ‘services’ for the environment and society.

Under the Environment Knowledge Community’s Knowledge Innovation Projects (EKC KIP), work on natural capital accounting has developed. Two EEA ‘pilot’ projects were finalised in 2016: EU-level Ecosystem Extent Accounts (understanding of changes in ecosystems and their capacity to generate

ecosystem services in the future) and Integrated Marine Fish Accounts (ecosystem asset and service accounts for commercial fish stocks in most of the EU marine regions).

Work also continued on land accounts, ecosystem condition accounts, as well as water quantity accounts. The EEA also contributed to reviewing the project 'Advancing Natural Capital Accounting' (ANCA) led by the UN Statistics Division and UN Environment, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

During 2016, the EEA and its main partners began a project on the updating/upgrading of the Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators (SEBI) and agri-environmental indicators (AEI), within the EEA core set of indicator framework.

The EEA in cooperation with the ETC/BD continued the support to the establishment of the pan-European Emerald network (Bern Convention). The European Nature Information System (EUNIS, (habitats and species)) was also further developed in support of ecosystem assessments with a focus on forest, woodland, heathland, scrub and tundra and marine habitats.

2016 publications

European forest ecosystems — State and trends, EEA report No 5/2016
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/european-forest-ecosystems>)

URBAN, LAND USE AND SOIL (SA1.8)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of urban, land and soil by means of data, information/indicators and assessments.

Multiannual performance indicators

- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of information, and with direct policy support;
- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs, integrated data platform for spatial and territorial thematic assessments operational and maintained;
- Sound, timely and policy-relevant indicators and assessments (including policy-effectiveness analysis) of urban areas and sustainable cities, land-use dependent economic sectors, and land- and soil-related resource efficiency.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/ULS

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
EEA Technical report on European soil nutrients balances and critical loads of N, P and Cd, and land related pressures in view of food, soil and water quality	Reports and assessments	DG ENV	7th EAP priority 1, Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe, follow-up for communication on land	Partially done (Postponed until 2017 due to resource constraints as a result of unexpected loss of staff; to be published as an EEA briefing)
EEA technical report on CORINE Land Cover past trends and integration with current European data on land monitoring and statistics.	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG ESTAT, Eionet	7th EAP priority 1, Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe, follow-up for communication on land	Partially done (Postponed until 2017 due to late in-coming data delivery)
EEA Technical reports on methodological approaches for land degradation (productivity loss) and spatial data integration by analysing effects of drought on European ecosystems.	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG JRC	7th EAP priority 1, Roadmap to a resource-efficient Europe, follow-up for communication on land	Partially done (Postponed until 2017 due to resource constraints as a result of unexpected higher workload on data management; to be published as an EEA briefing)
Technical report on Green infrastructure and flood management	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG REGIO	Biodiversity strategy and Green Infrastructure (GI) strategy, Floods and Water framework directives	Partially done (EEA report postponed until 2017 due to resource constraints as a result of staff workload and reprioritisation)
Methodological support for sustainable urban areas and related indicators (typologies and land monitoring data)	Reports and assessments (tbc)	DG ENV, Eionet	7th EAP priority 8; Resource efficiency Roadmap	Partially done (Publication of Eionet ETC report until 2017 due resource constraints as a result of SNE leaving EEA without being replaced)
EEA technical report and underpinning ecosystem capital accounting tables (V 1.0)	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG JRC, DG ESTAT	7th EAP priority 1 and EU Biodiversity strategy to 2020	Partially done (EEA report postponed until 2017 owing late availability of CORINE landcover data and complexity higher than anticipated)
First draft indicator for Fragmentation of ecosystems and habitats (terrestrial), based on 2012 land data.	Indicators	DG ENV, DG ENTR, DG JRC, DG ESTAT, DG REGIO, DG GROW, UNWTO, Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation, 7 th EAP, COM(2010)352, COM(2014)86 final	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Technical report on methodological approaches for the development of the first set of indicators for a tourism and environment reporting mechanism (TOUERM)	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG ENTR, DG JRC, DG ESTAT, DG REGIO, DG GROW, UNWTO, Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation, 7th EAP, COM(2010)352, COM (2014)86 final	Partially done (EEA report postponed until 2017 owing data quality and availability issues for indicators underpinning the report)
Maintain mutual cooperation with partner regional conventions (Alpine, Carpathians), linking information systems and sharing assessments tools and methods (indicators)	Contributions and joint products	DGENV, DG REGIO, Eionet, Regional Convention Secretariats	7th EAP priority 1 & 5, Biodiversity Strategy, Regional policies	Done
Eionet Soil and Land Use and Spatial Planning (LUSP) NRC meetings	Workshops and meetings	Eionet, DG ENV, DG JRC	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

The EEA Scientific Committee Seminar on ‘Land as a resource’ in October discussed the knowledge-base developments from the triple perspectives of policy, research & assessment and science-policy interfacing. *The direct and indirect impacts of EU policies on land*, an EEA report published in May 2016 assessed the aspects of land use, including land take, provided a key contribution to the discussions.

From a policy perspective, the seminar concluded that the need for assessments linking land take, land degradation, land use efficiency and global dimension (connected to consumption) is necessary, whilst an increased harmonisation, coverage and quality of the European land monitoring system requires stronger coordination, with Copernicus possibly representing the right opportunity.

On this topic, the joint EEA/FOEN report *Urban sprawl in Europe* published in May, reviewed the low-density and scattered expansion of many cities, which increased in all countries in the 2000s and continues to grow with significant loss of fertile farmland, soil sealing and the loss of essential ecological functions. This has led to higher greenhouse gas emissions, higher infrastructure costs for transport, water and electricity, and the loss and increasing fragmentation of open landscapes. The report was presented at the OECD Green Growth and Sustainable Development Forum meeting in November.

The EEA report *Land recycling in Europe*, published in December, shows how land recycling, such as reusing neglected sites and turning roads or parking lots to green spaces or residential areas, can have positive impacts on the environment and support Europe’s transition towards a circular and green economy. On average, land recycling has increased in Europe but the levels remain low comparatively to land take.

A set of activities with partner organisations and countries put a focus on green infrastructure (GI) and planning.

2016 publications

Mapping and assessing the condition of Europe's ecosystems: progress and challenges, EEA report No 3/2016
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/mapping-europes-ecosystems>)

Soil resource efficiency in urbanised areas — analytical framework and implications for governance, EEA report No 7/2016
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/soil-resource-efficiency>)

The direct and indirect impacts of EU policies on land, EEA report No 8/2016
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/impacts-of-eu-policies-on-land>)

Urban sprawl in Europe — joint EEA-FOEN report, EEA report No 11/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/urban-sprawl-in-europe>)

WASTE AND MATERIAL RESOURCES (SA1.9)

Multiannual objective

To support and inform policy development and implementation in the area of waste and material resources by means of data, modelling, information/indicators and assessments, in close cooperation with Eurostat.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Information on national waste and material resource policies, and accounts and databases on material resource flows, use and efficiency, updated in a timely and reliable manner.
- EEA member countries assisted effectively in their reporting on waste management, waste prevention and material resources, and capacity-building support provided as needed.
- EEA member countries and the European Commission supported in a timely manner with relevant analysis and compilations of information and with direct policy support.
- EEA information systems adapted and improved to accommodate changes in reporting and user needs in line with EU waste and material resource policy developments.
- Sound, timely, and policy-relevant indicators and assessments, including policy effectiveness assessments of status, trends and progress on waste policy implementation, including waste prevention programmes.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/WMGE

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Third annual analysis of EEA member country waste prevention programmes	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, Eionet NRCs Waste, DG JRC	Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done
Assessing progress on the implementation of waste-management policies in countries	Reports and assessments	Eionet NRCs Waste, DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC	Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done
European-level trends for waste management across the waste hierarchy	Indicators	Eionet NRCs Waste, DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC	Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done
Framework for monitoring progress towards waste targets using the European reference model	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, Eionet NRCs Waste	Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done
Capacity building on waste prevention (reach-out Eionet interaction, webinar)	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs Waste, DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, OECD	Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done

Highlights for 2016

Prevention of hazardous waste in Europe — the status in 2015, the third annual waste prevention report produced by the EEA in support to the EU Waste Framework Directive, was published in December. The report reviews 30 out of the 36 national and regional waste prevention programmes that had been adopted by the end of 2015. The focus of this third review is on hazardous waste, with the European level report accompanied by country profiles.

A technical paper on waste incineration capacities and transboundary shipments, with a focus on municipal waste, was prepared in 2016 and will be made available in January 2017 in support to the 2015 Commission Communication on Waste to Energy.

Municipal waste management across European countries, a briefing on municipal waste, was published in November accompanied by 32 EEA country profiles. The briefing and profiles provide indicators on key trends for municipal waste management as well as insights on which policy actions are being taken by countries to meet agreed objectives and targets in relevant EU policies.

The European reference model on municipal waste was further improved with support from ETC WMGE and inputs from Eionet National Reference Centres for waste. The model will be used in 2017 to support the European Commission on the 'early warning process' on monitoring progress towards agreed EU waste targets that was included in the Circular Economy package published in 2015.

The EEA participated in several waste-related workshops and conferences throughout the year, including a workshop on waste prevention, with a special focus on hazardous waste, co-organised with Umweltbundesamt Germany in Berlin in February and an expert workshop 'Towards a better exploitation of the technical potential of waste-to-Energy under the energy union' in Seville in

March. The EEA and the ETC WMGE organised together a webinar on waste prevention in the chemical industry with selected speakers from industry in October.

2016 publications

Prevention of hazardous waste in Europe — the status in 2015, EEA report No 35/2016

(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/waste-prevention-in-europe>)

Municipal waste management across European countries, EEA Briefing No 3/2016

(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/waste/municipal-waste/municipal-waste-management-across-european-countries>)

1.2 ASSESSING SYSTEMIC CHALLENGES (SA2)

Multiannual goal

To assess systemic challenges in the context of short-, medium- and long-term transitions, and to signal opportunities for (re)framing/recalibrating environmental policy, in order to facilitate the transition towards a more sustainable society in Europe.

Multiannual key objectives

- To provide integrated assessments across thematic areas with a view to signalling synergies, including further opportunities for policy coherence.
- To provide prospective analyses in order to signal emerging issues on both European and global scales.
- To provide knowledge and analysis that allows assessment of the progress made towards the fundamental transitions embedded in long-term EU policy objectives.

Multiannual performance indicators

- The prompt delivery of SOER 2015 and the annual indicator reports for 2014–2018.
- Measurable recognition in the processes for evaluation of the 7th EAP.
- The stimulation of foresight-oriented discussions about transitions to a more sustainable society in Europe.

RESOURCE-EFFICIENT ECONOMY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (SA2.1)

Multiannual objective

To monitor progress and identify opportunities to improve the environment in Europe, and indirectly in other regions of the world, in accordance with a resource-efficient economy perspective.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Timely and reliable delivery of annual briefings and workshops, as well as assessments, indicators, accounts and databases based on timetables agreed with EEA stakeholders.
- Measurable uptake of the EEA concepts, indicators and analyses for circular economy into the mid-term reviews of the 7th EAP and the Resource Efficiency Roadmap, as well as into more specific policy processes, including the EU product-design and consumption policies.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: ETC/WMGE

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Report on progress on selected elements of a green economy in Europe	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG GROW, DG SANTE, DG RTD OECD, UNEP, Global Green Growth Forum, World Economic Forum	7 th EAP	Done
Analysis of progress towards a circular economy (CE briefing)	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG GROW, Eionet NRCs Waste and Resource Efficiency	Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done
Reach-out activity Circular Economy	Workshops and meetings	DG ENV, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG GROW, Eionet NRCs Waste and Resource Efficiency	7 th EAP Waste Framework Directive, Communication on CE	Done
Follow-up to food-system analysis (Reach-out, Eionet interaction (webinar))	Workshops and meetings	Eionet, DG ENV, DG AGRI, DG JRC, DG Eurostat		Partially done (Owing to unexpected loss of staff resources at the end of 2015. Nonetheless, substantial progress made on establishing new networks and contacts through Eionet and EU processes. EEA report postponed until 2017)
Follow-up to country review resource efficiency policy	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs Resource	RE Roadmap implementation	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
implementation (Reach-out, Eionet interaction (webinar))		Efficiency, DG ENV		
Indicators and integrated accounting approaches for environment and well-being assessment in line with the three priority objectives of the 7 th EAP	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG SANTE, DG ESTAT, WHO	7 th EAP, MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Eionet workshop on resource efficient economy	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs Resource Efficiency	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

Following the publication of the Circular Economy strategy by the European Commission in December 2015, the EEA published in January 2016 *Circular economy in Europe — Developing the knowledge base*, the first in a series of annual 'circular economy' reports with a focus on developing the knowledge base.

The 2016 report also contributed to framing the scope of an indicator-based EU monitoring mechanism for circular economy planned for publication in 2017. The EEA also participated in several circular economy related events, including the Dutch EU Presidency event 'Unwrapping the package — Towards a Circular economy' in Rotterdam in January.

The EEA report *More from less — material resource efficiency* was launched at the Batumi Ministerial Conference in June. The European-level assessment is based on the 2015 inventory of resource efficiency policies and instruments produced with EEA member countries, and is accompanied by 32 EEA member country profiles. The report was tabled at the meetings under the Dutch EU presidency and at the EU informal council in Slovakia in July. Insights from the report were presented to the UNEP International Resource Panel and to the European Resources Forum.

The EEA report *Environmental taxation and EU environmental policies* was published in September at the 'Transition to Green Economy' conference, a flagship event under the Slovak EU presidency. The report presents an inventory of environmental taxes implemented in the EEA countries as well as an overview of different market-based instruments shaped by EU environmental legislation in force. Another aspect of the report is the discussion of longer-term developments including demographic changes and energy and climate reduction targets and their implications towards the potential of tax-shifting policies whereby the revenues resulting from environmental taxes should be used to reduce labour taxation.

In the area of indicators and accounting, the EEA with ETC/WMGE further strengthened cooperation with Eurostat, the JRC and relevant FP7 projects (e.g. DESIRE) on the development of input-output accounting and indicators that can inform progress towards a green economy in support of the 7th EAP and the SOER 2020. The work on accounting will underpin analysis of the key systems of production and consumption that contribute most to environmental pressures in Europe, including food, energy and mobility. Good progress was made on a food system report. The overall conceptual

approach, draft infographics and key messages have been internally agreed with publication of the report now foreseen in the first half of 2017.

Stakeholder interaction and capacity building has been fruitful and included a webinar with the First Vice President of the European Commission, Mr Timmermans, on the topic of circular economy. In addition, an Eionet workshop for NRC's Resource Efficiency was held in October to share country experiences and to provide input for a follow-up to the *More from Less* report and the preparation of the 2018 report. Involvement in the International Resource Panel (IRP) continued through participation in an expert workshop on the Panel's response to the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2) and especially on the piloting of a regular IRP report.

2016 publications

Circular economy in Europe — Developing the knowledge base, EEA report No 2/2016

(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/circular-economy-in-europe>)

More from less — material resource efficiency in Europe, EEA report No 10/2016

(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/more-from-less>)

Environmental taxation and EU environmental policies, EEA report No 17/2016

(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/environmental-taxation-and-eu-environmental-policies>)

ENVIRONMENT, HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING (SA2.2)

Multiannual objective

To provide data, information and assessments on environmental pressures on, and risks to human health and well-being, contributing also to the development of a broader framing of environment and human health interactions.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Timely and reliable delivery of annual briefings and workshops as well as assessments, indicators, accounts and databases based on a timetable agreed with EEA stakeholders.
- Measurable uptake of EEA concepts and analyses for environment risks to human health and well-being into the mid-term reviews of the 7th EAP and the Resource Efficiency Roadmap, as well as into other policy processes, such as the global Sustainable Development Goals and the WHO Environment and Health process.
- Measurable progress with Eionet on the development of a common conceptual framework for assessing environmental risks to health and well-being in a green economy.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Data support to IPCheM on environmental media and human biomonitoring	Data and maps	DG ENV, DG JRC, EFSA, ECHA	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Support to European Human Biomonitoring Initiative - Secretariat and SC participation	Contributions and joint products	DG RTD, DG ENV	European Human Biomonitoring Initiative	Done
Analytical support to systematic approach to risk management	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG JRC, DG SANTE	7th EAP, MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Eionet workshop on Environment, Health and Well-being	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs Environment and health	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

EEA work in support of human bio-monitoring in the EU saw major progress in 2016 with the signature in December of the grant agreement for the European Human Biomonitoring Initiative (HBM4EU) project, to be funded by the European Commission under Horizon 2020. Extensive networking and negotiation with a wide range of partners resulted in a successful project launch also in December. The genesis of this European initiative was the EEA Scientific Committee seminar held in 2014 on 'Environment, Health and Well-being' where options for enhanced monitoring of environmental impacts were identified. The EEA will participate in the HBM4EU project that will run from 2017–2021, through the Steering group and through coordination of the science-policy interface.

EEA support to the EU Information Platform for Chemicals Monitoring (IPCheM) continued with data updates provided for key environmental parameters and media (e.g. water, air). Data inputs from the GANDALF research project on contaminants in soil/sediment were secured, including collaboration and technical assistance to IPCheM on data-retrieval, building data architecture and the standardisation of reporting from data providers. Agreement was also reached on inclusion of human biomonitoring data by availing of contacts and goodwill secured through the HBM4EU process.

A Scientific Committee seminar took place in February to address systemic risks in the context of long-term systemic transitions, with presentations from the perspectives of environmental, economic, social and financial systems. A seminar report was produced that has contributed to EEA support of the Commission's work on developing a systematic approach to risk assessment. Cooperation with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on risk assessment was intensified through participation in a workshop on future research priorities on bee health and pollution.

An Eionet NRC meeting for Environment and Health was held in November, focusing on the information needs for the upcoming 2018 Environment, Health and Well-being report. Support has been provided to the development of the EC Strategy for Non-toxic Environment through peer review of various working documents.

2016 publications

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/governance/scientific-committee/reports/report-of-the-scientific-committee/view>

MEGATRENDS AND TRANSITIONS (SA2.3)

Multiannual objective

To measure, monitor and report on long-term trends and long-term sustainability transitions based on established policy visions to 2050 and using appropriate methods and key indicators.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Timely delivery of megatrend and FLIS updates.
- Measurable recognition and/or uptake of results by stakeholders, such as uptake by member countries and relevant Commission Services.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Eionet publication on sustainability transition concepts and activities across EEA countries	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG JRC, DG RTD, DG ESTAT, OECD, Eionet NRCs FLIS	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
FLIServices — Forward looking information Platform — Eionet shared information platform on the web	Information systems	DG JRC, DG RTD, Eionet NRCs FLIS	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Two web tools for content sharing with Eionet; i.e. 1) Horizon scanning 2) Methods and Methodologies	Information systems	Eionet NRCs FLIS, countries providing content voluntarily Possibly shared with DG ENV, DG JRC, DG RTD	MAWP 2014–2020	Partially done (Good progress made with NRCs on reaching a common understanding of how to take forward work in these areas towards SOER 2020)
First results of pilot studies of co-created information with Eionet NRCs FLIS, i.e. Impacts of Global megatrends at national level and horizon scanning trends	Reports and assessments	Eionet NRCs FLIS	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Eionet workshops on forward looking information tools and services	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs FLIS	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

Through the Eionet Improvement and Innovation Initiative (E3I), a collaborative effort between Eionet NFPs and EEA, the Eionet report *Sustainability transitions: Now for the long term* was published in December. The report explains the concepts that underlie system transitions thinking and the knowledge needed to assess progress towards these transitions. The report presents case study examples of such transitions in EEA member countries that were submitted by Eionet to illustrate European developments. The report concludes with reflections from the EEA Scientific Committee and others on some of the knowledge implications for the EEA and Eionet.

A second E3I activity focused on the development of the method for assessing the impacts of global megatrends on the national and European level. The report offers a suite of methodological approaches reflecting the different options for downscaling against the priorities and available resources in EEA member countries. The report will be published in the first quarter of 2017. The methods are already being tested and elaborated in interested countries and this will continue through to 2018, with the results contributing directly to SOER 2020.

The EEA-Eionet platform for forward-looking information (PFLI) was revised during 2016 and will transfer to a new technology platform in early 2017. The new web presentation will also include storylines for the food-water-energy resource nexus highlighting the key relationships between the uses of the different resources in society. The annual NRC Forward Looking Information and Scenarios (FLIS) meeting in September focused on how FLIS experts could support preparation of SOER 2020 e.g. through horizon scanning and the aforementioned work on downscaling global megatrends.

2016 publications

Sustainability transitions: Now for the long term (E3I), Eionet report No 1/2016
(<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/sustainability-transitions-now-for-the>)

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING (SA2.4)

Multiannual objective

To keep under review the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment in Europe in order to inform environmental strategies and policies, including sustainable development policies and goals, with a comprehensive and integrated knowledge base.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Timely publication of a report on the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment in Europe in 2015 (SOER 2015) and evaluation of its utility.

- Timely annual publications of indicator reports relevant to the transition to a green economy/society in Europe.
- Appropriate support to the next ministerial meeting under the Environment for Europe process (to be decided).
- Measurable uptake of EEA concepts, information and indicator-based assessments in the evaluation of the 7th EAP.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
First (2016) indicator report that will contribute to the monitoring of the 7th EAP	Reports and assessments	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, Eionet	Article 4.1 of 7th EAP	Done
Planning and scoping of the 2nd (2017) indicator report that will contribute to the monitoring of the 7th EAP	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, Eionet	Article 4.1 of 7th EAP	Done
Towards SOER 2020: 1) Lessons learned/assessment of the SOER 2015 as a base for initiation of the work towards SOER 2018(20), 2) Preliminary results from European Environmental Knowledge Community (EKC) – Knowledge Innovation Projects (KIPs)	Contributions and joint products	Eionet NRCs SOER, DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG ESTAT, DG JRC	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Eionet workshops SoE	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs SoE	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Not done (Owing to unexpected loss of staff resources at the end of 2015. NRCs kept informed through webinars and regular updates.)
Planning and scoping of EEA support for the 7th EAP evaluation, including the identification of methodological approaches required for evaluating thematic priority objectives of the 7th EAP	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, DG JRC, DG ESTAT, Eionet	Decision 1386/2013/EU	Partially done (Through the 7th EAP indicator report activity e.g. indicator scoreboard. Further contributions await clarification on the roadmap for the 7 th EAP evaluation.)
First draft scoping paper for the KIP on “Within Limits of the Planet”	Contributions and joint products	EKC partners	Priority objective 5 of the 7th EAP	Done
European Environmental Evaluators Network (EEEN) Forum 2016	Workshops and meetings	Eionet, Commission Services, EEA Stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation; 7th EAP	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
EEA internal guidance on evaluation of environmental policy	Reports and assessments	Eionet, Commission Services, EEA Stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation; Decision 1386/2013/EU	Done
Contribution to UNEP and UNECE pan-European assessment processes as appropriate	Contributions and joint products	UNEP, UNECE	MAWP 2014–2020	Done

Highlights for 2016

The *EEA Environmental Indicator Report 2016* — in support to the monitoring of the *Seventh Environment Action Programme (7th EAP)* and its 29 indicator-based online briefings (www.eea.europa.eu/airs) was published in December. The report tracks progress towards the achievement of the 7th EAP's three thematic priority objectives by 2020 (natural capital; resource efficiency and low carbon economy; health, well-being and the environment). It concluded that EU environmental policies have been more successful on reducing pressures, improving efficiency and meeting 2020 climate and energy targets than on reducing overall impacts on people's health and well-being or on ensuring the resilience of natural systems.

The indicator report will be updated in summary form in 2017 and 2018 and as such support the upcoming evaluation of the 7th EAP by the European Commission. The EEA initiated discussions with DG ENV in 2016 on how other EEA knowledge can be used in support to this evaluation process.

A project plan for SOER 2020 was prepared building on the lessons learnt internally from the SOER 2015 and an external evaluation of SOER 2015 by the Commission Internal Audit Service (IAS). The broad directions for the SOER 2020 project were shared with key Commission services in the autumn and with the EEA Management Board in early December. A final version of the project plan will be shared with all EEA stakeholders — Management Board, Scientific Committee and Eionet — during the first quarter of 2017.

The foreseen workshop with Eionet NRCs for State of the Environment (SoE) reporting was postponed into 2018 owing to resource constraints and to allow for sufficient progress to be made on framing the project plan for the SOER 2020. The workshop was substituted by a webinar in November that updated NFPs and NRCs SoE on planning for SOER 2020 and the publication of the 2016 indicator report.

The EEA facilitated exchanges of views and information between the Eionet and the European Commission in the course of the development phase of the new European Commission Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) process and contributed knowledge for the drafting of the EC country EIR reports as well as suggestions for framing these reports. The EC EIR country reports including an EC 'chapeau' Communication are expected to be published in the first quarter of 2017 (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eir/index_en.htm).

The EEA hosted the 5th European Environmental Evaluators Network (EEEN) Forum in September, with a focus on evaluation for better regulation in environment and climate policies. The event

brought together practitioners and users of environmental evaluation, such as evaluators in consultancies, academics, and European or national policy-makers.

Under the Environment Knowledge Community (EKC), preliminary findings of the EEA-led project WiLoP (within the limits of our planet) were discussed with EKC partners, the research community and national stakeholders at an EEA-hosted workshop at the end of September. The WiLoP project focuses on the knowledge needed to downscale global planetary boundaries to the European regional level. A background document describing, inter-alia, preliminary results for climate change, land system change, nitrogen and phosphorus flows, freshwater use and biosphere integrity was completed on schedule by the end of 2016.

The EEA, through its participation in the High-level Expert Group, continued channelling EEA-Eionet knowledge contributions to the UNEP flagship report Global Environment Outlook 6 (GEO-6). The main activities in 2016 focused on the publication of the GEO-6 European Regional Assessment report in May to coincide with the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2) and the framing of the GEO-6 global assessment now foreseen for publication in 2019 in connection with UNEA-4.

2016 publications

Environment and climate policy evaluation, EEA report No 18/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/environment-and-climate-policy-evaluation>)

Environmental indicator report 2016 — In support to the monitoring of the 7th Environment Action Programme, EEA report No 30/2016 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/environmental-indicator-report-2016-2014>)

1.3 KNOWLEDGE CO-CREATION, SHARING AND USE (SA3)

Multiannual goal

To be the authoritative European environment node and hub, and a key initiator within networks of knowledge co-creation, sharing and use.

Multiannual key objectives

- To ensure the quality, availability and accessibility (based on Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles) of data and information needed to support SA1 and SA2.
- To actively communicate data, information and knowledge to policymakers, the public, research communities and others (e.g. non-governmental organisations and businesses), as well as to regional and international processes including those of the UN and its specialised agencies.
- To promote information governance as a driver of public empowerment and behavioural change.

Multiannual key performance Indicators

- Metrics to measure the active participation of Eionet (priority data flows, meeting participation, engagement in preparation and review of EEA products and services, etc.).
- The online availability of EEA data and information products and services (99 % up-time).
- The impacts of communication efforts (based on media-monitoring tools).

NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIPS (SA3.1)

Multiannual objective

To improve the sharing of data, information and assessments at European, national and global levels together with Eionet, and to broaden cooperation with stakeholders and networks beyond Eionet.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Strengthened cooperation and communication within Eionet, and between Eionet and the EEA, the EEA Management Board, and the EEA Scientific Committee.
- Increased satisfaction of the member countries with Eionet as a means to streamline data and knowledge sharing.
- Increased relevance of EEA/Eionet outputs to member countries.
- SEIS extension and regular reporting in the pan-European region established as part of SoE-online with a view to inform SOER 2015.
- EEA/Eionet indicators and knowledge incorporated in EU contributions to UNEP and post-Rio+20 processes.
- Becoming a node and a hub in a policy-relevant network on long-term transitions.
- Growing contributions from stakeholders beyond Eionet.
- EEAcademy established by 2016.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: All

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Monitoring of member country satisfaction with Eionet cooperation	Reports and assessments	Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
SOER-based inputs to pan-European and UNEP GEO-6 process	Contributions and joint products	UNECE, UNEP, ENV	MAWP 2014–2020	Done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Inputs to regional reporting	Contributions and joint products	Eionet, Black Sea Commission, UNEP/MAP, Arctic Council	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Member and cooperating country contributions (data, information, etc.) to SoE-online	Data and maps	Eionet, ENV, JRC, ESTAT	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Enhanced partnerships with stakeholders beyond Eionet	Contributions and joint products	Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Support to the Commission and EU Member States in the context of UNECE and UNEP assessments and the post-Rio+20 process	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, JRC, ESTAT	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
EEAcademy operational	Contributions and joint products Workshops and meetings	Eionet and Scientific Committee	MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Inputs to the EKC	Contributions and joint products	DG ENV, DG CLIMA, RTD, JRC, ESTAT	MAWP 2014–2020	Done

Highlights for 2016

Eionet activities

NFP/Eionet meetings were held in March, June and October of 2016. The meetings focused on implementation of the annual work programme 2016; cooperation and infrastructure; regional and global processes; strategic horizontal processes of relevance to Eionet; and knowledge developments.

The main focus of the March meeting was on the Refit and ‘Make it Work’ initiative with considerable input from DG ENV and DG CLIMA as well as from the member countries. The June and October NFP/Eionet meetings were both framed in preparation of the Management Board Seminar in December.

ETC coordination meetings have been held back-to-back with the NFP/Eionet meetings to ensure effective and efficient coordination between the EEA and ETCs.

The Management Board Seminar ‘EEA and Eionet: Shaping our future together’ took place on 6 December. The Seminar was prepared in an inclusive and interactive way enabling participants to contribute actively before (including through a survey) and during the seminar. MB members, NFPs, SC members, and ETC managers thus engaged in various preparations for and discussions during the day itself.

EPA network

The spring plenary meeting of the European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies (EPA network) took place in May in Vilnius. Forty-four participants representing 26 environmental organisations from across Europe took part. Participants reflected on the latest developments in EU environmental policy and legislation, and on contributions of EPAs to implementing the EU's Circular Economy Strategy.

The autumn EPA Network meeting took place in October in Porto. Sixty participants from 30 environmental organisations from across Europe took part and reflected on sustainable mobility and sustainable food systems. Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director-General at DG ENV, participated at both meetings and shared his insights on EU environmental policy with the heads of EPA.

The Interest Groups (IGs) of the network were also very active in 2016:

- The Circular Economy Workshop of the IG Green Economy and IG on Natural Resources took place in April at SYKE in Helsinki, Finland.
- The IG on GMOs met in Trondheim, Norway, in June to discuss the latest initiatives for GMO regulation and for monitoring in different European countries.
- The IG on Noise met in Bern, Switzerland in June and discussed the latest institutional developments and news concerning the issue of noise and the two last reports that the group prepared in line with the work programme 2011–2016.
- The new IG on Plastics started its work with a first meeting in Berlin in October 2016.
- The West Balkan IG met in April in Podgarica, back to back with the First High-level Ministerial Panel on Responding to Climate and Environmental Challenges in SEE. Upon proposal by the Interest group, the panel adopted an article on the importance of monitoring and reporting in process of decision making.
- The IGs on Better Regulation, and on Climate Change and Adaptation also met in 2016.

The EPA Network Secretariat conducted a survey on EPA's use of external funding from August to September 2016.

Support activities in the wider European region and internationally

The EEA was actively involved in the Batumi Ministerial Conference for the Pan-European region and throughout the preparation process. This included advising the Dutch Presidency on technical matters and working with the WHO, UNEP and UNECE to coordinate and organise joint side-events and a joint exhibition stand. The EEA was also engaged in the preparation of plenary and roundtable interventions on SEIS/regular reporting and on the Green economy. In parallel, three side-events were designed and organised for Batumi aimed at bringing concrete example of SEIS cooperation and regular reporting development across the Eionet and the ENI East countries.

The EEA report *More from less — material resource efficiency in Europe* was launched in Batumi showcasing the experience and good practices collected and analysed across 32 Eionet countries. In partnership with UNECE, WHO, UNEP and other stakeholders another side-event was co-organised by the EEA to address the air quality in Europe — a key theme of the conference.

Since the conference, follow up discussions have been held with key international partners to translate into practice the commitment taken in Batumi concerning the streamlining of the regular assessment process and implementation of SEIS principles in the region by 2020. This culminated in a high-level trilateral dialogue in December between EEA, UNEP Europe and UNECE.

The EEA attended and supported DG ENV and the Member States at the second United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2) at UNEP, Nairobi in May and at the second Open-Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR-2) at UNEP, Nairobi, in February. Substantial contributions were made to the drafting of UNEA Resolutions on Agenda 2030, sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and Food Waste as well as to the relevant EU/MS statements. The major focus was on elements of science-policy interface in those Resolutions mentioned above, where EEA expertise was essential.

The EEA was represented in the high-level group steering the development of the UN Environment Global Environmental Outlook report, which will be finalised for UNEA4 in 2018.

The EEA participated in the High-Level Meeting between the European Commission, the European External Action Service and UN Environment held in Brussels in December. In support of the Commission, the EEA also contributed to the early preparation of the UN Environment Assembly to be held in December 2017, which will have 'pollution' as its main theme.

At its meeting on 16 March, the EEA Management Board had an informative exchange of views on the UN 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Presentations by Karl Falkenberg, Astrid Shomaker and Hans Bruyninckx were followed by a discussion on various aspects related to Sustainable development goals (SDGs) governance roles, monitoring and measurement mechanisms and exploring steps to move this agenda forward in Europe.

In cooperation with Eionet and various DGs (ENV, DEVCO, CLIMA, RTD and ESTAT) the EEA provided inputs to support the EU monitoring and review process of the SDGs building on existing work. In October, the EEA provided comments on Eurostat's statistical glance on the SDGs, published on 22 November 2016 together with the Commission package in response to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The EEA also provided expert input to the EC, in particular to DG ENV, on how to set up an efficient monitoring and review mechanism for SDG in the EU.

The European Environment Academy (EEAcademy)

This was the first full year of operation of the EEAcademy. To support and guide its work, the Advisory Committee met three times during the year: in April, September and November. Among the various activities that were conducted during this first year of operation, three events are highlighted below that span the three content foci of the EEAcademy: transitions, precaution/risk and policy evaluation.

In May, the EEA Scientific Committee held a seminar on knowledge for sustainability transitions. This brought together actors from policy, politics, research, civil society and business to share case studies and views across different transitions aspects. There was particular attention given to the relations between different system transitions concepts: socio-technical, socio-ecological and socio-economic systems. A seminar report was published in July on the Scientific Committee area of the

EEA website, alongside the report of the February Scientific Committee seminar on systemic risks (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/governance/scientific-committee/reports>).

In June, with the support of several EEA Scientific Committee members and in collaboration with the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest, the EEAcademy held its second summer school on precaution and risk. An evaluation report of student experiences was produced and a provisional application lodged with CEU for a 3rd summer school event in June 2017.

In September, the EEA hosted the 5th European Environmental Evaluators Network Forum with around 80 participants from the professional environmental evaluators' community: i.e. consultants, public officials, academics, and other evaluators. The topic of this year's Forum was 'Evaluation for better regulation in environment and climate policies — Lessons from research and practice'. Presentations from the event are available at <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/policy/events/presentations>.

TECHNICAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT (SA3.2)

Multiannual objective

To ensure that EEA IT systems continually meet the needs of the organisation, enabling it to efficiently implement its work programme.
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Multiannual performance indicators

- Reportnet tools efficiently supporting fulfilment of reporting requirements.
- Networking tools efficiently supporting knowledge management and appreciated by networking partners.
- High user satisfaction with the Indicator Management System.
- Spatial data infrastructure compliant with Inspire by 2018.
- Usability of EEA website rated high and increased number of visitors every year.
- SoE-online tools fulfilling their role in continual update of SoE information after SOER 2015.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: All

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Improved Reportnet suite of tools	Information systems	Eionet, DG ENV, DG CLIMA	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Improved EEA website for up-to-date online information (SoE-online)	Information systems	Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Improved Eionet portal and related networking tools	Information systems	Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Not done (Postponed until 2018, due to breakdown Reportnet, which fixing needed priority)
Improved EEA spatial data infrastructure	Information systems	Eionet, DG JRC, ESTAT	EEA/Eionet Regulation, Inspire Directive	Done
IT support to data flows and development of information systems presented under SA1 and SA2	Information systems	Eionet, DG ENV, DG CLIMA	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Eionet workshop on Information Systems	Workshops and meetings	Eionet NRCs for Information systems	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

Data and information systems

In 2016, the EEA adopted an organisation-wide Data Management framework to consistently and efficiently implement the EEA data policy. A Data Quality framework was also developed to define the key principles, definitions, organisational structures and EEA processes for data quality. The data quality procedures are maintained and updated within the EEA Quality Management System (QMS).

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) developments at the EEA were mainly related to continued upgrading of the network infrastructure, migration to new cloud service providers, improvements of data flows for a wide range of thematic areas, such as F-Gases, the Water Information System for Europe (WISE), the Climate-adapt portal and the Emission Review Tool (EMRT) tool.

During the second half of 2016, problems were encountered with the EEA Reportnet infrastructure for the delivery of national data related to the water and air reporting. Due to the enormous volume and increased complexity of the new reported data, the processes for automated quality control of the national deliveries could not be handled within the normal time frame. A temporary solution was deployed over the summer period to secure continuity of the reporting processes. This triggered the need to go ahead with an upgrade of Reportnet.

The EEA started the preparation of Reportnet 2.0, a 3-year project for the architectural redesign and upgrade of the reporting infrastructure to make it scalable for ongoing and future e-reporting from

member countries towards the EEA and other international organisations. Special attention will be given to the ability to handle the increased amount of data, higher security, higher maintainability and functionality upgrades.

Spatial data infrastructure

The EEA supported the development of the Inspire maintenance and implementation work programme for the period 2016–2020. The Directors of DG ENV and the EEA met in June to discuss the further strategic direction regarding the EU level use of Inspire in relation to environment policy, in particular as a tool for e-reporting related to spatial data. Together with DG ENV, the EEA prepared a concept note on the future of e-reporting and the link to Inspire. The EEA actively participated in the Inspire Conference held in Barcelona in September. An NFP Eionet working group was established to discuss the priority setting for Inspire related to the environmental reporting activities during the coming years. A first meeting took place in November 2016.

MONITORING, DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (SA3.3)

Multiannual objective

To ensure the availability, quality, accessibility and sustainability of monitoring, data and information needed for the knowledge base supporting environment and climate policies.

Multiannual performance indicators

- At least 90 % average scoring Eionet data flows by 2018.
- Annually updated European data sets online within three months of deadline for national deliveries.
- Annually updated indicator assessments online within three months of data publications.
- European environmental data regularly updated in global environmental data sets.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Main ETC partner: All

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
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Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Report on the Eionet priority data flows 2015-2016	Reports and assessments	Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Not done

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
				(Postponed until Q1 2017 as agreed by the Management Board based on the revised list of Eionet core data flows)
Annually updated progress monitoring of Inspire implementation by countries	Data and maps	Eionet, DG ENV, DG JRC, Inspire National Contact Points (NCPs)	Inspire Directive 2007/2/EC	Done
Updated European geospatial reference data for the EEA SDI and GIS activities	Data and maps	DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG ENTR, DG RTD	EEA/Eionet Regulation Inspire Directive 2007/2/EC	Done
SoE-online content update	Indicators Data and maps	Eionet, DG ESTAT, DG JRC, DG ENV, DG ENTR	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
EEA/Eionet data with full and open access contribution to the Global Earth Observation System of systems	Data and maps	Eionet, DG RTD	GEO Ministerial decision of 17 January 2014	Done

Highlights for 2016

Priority data flows and review of reporting

The EEA Management Board agreed on a revised set of 18 Eionet core data flows and a new way for reporting on the annual performance scoring, to be published during the first quarter of the following year.

The environmental policy landscape has changed significantly since 2000 when the first nine Eionet priority data flows were agreed. Presently more than 80 environmental data flows are reported through Eionet Reportnet, around 80 % of which are as a result of EU legal requirements.

DG ENV carried out a fitness check of EU environmental reporting, to assist with facilitating better regulation in the EU environment policy. The EEA participated in the Focus Group on Monitoring and Reporting set up by DG ENV. The results of the public consultation were discussed as well as the progress of work on the inventory of around 170 reporting obligations related to more than 50 pieces of legislation together with cost estimates of reporting.

Data products and related web services

During 2016, the following new or updated data products were published on the EEA website (see also <http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps>):

- 31 European databases, mainly related to land use, air pollution, climate change mitigation, water, biodiversity and ecosystems, environment and health.

- 245 interactive maps and data viewers, mainly related to air pollution, climate change mitigation, transport and water, biodiversity and ecosystems, coasts and seas, transport, resource efficiency and waste. During the period of the UNFCCC COP22 in Marrakech in November, the EEA climate change map services received more than 6 million hits.
- 110 maps and graphs, mainly related to agriculture, air pollution, climate change adaptation and urban environment.
- 56 indicators were published of which 13 of the core set.

The [EU Open data portal](https://data.europa.eu/euodp/en/data/publisher/eea) (<https://data.europa.eu/euodp/en/data/publisher/eea>) was updated with the metadata of the new data published by the EEA.

Group on Earth Observations (GEO)

The EEA contribution to GEO has had three strands in 2016 which have been mutually supportive. A key strand is captured in the objective in the EEA work programme in relation to leveraging GEO to make EEA data outputs more visible and available globally. The second strand relates to taking EEA best practice and needs into GEO processes and aiming to match them as well as to also connect to Copernicus. The third strand is to provide support to EC and EU High level caucus led by DG Research.

These facets have been successfully delivered on in 2016, with broad support from both EC, EEA and countries for the focus of attention and the approach.

The EEA participated in EC High Level Working Group meetings and the Programming Board meetings. The GEO portal was updated with over 100 EEA datasets made available globally through brokering mechanisms. The EEA actively participated in the GEO plenary which took place in St Petersburg.

COMMUNICATION, OUTREACH AND USER ANALYSIS (SA3.4)

To inform and engage in dialogue with key stakeholders and other users of EEA outputs around key messages and corporate communications.

Multiannual performance indicators

- The EEA's findings are communicated regularly and objectively, providing full and easy access to information, respecting the EEA's corporate identity and design, using relevant channels and appropriate frequency.
- Input to EU and national environment agendas is provided, key stakeholders are engaged with the EEA in dialogue and networking activities.
- EEA communications are aligned to priorities of the EU and EEA member countries.
- Specific target audiences are known and addressed as directly as possible with appropriate measures; new audiences and tools are identified in response to societal changes.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Communication plans and activities supporting annual priorities	Communication products	Eionet, EU Institutions, Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Partially done (Communication activities supporting annual priorities have been implemented, although not through a single planning document)
Annual meeting and communication activities with Eionet NRCs for Communication	Workshops and meetings	Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Quarterly online corporate newsletter	Communication products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Signals 2016	Communication products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2015	Corporate documents	EEA Management Board	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Improved user experience of EEA website	Information systems	EEA/ETCs	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Media relations	Communication products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Timely production and dissemination of quality-assured and targeted EEA outputs, specifically publications (editing, publishing and dissemination)	Communication products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Improved workflow for publishing to improve the production pipeline and ensure the production of reports is better managed across the Agency	Corporate products	EEA/ETCs	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Dialogue activities as face-to-face meetings, conferences, workshops	Communication products	EEA/Eionet	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Promotion of EEA outputs and messages through social media channels	Communication products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Customer relations and targeted dissemination to stakeholders	Communication products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Evaluation of the impact of EEA outputs	Corporate products	All stakeholders	MAWP 2014–2020	Done

Highlights for 2016

Communications key performance indicators	Total number in 2016
Press communications (total)	43
Media enquiries (including interviews and articles)	278
EEA media coverage (number of articles)	9 937
Facebook content views	1 075 299
EEA tweets	442
Visiting groups	40
Public enquiries	812
Exhibitions with EEA stand/presence	7
Issues of EEA Newsletter	4
Speaking notes/presentations prepared for EEA's Executive Director	55

Signals 2016

Signals 2016 focused on sustainable transport and mobility focusing on how Europe's carbon-dependent transport sector can be turned into a clean and smart mobility system. The English version was published in June. Fourteen language versions followed online and in print.

Media

Air quality continued to be one of the topics that received highest media attention, especially around the launch of the annual air quality in Europe report, when several European cities suffered from high levels of pollutants. Interviews (text, radio and TV) on the report were conducted with various outlets — with many from southern EU Member States, including Spain, Italy, plus Turkey.

In the third quarter, media interest focused on the Annual European Union greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2014 and inventory report 2016, the Application of the EU Emissions Trading Directive report, Transforming the EU power sector: avoiding a carbon lock-in and the products relating to electric vehicles. European bathing water quality in 2015 - the annual bathing water report also attracted significant attention during June and July especially from German, Spanish, Portuguese and French media outlets.

The press office organised a media briefing to launch the carbon lock in report at the Agency in early October and organised under embargo briefings with several outlets. The event involved the EEA Executive Director as well as Commission Vice-President Šefčovič. Stories on the report ran in Politico, the NRC Handelsblad and Finnish newspaper group Aamulehti.

Photo competition

The 2016 public outreach photo competition 'My City' focused on how European citizens see their urban environment. The EEA received close to 1 200 photos from all over Europe. An online vote determined the winner of the Public's Choice award. The winners were announced in October.

NRC for COM meeting

The annual NRC for COM meeting was held in Oslo, hosted by the Norwegian Environment Agency. The meeting focused on learning opportunities and collaboration options with a view of building an even stronger communication network in the run up to SOER 2020.

EU agencies editors' group

In September 2016, the EEA hosted a 1.5 days meeting of editors from EU agencies. Forty one external attendees from 32 agencies participated in the meeting. Under the theme 'Writing, editing and publishing in an online world', the objective was to create a stronger shared understanding of the communication challenges and opportunities facing communications staff in EU agencies. The meeting was also intended to assess the need and opportunity for further mutual learning between agency editors.

Web improvements

As part of the web improvements project a thematic re-structuring of the EEA homepage with four clusters was put in place. Design and tagging, content update work was set in motion. An administrative documents register was created for the 'About us' pages and went live, simplifying the navigation of 'About us' pages. This was a recommendation by the European Ombudsman and was developed in close collaboration with the EEA legal advisor as it complies with the requirement to grant access to documents. The multilingual front pages received an improved layout. An archiving and maintenance policy was shared and approved by EEA Senior Management Team.

Internal communication

Four improvement projects have been validated during 2016 according to the outcome of the Staff Engagement Survey. All projects aim to improve internal communication practices, promote staff engagement initiatives, collaboration across programmes and groups and display agreed good ethical behaviour.

- Come & Communicate sessions for staff: 5 sessions were held in 2016 on the following topics: COP21; Policy Evaluation; ECK development; Vehicle emissions; Copernicus;
- More input from staff to SMT;
- ICT tools and channels / integration on intranet;
- Co-creation of corporate values.

Monitoring of stakeholder uptake

In January 2016, COM started to monitor the mentions of the EEA in documents of the European Commission, the European Council, the European Parliament, EU Agencies and selected interest groups. This kind of stakeholder monitoring, which is done by way of our collaboration with Dods,

provides valuable information about the visibility and uptake of our work in policy-related documents at EU level.

Product type review

Intensive work continued on the development of a product type review, including:

- cooperation between the Communications programme, IT department and Administration in terms of integrating the production flow into the management plan system;
- development, testing and launch of the new 'product request form';
- development of the MPS 'reporting' functionality;
- testing of the system;
- launch of the new system;
- communication of the project.

2016 publications

Communication, environment and behaviour, EEA report No 13/2016

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/communication-environment-and-behaviour>

SIGNALS 2016 — Towards clean and smart mobility (EN) (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/signals-2016>)

QUALITY MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL SERVICES (SA3.5)

Multiannual objective

To provide high-quality operational support to the running of the EEA, including quality and environmental performance management.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Completed verifications and publication of annual verified environmental statements; recertification achieved.
- Core processes documented in accessible and consistent formats, and quality management system (QMS) better integrated with other management systems and EMAS; proof of improved processes recorded.
- Satisfaction level for facilities management services in the EEA job satisfaction survey kept at the same high level as in previous years.

- Stable and user-friendly IT systems available throughout the year (99 % uptime) and satisfaction level in the EEA job satisfaction survey kept at the same high level as in previous years.
- High percentage (aiming at 100 %) for the registration of documents and records that meet the criteria for registration.
- Timely production of the reports due for publication.
- Staff provided with requested access to databases, books and periodicals (within the limits of the available budget).

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Environmental management system (EMAS)	Corporate products	All stakeholders	EMAS, Relevant Danish environmental legislation	Done
Quality management system (QMS)	Corporate products	All stakeholders	EEA internal control standards	Done
IT infrastructure and service	Corporate products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Document management system	Corporate products	All stakeholders	EEA/Eionet Regulation, Access to documents	Done

Highlights for 2016

The EEA QMS was revamped and aligned with updated ISO 9001:2015 standard.

Quality statement

In 2016, EEA management took a number of actions in relation to quality, including agreeing to an overall EEA quality policy, an approach to quality management and also defining the EEA quality statement as part of the EEA annual activity report. The purpose of the annual quality statement is to highlight some quality related improvements undertaken and connect facts derived from quality records to objectives and priorities.

During the course of 2016:

- The Senior Management Team decided to use ISO 9001:2015 as a model to restructure the QMS that was updated in the latter half of the year (operational as of 1 January 2017). ISO 9001:2015 sets out 12 types of activities for which records must be kept. A cross check was undertaken to baseline the status at the EEA and to start addressing gaps. Systematic record-keeping is in place for around half the areas with the other half having less systematic or patchy coverage.
- The results of the staff engagement survey indicate that many staff did not feel that EEA procedures were sufficiently supporting quality. A significant number of the 60 corporate procedures were assessed as in need of updating. From the latter part of 2016, focus was given to updating procedures and improving the connection between

them and EEA activities. Six procedures were updated and approved by the Senior Management Team.

- The EEA IT Steering Committee recommended eight IT development projects to go ahead as overall business case was positively evaluated, reflecting the integration of recommendations for the EEA to make use of business cases for data/information management decision making.

ECO-MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT SCHEME

In 2004, the EEA developed an environmental management system (EMS). It was designed to monitor, report on and improve the EEA's environmental impacts resulting from a range of pressures, from electricity consumption to carbon dioxide emissions from travel. In 2005, the EMS was first registered under the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS). The EEA was one of the first EU institutions and bodies to actually implement the quality standard. And today EMAS is an integral part of the EEA's QMS.

During the course of 2016:

- The senior management team set EMAS targets and performance indicators at the beginning of the year with a focus on improving electricity consumption by investing in LED lightning in all offices. The full benefit of this investment is expected in 2017.
- The autumn EMAS management review of targets and performance demonstrated a 50 % reduction in electricity consumption compared to the average years 2011–2013. This is the result of the investment in a new cooling system for the server room in 2015.
- The EEA's paper consumption — one of the main environmental pressures resulting from the external printing of publications — also saw a reduction of over 50 % because of the ongoing transition from print to web publications.
- Finally, the external verification of the annual Environmental Statement and the audit of the environmental management system were successfully completed in 2016 and, for the 12th consecutive year, the EEA is EMAS certified.
- For more information on the environmental performance of the EEA's environmental management system, please consult the EEA website (<https://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/emas>), which includes the verified EMAS environmental statement for 2016.

COPERNICUS OPERATIONAL SERVICES (SA3.6)

Please note that work in this area is conditional on non-core funds being allocated to the EEA for these activities.

Multiannual objective

To contribute to the implementation of the Copernicus programme.
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Multiannual performance indicators

- Time span between satellite data acquisition and derived land cover data reduced to one year.
- Copernicus services online and available with at least 99 % uptime.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Land use and land cover change data of the pan-European component (Corine Land Cover, High Resolution Layers) and the local component (Land cover riparian zones, coastal zones, Urban Atlas) of the Copernicus land-monitoring service	Data and maps	DG GROW, DG JRC DG ENV, Eionet	Copernicus Regulation 377/2014/EU	Done
Inspire compliant land.copernicus.eu portal for access to Copernicus land-monitoring data and services	Information systems	DG GROW, DG JRC	Copernicus Regulation 377/2014/EU	Done
Overview of in-situ data used by operational Copernicus services	Reports and assessments	DG GROW, Eionet	Copernicus Regulation 377/2014/EU	Done
Copernicus Reference Data Access Node (CORDA)	Information systems	DG GROW, Eionet	Copernicus Regulation 377/2014/EU	Done

Highlights for 2016

The implementation of the Copernicus pan-European and local land component as well as the activities in the cross-service in situ coordination by the EEA followed the Copernicus annual work programme for 2016 that was agreed with participating countries.

Pan-European and Local component of the Copernicus land monitoring service

For the pan-European land monitoring service area, the activities focused on the production of the update of the high resolution layers. The product portfolio has been extended to provide services on monitoring change in imperviousness of land since 2006 as well as new updates of forest, grassland, wetness and small woody features for the reference year 2015.

Planning of the Corine Land Cover update for 2018 (CLC 2018) started in mid-2016, with the ambition of ensuring the full use of the CLC 2018 in the next SOER 2020 report. A dedicated Copernicus CLC 2018 survey was conducted by the ETC/ULS in autumn 2016 to collect information from the 39 EEA member and cooperating countries on lessons learnt from the CLC 2012 production and other input such as administrative requirements, resource availability, requirements for technical support, preferred methodology and tools etc.

The operational activities for the local land area in 2016 focused on the continuation of the production of a series of services for Natura2000 areas, riparian zones and urban areas that had started in the work programmes for 2014 and 2015. At the end of 2016, the Urban Atlas covered 657 Functional Urban Area (published in January 2017).

A new layout of the Copernicus land portal (for the pan-European and local component) was launched in November 2016 to allow easier navigation on the website, improve access to the published products and services and increase overall visibility of the Copernicus Land Monitoring service and the portal as the main dissemination channel of the products and services created by the global, pan-European and local component.

Copernicus Cross-service in situ coordination

During 2016 the EEA, in close collaboration with the Copernicus services, focused on three main areas of the cross-service in situ coordination activities, namely a) creating an overview of the Copernicus in situ component, b) raising awareness; and c) improving data access. The overall goals defined in the work programme for 2016 were met:

- A meta-database of available and already used in-situ data tailored on service requirements;
- A fully operational in-situ data node for coordinated access (CORDA);
- The in-situ website implemented: insitu.copernicus.eu;
- In-situ data access for Copernicus services facilitated.

CAPACITY BUILDING IN WESTERN BALKAN AND EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY COUNTRIES (SA3.7)

Please note that work in this area is conditional on non-core funds being allocated to the EEA for these activities.

Multiannual objective

To improve the knowledge base for environment policy in the entire pan-European area and the Mediterranean, based on SEIS principles.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Integration of Western Balkan countries in EEA/Eionet activities and products.

- Strong performance of Western Balkan countries in priority data flows.
- Annual data flows for ENP countries for a set of regional indicators linked to the Horizon 2020 process for the South, and to ‘Environment for Europe’ for the East.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA’s AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Participation of WB NFPs and NRCs in Eionet workshops	Workshops and meetings	Eionet in WB countries, EPA Network IG on West Balkans	EEA/Eionet Regulation, IPA	Done
Maintenance and further development of Eionet structures in the West Balkan countries to ensure their contribution to main EEA outputs (data flows, reports, web products, etc.)	Contributions and joint products	Eionet in WB countries, DG ENV, DG NEAR, EPA network IG on West Balkans	IPA, MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Technical meetings, capacity building workshops and training	Workshops and meetings	Partners/NFPs under European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)-SEIS and DG NEAR, DG ENV, UNECE, UNEP/MAP	ENI, MAWP 2014–2020	Done
Pilots for establishing a regular data flow process as well as assessment capability for the ENI partner countries in line with on-going Eionet practice	Contributions and joint products	Partners/NFPs under European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)-SEIS and DG NEAR, DG ENV, UNECE, UNEP/MAP	ENI, MAWP 2014–2020	Done

Highlights for 2016

Early in 2016, a new project started under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA II), focussing on maintaining and extending data deliveries. The E-reporting exercise was initiated and resulted in delivery of (air quality) data according to new required standards.

Two new projects under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) with the East and South regions formally started on 1 February 2016. These projects are aimed to support the EEA cooperation with six Eastern Partnership and nine Southern Mediterranean partner countries over the next four years (2016–2019) in support of promoting environmental protection and strengthening environmental governance.

Western Balkan cooperation

The EEA has been cooperating with the West Balkan (WB) countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia since 1997, Montenegro and Serbia since 2002 and separately since 2007. The cooperation with Kosovo ⁽⁸⁾ started in 2010.

The six West Balkan cooperating countries participate in Eionet on a similar basis as do the 33 EEA member countries. Over the years the EEA work programme was extended to WB countries according to their state of development and the scale of financial support provided to cover a selection of the major EEA activities. The cooperation has been supported through various EU funded projects. The focus is largely on developing and maintaining capacities and to prepare the countries for EEA membership from a technical perspective.

European Neighbourhood Policy

On 1 February 2016, two new projects were launched in support of the further cooperation with the European Neighbourhood partners in the East and South regions under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) funded by the European Commission (DG NEAR):

- Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East project): <http://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east>
- Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) principles and practices in the ENP South region (SEIS Support Mechanism), implemented in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme Mediterranean Action Plan (UNEP/MAP): <http://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/south>

The specific activities will build on the outcome of the previous [ENPI-SEIS](#) and [InSEIS](#) projects (implemented in the period December 2009 to October 2015) in the two ENP regions, and continue the implementation of the SEIS principles and practices. The cooperation with the ENI regions are geared towards strengthening the regular production of environmental indicators and assessments as a contribution towards knowledge-based policy-making and good governance in the field of the environment.

While keeping the regional perspective and coherence as an overarching goal, the projects envisage also country-specific support and technical assistance in the identified priority areas. This will feed into the development of regional and national work plans of specific activities. Dedicated capacity building for the partners in the six Eastern Partnership countries are aimed to sharing knowledge and good practice examples from the EEA and Eionet.

Important milestone in 2016 was the pan-European Ministerial ‘Environment for Europe’ Conference held in Batumi, Georgia in June, during which the EEA organised a number of project meetings and

⁸ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

side-events. The final Ministerial declaration of the Conference supported the further implementation of SEIS in the region.

The recruitment of five additional project-funded experts (Contract Agents) in 2016, bringing the ENI team members in the EEA to seven, was aimed to further strengthen EEA capacities to engage in the cooperation with the East and South neighbours.

In April, the EEA hosted the 2016 meeting of the ‘Informal Network of EU Agencies working with Pre-Accession and European Neighbourhood programmes’.

1.4 EEA MANAGEMENT (SA4)

Multiannual goal

Excellence in delivering the work programme

Multiannual key objectives

To provide efficient and effective management and administration of the EEA’s work programme and resources (financial and human).

Multiannual key performance indicators

- The delivery of the work programme.
- A positive outcome of the next five-year external evaluation of the EEA (to be carried out in 2018).

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (SA4.1)

Multiannual objective:

To lead and manage the EEA effectively and efficiently in line with stakeholder expectations.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Timely delivery of documents and other contributions to the Management Board, Bureau and Scientific Committee. Smooth running of their respective meetings.
- Well-executed planning, drafting and stakeholder consultation of the annual work programmes adhering to the agreed deadlines.
- Relevant and timely reporting, advice and recommendations provided by the Internal Audit Capability to the Executive Director, EEA management and EEA Management Board.

- 95 % of agreed development plans and appraisals completed according to the deadlines specified in internal guidelines.
- On average, 10 days/year are used per staff member for development of competencies (including language training).
- Positive outcome of the next five-year external evaluation.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
90% outputs, as defined in the AWP, delivered in 2016	All	n/a	AWP	Partially done (Assessment against the expected output is not straight forward due to the fact that defined outputs are very diverse in terms of scope. No methodology is available to ensure a correct weighing of the outputs)
95 % agreed development plans and appraisals completed according to deadlines as specified in internal guidelines	n/a	n/a	Staff regulations	Done
10 days are used per staff member for development of competencies (on average)	n/a	n/a	Staff regulations	Not done (Although the average number of formal 'training and development' by staff was below 10 days, a lot of training of competence happens on the job, which is not accounted for in the statistics)
Programming Document 2017-2019 (including AWP 2017, Multiannual resource programming 2017–2019)	Corporate products	Management Board, Eionet, Scientific Committee, Commission services	Financial Regulation, EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Draft programming document 2018–2020 (including AWP 2018, multiannual resource programming 2018–2020)	Corporate products	Management Board, Eionet, Scientific Committee, Commission services	Financial Regulation, EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done (Formal adoption by EEA's Management Board on 31 January 2017)

Annual Activity Report 2015	Corporate products	Management Board, Budgetary authorities	Financial Regulation	Done
Management Board, Bureau and Scientific Committee meetings and seminars	n/a	Management Board and Scientific Committee	EEA/Eionet Regulation	Done
Deliveries defined in the annual audit plan approved by the EEA Management Board	Corporate products	Management Board	Financial Regulation	Done

Highlights for 2016

The programming document (PD) 2017–2019 including both the annual work programming and the multi-annual planning for the coming three years was developed in 2016 and formally adopted by the Management Board in January 2017. The work on the programming document for 2018–2020 started in the second quarter of 2016 and the consolidated version of the draft PD2018–2020 was reviewed by the Management Board in December in preparation of the final adoption by the Bureau in January and transmission to the EU institutions by 31 January 2017.

2016 was the third year for which the annual staff engagement survey was conducted for all EU agencies. The participation rate for EEA staff members in 2016 was of 78 % and showed a steady improvement since the first survey and an ‘almost satisfactory’ overall result. Some relevant areas for improvement were identified and the senior management team (SMT) has followed-up through an action plan. In this benchmarking exercise among 19 EU agencies, the EEA achieved, on average, a result of 62 %. The executive director presented the results in the fifth staff meeting in November.

In 2016, three Management Board and three Bureau meetings were organised as well as the Management Board seminar on the ‘EEA and Eionet, Shaping our future together’ with the overall aim of co-creating a common understanding of the future of the EEA and Eionet in the face of changing contexts, including policy and transition needs, and to explore ways to evolve and adapt to upcoming demands on the network for information and knowledge sharing.

EEA’s senior management team has also engaged with DG ENV and DG CLIMA on some key processes with high relevance for the future the future of the EEA and Eionet. These include inter alia the monitoring and reporting fitness check in the areas of environment (covering also the EEA/Eionet Regulation), the proposal for the governance of the energy union and the evaluation of the EEA/Eionet Regulation against the criteria of effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence and EU added value.

Internal Audit Capability (IAC)

In line with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (the ‘standards’) issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors, the IAC presented the performance of the audit activity and confirmed its organisational independence to the Management Board in November 2016. The IAC annual activity report for 2016 confirmed that the appropriate deliveries were made according to the audit work plan. An overview of the time spent in each task is also included in the report.

Scientific Committee

A call for expressions of interest from experts with regard to being appointed as members of the EEA Scientific Committee was finalised in 2016, with the designation of nine new members by the EEA Management Board in December 2016. The new members are due to take up office in the 66th Scientific Committee meeting in February 2017.

A new Chair and one Vice-Chair were elected at the 65th Scientific Committee meeting in October. They took office in December 2016.

The EEA Scientific Committee organised three seminars in 2016 entitled 'Emerging Systemic Risks' (Copenhagen, February 2016), 'Knowledge for sustainability transitions' (Copenhagen, May 2016) and 'Knowledge for assessing land as a resource in Europe' (Copenhagen, October 2016).

ADMINISTRATION (SA4.2)

Multiannual objective

To provide high-quality administrative support to the running of the EEA.

Multiannual performance indicators

- Satisfaction level in the EEA job satisfaction survey is kept at the same high level as previous years, and a minimum of serious observations/recommendations were received from audits.
- Staff competency development activities to support the delivery of the work programmes are planned and executed in accordance with the EEA learning and development framework.
- EEA budget, procurement plan and accounts published within the deadlines as set out in the Financial Regulation.

Performance against the expected outputs in EEA's AWP 2016

Description	Type	Key partners	Justification/legal reference	Outcome
Reply to European Parliaments discharge 2014	Corporate products	European Parliament	Framework Financial Regulation	Done
Annual Accounts 2015	Corporate products	Management Board, Commission services, Court of Auditors	Financial Regulation	Done

Budgetary and Financial Management Report 2015	Corporate products	Budgetary authorities, Commission services, Court of Auditors	Financial Regulation	Done
Budget 2016 (publication in the Official Journal)	Corporate products	EU Publications Office	Financial Regulation	Done
Procurement plan 2016 (Published in European public procurement journal Tenders Electronic Daily)	Corporate products	DG ENV, DG CLIMA	Financial Regulation	Done
Planning and programming: Draft Budget 2017 (including establishment table)	Corporate products	DG ENV / DG BUDG	Financial Regulation	Done
Building policy	Corporate products	DG BUDG	Financial Regulation	Done
Compliance reporting: Reply to Court of auditors, Internal Audit Service	Corporate products	Court of Auditors, Internal Audit Service of the Commission, European Parliament	Financial Regulation	Done
New EEA Financial Regulation	Corporate products	Management Board, DG BUDG	Framework Financial Regulation	Cancelled (The Agency Framework Financial Regulation was not completed and hence the EEA FR was not renewed.)

Highlights for 2016

A Core Competency Framework was developed and introduced in the Career Development Cycle following a comprehensive cross organisational process. In conjunction herewith a 360 degree evaluation of managers was carried out based on the competencies laid in the overall framework.

For the first time the EEA was able to reclassify Contract Agents as the EEA implementing rules allowing this could be adopted early 2016 as a result of a change in EU legislation.

THE EEA BALANCED SCORECARD

The balanced scorecard offers a wide-ranging view on strategy accomplishment: first and foremost, by using multiple approaches to achieve effectiveness; and, secondly, by integrating content-oriented performance indicators with more quantifiable aspects of efficiency.

The EEA balanced scorecard, as presented in Annex 1, shows the strategic indicators of EEA performance at a highly aggregated level. These indicators are derived from a wide range of metrics that measure performance, and ramify widely across the four different perspectives that frame the balanced scorecard.

The top level of the EEA balanced scorecard attempts to provide a simple overview of how we are performing as an organisation, and directs attention to areas in which performance is below the desired level. Indicators at this level are displayed as achievements according to set targets, easily conveying how close we are to the target.

In an attempt to capture the complexity required to describe progress in a strategy, the chosen metrics are a combination of performance and process indicators. The relationships between the 'resources', the 'business process' and the 'client' perspectives should be considered in an attempt to unfold the entire 'value chain' of the EEA. Each perspective should not be considered in isolation, as this may result in sub-optimisation, whereby one perspective improves at the expense of another. Global optimisation is always our primary concern.

The 'learning and growth' perspective is used to supplement these three perspectives; this perspective seeks to describe the state of development of the organisation and its staff.

The EEA balanced scorecard is not used as an attempt to resolve all the challenges involved in running an organisation such as the EEA; however, it will prove to be a powerful tool for the assessment of the achievement rate of the set objectives, to help us manage more effectively and to communicate progress to our stakeholders.

The EEA is constantly seeking better ways of reporting/illustrating the content of the four perspectives, and hence some graphs might change from year to year.

PART 2 (A) MANAGEMENT

2.1 MANAGEMENT BOARD

In 2016, the mandate for some members of the Management Board (MB) changed. Julia Werner (MB member for Germany) and Laura Burke (MB member for Ireland) were elected Vice-Chair/Bureau member for a three-year mandate. During 2016, key processes for the Management Board and Bureau included:

- adoption of the PD 2017–2019 including the AWP 2017 , 2017 EEA budget and the ETC financing decision for 2017;
- adoption of the Management Board opinion on the annual accounts for 2015;
- adoption of the first EEA Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) relevant to activities in 2015;
- decision to extend the present EEA MAWP until 2020;
- adoption of the EEA guidelines on whistleblowing;
- approval of Eurostat’s work programme for 2017;
- approval of the audit work plan of the IAC for 2017;
- designation of new Scientific Committee (SC) members and new SC Chair;
- adoption of a number of implementing rules in relation amongst other reclassification of staff, staff committee, part-time work, and learning and development.

From March 2016, the Management Board and Bureau have been updated on a regular basis on the Commission organised Fitness Check evaluation of the EEA/Eionet evaluation. In December 2016, the Management Board seminar set an overall aim of co-creating a common understanding of the future of the EEA and Eionet in the face of changing contexts, including policy and transition needs, and to explore ways to evolve and adapt to upcoming demands on the network for information and knowledge sharing.

2.2 MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

YEAR-ON-YEAR REDUCTION OF NUMBER OF EEA STAFF SINCE 2013

In light of the conditions of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2014–2020, the Commission Communication on ‘Programming of human and financial resources for decentralised agencies 2014–2020’ from 2013, sets the framework for overall planning of resources. It identifies agencies at ‘cruising speed’, ‘new tasks’ agencies (having a cruising speed part) and ‘start-up phase’ agencies. It establishes the approach to ensure an overall reduction of 5 % in number of posts for

agencies' establishment plans over five years, while also meeting the needs from 'start-up phase' and 'new tasks' agencies. The Commission proposed to create a 'redeployment pool' by applying an annual 1 % levy applicable to cruising speed agencies and the cruising speed part of new tasks agencies, on top of the 5 % reduction as required by the MFF. The posts resulting from the levy are allocated to 'start-up phase' agencies and 'new tasks' agencies for which an increase in the number of establishment plan posts is necessary.

The EEA was classified as a 'new tasks' agency with the following potential new tasks suggested by the Commission: '*coordinator for the implementation of the Copernicus land service, building on the long experience of the EEA in Corine Land Cover and other GMES Initial Operations activities (precursor land service).*' This would however require a modification of the EEA/Eionet Regulation. As a result, the Copernicus work presently undertaken by the Agency is delegated to the EEA through a multiannual (2014–2020) delegation agreement with DG GROW. Five new contract agents could be recruited, but the EEA could not draw upon the resources in the redeployment pool for agencies.

The Communication concludes (for EEA) that 'the total number of posts decreases from 138 in 2013 to 124 in 2018.' The establishment table for 2016, included 130 posts.

For the EEA it is increasingly difficult to achieve its objectives set out in the MAWP 2014–2020 under the increased resource constraints. As a result, some expected outputs included in the AWP 2016 could not be delivered.

PROPOSED FUTURE ROLE IN RELATION TO THE ENERGY UNION

In the specific area of climate change mitigation and energy the proposal for a Regulation on the Governance of the Energy Union, envisages a future role for the EEA (and by extension Eionet).

The proposal foresees new tasks for the EEA in relation to the decarbonisation and energy efficiency dimensions of the Energy Union, regarding in particular additional reporting on renewables and energy efficiency and support to integrated climate/energy reporting. This provides an opportunity for the EEA and Eionet to consolidate their future assessment role in this area.

The proposed resources allocated to the EEA to support these additional activities include an additional three staff posts and funds of EUR 500 000 per year from 2019 onward (with EUR 250 000 already foreseen in 2018 for establishing the required infrastructure).

A first proposed action in the field of reporting towards Member States regards the integrated energy and climate action plans, for which the European Commission has proposed that drafts are to be delivered by January 2018 and are to be finalised by January 2019. The EEA is following closely the discussions on the integrated energy and climate plans.

In 2017, the EEA in cooperation with the Management Board will assess the options for a smooth implementation of the new tasks from 2018 onwards. The outcome of this process will be reflected in the EEA PD 2018-2020, the ETC Action Plans for 2018 and the call for proposals for new ETCs from 2019 onwards, which is to be launched in the beginning of 2018.

2.3 BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

2.3.1 INFORMATION CURRENTLY TRANSMITTED IN THE REPORT ON BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The EEA Financial Regulation, Article 93, states that:

- the EEA shall prepare a report on budgetary and financial management for the financial year;
- the Executive Director shall send the report to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission and the Court of Auditors by 31 March of the following financial year.

The budgetary and financial management Report should include the information outlined in the following sections (A-F):

a) Implementation of appropriations

According to Article 11 of the EEA Financial Regulation, the EEA budget shall contain non-differentiated commitment and payment appropriation.

According to Article 93.3 of the EEA Financial Regulation, the rate of implementation should be expressed both in absolute terms and as a percentage of the implementation rate. The implementation rates of core funds are outlined in the table below.

	Final budget 2016 (core funds (EUR))	Funds committed as a percentage of final budget	Funds paid as a percentage of final budget (at year-end)
Title 1 — Staff	23 660 474.00	99.9 %	98.8 %
Title 2 — Administrative expenditure	4 158 411.00	99.7 %	89.2 %
Title 3 — Operating expenditure	13 868 612.00	99.9 %	74.7 %
Total budget	41 687 497.00	99.9 %	89.8 %

B) Indication of commitments for actions that will extend for more than one financial year; Major items only (> EUR 500 000)

One financial commitment ⁽⁹⁾ that exceeds EUR 500 000 has been carried forward into the following financial year (for one ETC).

c) Information on transfers and amending budgets

⁽⁹⁾ Commitments (budgetary commitments) are mandatory before entering into legal commitments. A budgetary commitment reserves appropriations in order to cover payments needed to fulfil the legal obligations in contracts.

Transfers

According to Article 27.1.a. of the EEA Financial Regulation, the Director may transfer appropriations of up to a maximum of 10 % of the appropriations of the year between titles, that is, the Director may move funds among staff, administrative and operating expenditures. A total of 34 transfers covering both core and non-core were made in 2016, which amounted to a total of EUR 470 265 (1.13 % of the total appropriations); 40 % of the transfers were made with non-core funds and hence are not included in the 10-% calculation shown below.

	2015	2016
Title 1 — Staff	-3.1 %	-0.2 %
Title 2 — Administrative expenditure	4.5 %	2.0 %
Title 3 — Operating expenditure	4.3 %	-0.3 %

A negative percentage reflects the level of transfer out of a particular expenditure title, while a positive percentage indicates the level of transfer into a particular expenditure title. The figures are calculated as percentages of each of the titles and not of the total budget.

Amending budgets

Two amendments to the EEA Budget were made in 2016. The First Amendment was related to the inclusion of additional non-core funds for Copernicus, a project where the EEA has concluded a delegation agreement with the Commission to carry out specific tasks. Amendment 2 relates to the annual update of the EFTA contribution and the contribution from new member countries.

No of revision	Subject	Amount (EUR)	Comments	Decision
First amended budget	Amendment to Copernicus	8 800 000	Copernicus	Management Board written procedure approval (13 November 2015)
Second amended budget	Change in EFTA contribution and new member countries	-121 737	Change in contribution	Management Board written procedure approval (23 November 2016)

D) (level of) appropriations carried forward to the following financial year and implementation of appropriations carried forward from the previous financial year

		2015–2016	2016–2017
Total	Automatic carryovers	4 944 738	4 203 111
	Total budget	41 451 788	41 645 166
	Carryforward as a percentage of total budget	11.9 %	10.1 %
	Cancelled carryforward	266 518	
	Cancelled carryforward as a percentage of total carryforward	5.4 %	

		2015–2016	2016–2017
Title 1	Automatic carryovers	324 051	263 480
	Total budget	22 882 657	23 637 510
	Carryforward as a percentage of total budget	1.4 %	1.1 %
	Cancelled carryforward	63 883	
	Cancelled carryforward as a percentage of total carryforward	19.7%	

		2015–2016	2016–2017
Title 2	Automatic carryovers	376 684	436 255
	Total budget	4 219 735	4 147 105
	Carryforward as a percentage of total budget	8.9 %	10.5 %
	Cancelled carryforward	165 677	
	Cancelled carryforward as a percentage of total carryforward	44.0%	

For further details, see Annex 2.

		2015–2016	2016–2017
Title 3	Automatic carryovers	4 244 003	3 503 376
	Total Budget	14 349 396	13 860 551
	Carryforward as a percentage of total budget	29.6 %	25.3 %
	Cancelled carryforward	36 958	
	Cancelled carryforward as a percentage of total carryforward	0.9%	

e) Procurement types used in 2016

Background — Obligation to report

Pursuant to Article 66 of the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and Article 53 of its rules of application, the authorising officer shall record, for each financial year, contracts concluded by the negotiated procedures referred to in points (a) to (f) of Article 134(1) of the rules of application. If the proportion of negotiated procedures in relation to the number of contracts

awarded by the authorising officer increases appreciably in relation to earlier years, the authorising officer shall report to the Management Board setting out any measures taken to reverse the trend.

Negotiated procedures under Article 134(1)

For the purpose of this document, negotiated procedures under Article 134(1) are defined as contracts awarded under a negotiated procedure launched in accordance with points (a) to (g) of Article 134(1) of the rules of application and funded by the EEA core budget.

Contracts

For the purpose of this document, the term ‘contracts’ refers to contracts awarded following a very low, low or middle-value negotiated procedure under Articles 137(2), 137(1) and 136a of the rules of application accordingly, a negotiated procedure under Article 134(1), an open call or a restricted procedure. Contracts resulting from inter-institutional/joint procurement procedures led by some other contracting authority, specific contracts/order forms implementing framework contracts and contracts funded by external assigned revenue (R0, e.g. Copernicus programme) fall outside the scope of this report.

Table of negotiated procedures under Article 134(1) carried out in 2016

No	Contractor	Subject of the contract	Budget (EUR)	Type of procedure	Type of contract	Legal basis
1	De Vlinderstichting – Dutch Butterfly Conservation	2016 update of the indicator on European grassland butterflies	40 000	Negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice	Direct service contract	Article 134(1)(b) RAP
2	Alterra, institute within the legal entity Stichting DLO	Development of distribution maps of grassland habitats of EUNIS habitats classification	60 000	Negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice	Direct service contract	Article 134(1)(e) RAP
3	Hahnemanns Køkken ApS	Provision of canteen and catering services for the European Environment Agency	150 000	Negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice	Framework service contract	Article 134(1)(c) RAP

Table with negotiated procedures in 2016

Type of procedure	Contracts awarded in 2016
Negotiated without prior publication of a contract notice (Article 134 RAP)	3
Very low value negotiated based on Article 137(2) RAP	11
Low value negotiated based on Article 137(1) RAP	8
Middle value negotiated based on Article 136a RAP	2
Open call	8
Total	32

Statistics from previous years

Table with use of negotiated procedures under Article 134(1) RAP in the last five years:

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average	2016
Total number of contracts awarded by the EEA authorising officer	19	14	31 ¹⁰	31 ¹¹	33		32
Number of contracts resulting from negotiated procedures (Articles 134 (1) (a) -(g) and 135 (1) (a)-(d))	3	1	3	5	1		3
Proportion	15.8 %	7.1 %	9.7 %	16.12 %	3 %	10.33 %	9.37 %

Conclusion

The proportion of negotiated procedures under Article 134(1) RAP in relation to the number of contracts awarded by the authorising officer increased slightly in 2016 compared to 2015; however, it is still lower than the average proportion in the last five years.

f) Information on interest charged by suppliers through late payments (> 30 days LATE)

No interest was paid on late payments in 2016.

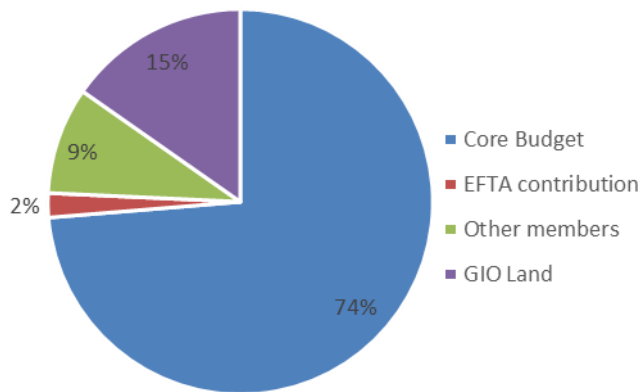
2.3.2 SUMMARY OF BUDGETARY DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING GRANTS AND DELEGATION AGREEMENTS (EUR)

	2014	2015	2016	Difference between 2015 and 2016
EU subsidy	36 309 240	36 309 240	36 309 240	0
Contributions from other member countries	5 461 657	5 409 066	5 378 257	-30 809
Earmarked funds	10 802 174	7 438 168	8 800 000	1 361 832
Miscellaneous revenue				0
Total	52 573 071	49 156 474	50 487 497	1 331 023

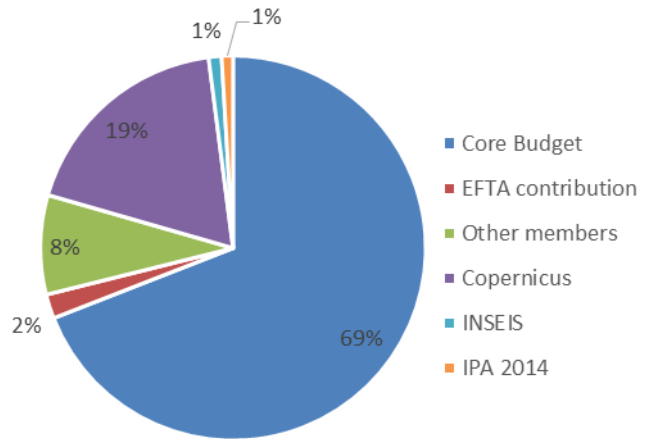
¹⁰ Including 5 framework partnership agreements for European Topic Centres (ETCs), 4 contracts of a value not exceeding EUR 60 000.00 resulting from negotiated procedures based on Articles 137 (1) and 137 (2) RAP, 1 contract of a value not exceeding EUR 60 000.00 resulting from a negotiated procedure based on SKI framework contract, and 5 contracts awarded on the basis of Article 5 of the EEA founding regulation.

¹¹ Including 16 contracts of a value not exceeding EUR 60 000.00 resulting from negotiated procedures based on Articles 137 (1) and 137 (2) RAP and 2 contracts awarded on the basis of Article 5 of the EEA founding regulation.

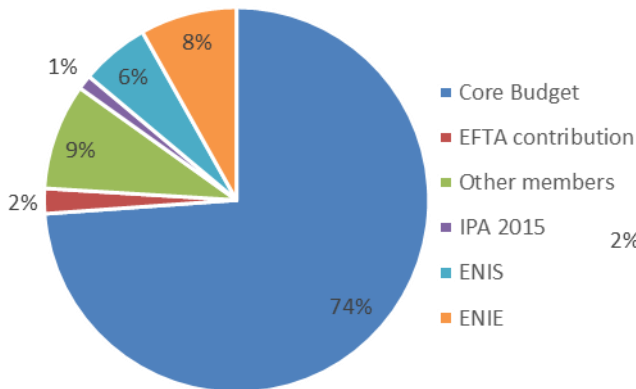
2013



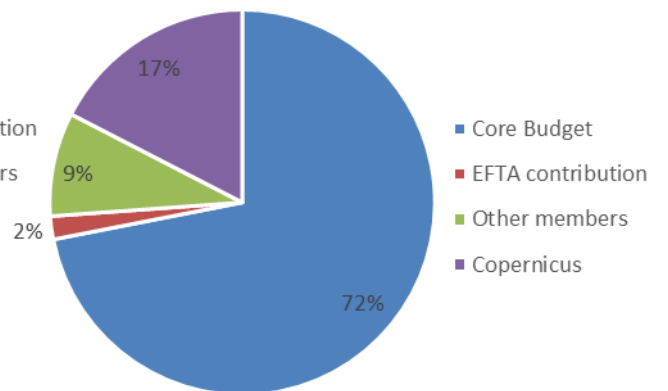
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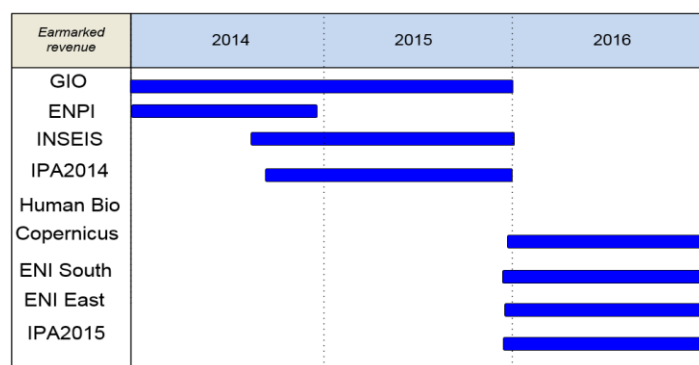


2016



Overview of earmarked revenue for the last three years

Earmarked revenue is different in comparison to the other fund sources, as they are multiannual (external assigned revenue). The funds are activated in the budget following approval by the EEA Management Board, and gradually executed in line with the principles laid down in the individual agreements.



GIO	GMES Land monitoring service agreement
ENPI	Towards a shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in the European Neighbourhood countries
IPA	Specific project for the participation of Western Balkan Countries in the work of the EEA 2009–2011
IPA 2014	Specific project for the Western Balkan Countries (2014/338–534)
INSEIS	Increased collaboration with EEA and further implementation of SEIS in interested ENP countries
Copernicus	Copernicus Land monitoring service agreement
IPA 2015	Instrument for pre-Accession (Western Balkan Countries) 2015–2016
ENI South	Instrument for pre-Accession (Western Balkan Countries) (2014/347–199)
ENI East	Instrument for pre-Accession (Western Balkan Countries) (2014/344–044)

2.4 HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

2.4.1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE MAJOR HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENTS (I.E. CHANGES BROUGHT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT PLAN IN THE REPORTING YEAR; CHANGES OF MAJOR HUMAN RESOURCES POLICIES ETC.)

The EEA has followed the austerity measures and reduced the number of staff in line with the overall principles laid down for EU institutions (a 5 % reduction in the period 2013–2018). The Commission has classified the EEA as a ‘cruising speed agency’, which implies that an additional 5 % reduction is expected. With the further reduction of two posts for 2016, it has become increasingly difficult to absorb the work with the current resources, and the EEA will be hard pressed to comply with the requirement of an additional reduction of a further six posts over the remaining years (2017 and 2018) of the designated reduction period (2013-2018).

2.4.2 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE RESULTS OF THE SCREENING/BENCHMARKING EXERCISE (I.E. OVERHEADS TO OPERATIONAL RATIO; MAIN FINDINGS, ETC.) (FOR DATA PLEASE SEE ANNEX 4: TEMPLATES ARE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION FOLLOWING RESULTS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON BENCHMARKING/SCREENING)

The EEA has been carrying out an annual screening/benchmarking exercise since mid-December 2015, in accordance with the guidelines that were agreed by the EU agencies, following the work of the working group of the agencies specifically assigned to work on a joint agency approach.

Approximately 77 % of all staff are dedicated to operational activities, which is more or less the same as in 2014 and 2015.

Having completed now the third year of this screening exercise, it can be said that the results are showing only minor fluctuations. For details on the results of the 2016 screening exercise, please see Annex 6.

2.4.3 REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 28 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S REPORT 2011 DISCHARGE: PERFORMANCE, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF EU AGENCIES (P7_TA (2013)0134) ON THE NUMBER OF DAYS OF LEAVE AUTHORISED TO EACH GRADE UNDER THE FLEXTIME AND COMPENSATORY LEAVE SCHEMES

Number of days leave authorised to each grade under the flexitime and compensatory leave scheme.

Category and Grade	Sum of flexi days in 2016
AD 10	87
AD 11	34
AD 12	46
AD 13	7
AD 6	31
AD 7	90
AD 8	91
AD 9	85
AST 10	18
AST 2	21
AST 3	55
AST 4	102
AST 5	62
AST 6	27
AST 7	69
AST 8	76
AST 9	14
GFII 4	3
GFII 5	29
GFII 6	22
GFIII 10	15
GFIII 11	8
GFIII 9	23
GFIV 13	25
GFIV 14	151
GFIV 15	88
GFIV 16	51
GFIV 17	40
SNE 7	137
Grand total	1 500

Note: A 'flexitime day' does not always refer to a non-worked day; it is indicative of a day where the staff member has not been present during all core hours.

2.5 ASSESSMENT BY MANAGEMENT

2.5.1 RESULTS OF CONTROLS OR CONTROL PROCEDURES PERFORMED BY STAFF OF THE EEA (*EX POST, EX ANTE* EVALUATIONS)

In line with the European Topic Centres verification strategy updated in October 2015, the resource officers performed *ex ante* verifications. Supporting documentation has been collected per ETC to give the EEA management reasonable assurance on the reliability and accuracy of the costs claimed. The checks carried out resulted in rejection of 0.4 % of the costs claimed.

Two on-the-spot verifications took place. They were conducted *ex post* by the internal auditor of the Internal Audit Capability. The selection was based on a risk assessment and took into account the results of missions conducted in the previous years.

As the EEA used and may use grants in the future in the context of external assigned revenues granted by the Commission an ex-post verification policy for grants has been adopted during 2016. It aims at obtaining reasonable assurance as to the eligibility and accuracy of the costs claimed by the beneficiaries.

2.6 BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION TASKS ENTRUSTED TO OTHER SERVICES AND ENTITIES

2.6.1 ASSURANCE RECEIVED FROM OTHER AO IN CASES OF CROSSED SUB-DELEGATIONS

A) N/A

2.7 ASSESSMENT OF AUDIT RESULTS DURING THE REPORTING YEAR

2.7.1 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The report of the audit on SOER 2015 was finalised in 2016. The objective of the audit was to assess the design and the efficient and effective implementation of the management and internal control systems for the SOER 2015 preparation process in the EEA.

The audit concluded that ‘the audited processes are generally fit for purpose. The Agency adequately plans and monitors the SOER preparation from an annual and multiannual perspective. The Agency ensures that a complex multiannual project such as the SOER process is coordinated internally and externally with the various stakeholders and contributors. A multilayer content quality control system of internal and external reviews involving Eionet partners ensures the impartiality and objectivity of the report”.

The IAS highlighted the following strengths that contributed to the effective and efficient functioning of the processes:

- The SOER 2015 project plan was prepared in the early stages of the activity and supported by the detailed Implementation plan. The Implementation plan followed the good practice of a structured approach and set out the timeline, concepts, objectives, risks and outputs to be achieved;
- Innovative IT approaches were employed in the preparation and presentation of the SOER 2015, such as SOER on-line (complete report designed to be comfortably viewed via world wide web or printed), Interactive visualisation of presented data (Interactive charts allow the reader to drill down to more detailed information behind each chart in the report), and Fiche Management System (tool to collaborate in the preparation stage allowing automatic publication on-line);
- For greater impact of the SOER 2015 and wider outreach across the EU, EEA opted for direct promotion events organising country visits to all member states.

2.7.2 INTERNAL AUDIT CAPABILITY (IAC)

In line with the requirements of the EEA financial regulation, the IAC audit plan for 2016 was approved by the Management Board. It included three main areas of contribution: audit assignments, advisory tasks and liaison with other auditors (e.g. the IAS and the ECA).

Audit

After reviewing the verification process of ETC cost statements, the IAC established a risk assessment to select beneficiaries for on-the-spot verifications.

Two beneficiaries were selected in relation to eight grants. The verifications carried out consisted of recalculating the personnel costs and, furthermore, analysed the reliability of the internal control systems put in place to complete the cost statements. The focus is on staff costs as they generally represent 75 % of the total costs claimed. As a result, an over claim has been identified and paid back to the EEA in accordance with the contractual provisions.

Advisory tasks

The ABAC access rights were reviewed to ensure the correct validation of the access granted to the accounting system of the EEA.

The IAC contributed to the annual risk assessment of the EEA through advice to its senior management team.

Additional advisory work was performed in line with the action plan of the EEA Anti-Fraud Strategy, adopted by the Management Board in 2014.

Liaison with other auditors

Some coordination was needed for the finalisation of the IAS audit on SOER 2015.

2.7.3 EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

The opinion received from the ECA in 2016 was for the 2015 Annual Accounts.

With regards to reliability, they noted that “In the Court’s opinion, the Agency’s annual accounts present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 31 December 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the provisions of its Financial Regulation and the accounting rules adopted by the Commission’s accounting officer.”

With regards to the legality and regularity of the transactions, they noted that “In the Court’s opinion, the transactions underlying the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015 are legal and regular in all material respects”. No major observations were formulated.

The final report on grant management entitled ‘Agencies use of grants: not always appropriate or demonstrably effective’ was released at the end of April 2016. The results have been given after examining the systems and controls in place in five agencies among which the EEA. Together, these five agencies represent approximately 92 % of total grant funding by agencies during this period.

The auditors concluded that “the agencies audited in general awarded and paid grants in compliance with the rules. Most audited agencies have not adequately addressed alternative funding options and consequently grants have not always been the best way to achieve their objectives. Audited agencies have not measured the effectiveness of their grants. There is room for improvement in award procedures, control systems and performance measurement. Some weaknesses are particular to a specific agency but most apply to several or all of them.”

2.8 FOLLOW-UP OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLANS FOR AUDITS

2.8.1 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The ‘open’ recommendations of the IAS are related to the audit on data/information management (including an IT component), which was finalised at the beginning of 2015 and to the audit on SOER.

Audit on data/information management (including an IT component)

Three recommendations were rated ‘very important’ and four were rated ‘important’. An action plan has been developed and accepted by the IAS in order to respond to them adequately. The implemented measures will reduce the risks identified during the audit.

We are still awaiting the assessment of the IAS auditors with regard to whether the recommendations should be closed or need further actions. A meeting between the IAS and the EEA took place end of 2016 with the purpose of taking stock of the situation. Further documentation has been provided with a view to give evidence of the implementation of the recommendations. The overview of the action plan shows the view of the EEA management with regards to the completeness of the implementation.

A detailed overview of ‘very important’ and ‘important’ recommendations is included in Annex 7.

Audit on the SOER preparation process

Three recommendations were rated ‘important’ and two were rated ‘desirable’. An action plan has been developed and accepted by the IAS in order to respond to them adequately. The implemented measures will reduce the risks identified during the audit. A detailed overview of the ‘important’ recommendations is included in Annex 7.

2.9 FOLLOW-UP OF OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DISCHARGE AUTHORITY

The reply to the discharge authority on the 2014 budget was submitted via the agencies’ network in December 2016. There was one specific question for the EEA related to the management of grants for ETCs, part of the Founding Regulation of the EEA and the Eionet. The question was related to an observation made by the ECA about a payment of ineligible expenditure declared by a beneficiary and reimbursement of expenditure despite incomplete ex-ante verifications.

The EEA has improved the verification methods by first providing guidelines and training to the ETCs partners regarding criteria for eligibility of costs in 2014. In 2015, additional guidelines for the financial officers were issued to strengthen the ex-ante checks. Since October 2015, ex-ante verification are completed with ex-post on-the spot missions performed by the Internal Audit Capability. As regard to the ineligible amount paid to the beneficiary concerned, it has been recovered.

PART 2 (B) EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS

2.10 BETTER REGULATION EVALUATION OF EEA AND EIONET IN 2016–2017

In 2016, the European Commission initiated an evaluation of the EEA and its Eionet network covering the period mid-2012 to end-2016. The evaluation is being undertaken in line with the European Commission's Better Regulation Agenda.

The evaluation [*roadmap for the 'Evaluation of the European Environment Agency and its EIONET network'*](#) published in July 2016 describes the purpose, scope and timing of the evaluation.

The evaluation will address the five Better Regulation evaluation criteria:

- effectiveness
- efficiency
- relevance
- coherence
- EU added value

During 2017, a consortium of consultants appointed by the Commission will perform a study addressing the five evaluation criteria. An important part of the work will be evidence collection based on literature and documentation as well as a broad stakeholder consultation, which will include representatives of the EEA member countries and the EEA Management Board.

On the basis of the final report from the consultants in the second quarter of 2018, the Commission is expected to present its evaluation of EEA/Eionet.

2.11 EXTERNAL EVALUATION FROM 2013

The previous external evaluation was carried out in 2013 and submitted to the Budgetary Authority on 5 April of the same year.

The main findings of the latest available evaluation were as follows:

'... the evaluation finds that the EEA and Eionet are well established and well-functioning structures, delivering comprehensive and reliable outputs which, to a large extent, satisfy stakeholders' needs. The qualitative assessment inherent in this evaluation indicates that the EEA continues to be the most effective and efficient solution to providing credible information on the state of the European environment.'

'The analysis on findings regarding the efficiency dimension, documents the fact that the EEA network is efficient in the sense that cooperative relations are strong and solid and efforts have

been made to optimise the functioning and work flows in relation to reporting of data. Stakeholders consider that the EEA and the Eionet provide value for money. The evaluation indicates that the EEA runs a modern and efficient network organisation, with limited potential for optimisation in regard to administrative tasks and key operational work flows. Administrative costs are lower than for similar agencies. Cooperation and working relations, between the different organisational units within the network are regarded as efficient and positive. There is a general consensus on this between stakeholders, and the EEA's performance is, in this respect, highly appreciated.'

PART 3 ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

3.1 RISK MANAGEMENT

3.1.1 MOST IMPORTANT TYPES/AREAS OF RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE EEA'S OPERATIONS (FOR EXAMPLE, WHERE RELEVANT, DATA PROTECTION ISSUES, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, ETC.)

The most important risk areas for the EEA for 2016 summarised in the risk register are the following:

Main risk group		Generic risks identified	Likelihood of occurrence	Financial impact	Reputation impact	Compliance impact	Impact on EEA objectives
External	External environment	The impact of the Brexit on EEA human resources, budgetary structure and EIONET functioning could hamper the overall efficiency, effectiveness and delivery of the Multi-Annual Work programme 2014–2020	High	High	Low	Low	Medium
		Fitness check of the founding regulation could lead to changes, which could have unforeseen impacts on the mandate of the Agency and/or on the objectives set out in the MAWP and the allocation of resources in the EEA/Eionet	High	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
		The increased requirements to cost verifications in relation to the use of grants could hamper the relationships with key partners if the administrative burden is considered excessive. The Court of Auditors have in their special report highlighted that the impact of using grants should be measured.	High	Medium	High	Low	Medium
		Increasing demands from our stakeholders under decreasing resources could affect the quality of our deliverables	High	Low	Medium	Low	Medium
Internal	Planning, processes and systems	The administrative, procurement and financial requirements of the Delegation Agreement could lead to significant delays in the implementation of the entrusted tasks.	Medium	High	High	Low	Medium
		Ageing and limited reliability of the inventory system of fixed assets with limited IT development could hamper a clear reporting on EEA fixed assets	High	Medium	Low	High	Low
		Increased pressure on staff contract management with significant staff turn-over and following recruitments, additional processes for the projects financed by earmarked funds	High	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium
		Difficulties in sustaining skills, knowledge and motivation in the organisation under increased resource pressure and staff turnover	High	Low	Medium	Low	Medium
		Retrieval of key documentation can be difficult due to practices in document registration and absence of log system for key documentation	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium	Low
	Legality and regularity aspects	No risk identified					
	Communication and information	No risk identified					

3.1.2 INFORMATION — OBTAINED BY MEANS OF APPROPRIATE MONITORING TOOLS — ON THE RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS, NAMELY HOW THE EEA RESPONDS TO OR MITIGATES THE MOST IMPORTANT RISKS (BUT NOT THE ACTUAL LEVEL OF LIKELIHOOD OR POTENTIAL IMPACT)

The EEA responded to the most important risks by assigning the responsibility of taking actions to the different programmes concerned.

3.1.3 VERY HIGH LEVEL INFORMATION ON FRAUD PREVENTION AND DETECTION

With a view to responding to the requirement of the roadmap, adopted by the EC, for the implementation of the common approach for EU decentralised agencies, agreed in July 2012 by the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission, an anti-fraud strategy was adopted by the EEA in 2014.

An action plan was developed as a result of the fraud risk assessment performed; this action plan covers three objectives:

- to ensure an effective internal organisation for detecting potential fraud;
- to strengthen the formalisation of authorisation of access rights to the Business Data Repository database; and to ensure a yearly verification of the authorisation of access rights granted and proper documentation of any intervention in the reporting database;
- to maintain a high level of ethics and fraud awareness within the EEA.

The implementation of the action plan will be ongoing for three years. A review of the policy is foreseen in 2017.

3.1.4 ANY PROMINENT RISKS THAT HAVE MATERIALISED IN THE REPORTING YEAR SHOULD BE NOTED

N/A

3.2 COMPLIANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

3.2.1 THE METHODOLOGY APPLIED FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPLIANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL STANDARDS

As for the previous year, the EEA's Internal Audit Capability looked at each standard and collected evidence with regard to whether or not it is being effectively implemented.

The EEA complied with all Internal Control Standards approved by the Management Board.

3.2.2 INFORMATION ON THE STANDARDS WITH WHICH THE EEA DOES NOT YET COMPLY (FULLY OR PARTIALLY), THE REASONS FOR THIS AND THE PLANNED ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION, INCLUDING TARGET DATES

N/A

PART 4 MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE

4.1 REVIEW OF THE ELEMENTS SUPPORTING ASSURANCE

4.1.1 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF ASSURANCE

The information reported in Parts II and III stems from the results of management and audits. Audit reports result from a systematic analysis of the evidence available and widely cover all areas of activity within the EEA. Furthermore, audit reports are based on the fact that the different audit capacities (the IAC, the IAS and the ECA) cover different areas and, therefore, between them, a comprehensive basis for assurance is ensured.

This approach provides sufficient guarantees of the completeness and reliability of the information reported and results in a complete coverage of the budget delegated to the Executive Director.

In conclusion:

- there were no reservations listed in the previous years' annual activity reports;
- all IAS recommendations issued were considered adequately implemented and have been closed;
- the EEA had not received the final observations from the ECA at the date of publication of this report;
- there are no open observations from the European Parliament.

4.1.2 SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF ANY SIGNIFICANT WEAKNESSES REPORTED IN PART II AND PART III, AND AN ASSESSMENT OF THEIR COMBINED IMPACT ON THE DECLARATION OF ASSURANCE

Taking the above into consideration, no weaknesses were identified with regard to the financial management of appropriations within the EEA, and so no reservations are made in this context in the declaration.

Declaration of assurance

I, the undersigned,

Director of the European Environment Agency and in my capacity as authorising officer declare that the information contained in this report gives a true and fair view.

State that I have reasonable assurance that the resources assigned to the activities described in this report have been used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management, and that the control procedures put in place give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.

This reasonable assurance is based on my own judgement and on the information at my disposal, such as the results of the self-assessment, ex-post controls, the work of the internal audit capability, the observations of the Internal Audit Service and the lessons learnt from the reports of the Court of Auditors for years prior to the year of this declaration.

Confirm that I am not aware of anything not reported here which could harm the interests of the European Environment Agency.

Copenhagen, 13 June 2017

Signed

Hans Bruyninckx

Statement of the Head of Administration

I declare that I have reported my advice and recommendations to the Executive Director on the overall state of internal control in EEA.

I hereby certify that the information provided in Parts 2 and 3 of the present CAAR and in its annexes is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and exhaustive.

Copenhagen, 13 June 2017

Signed

Søren Brostrup Nielsen

4.2 RESERVATIONS

4.2.1 INDICATE THE SCOPE OF THE RESERVATION AND DESCRIBE THE SPECIFIC CAUSE OF THE WEAKNESS. THE CONCLUSIONS ON WHETHER THE WEAKNESSES ARE MATERIAL ENOUGH TO LEAD TO A RESERVATION SHOULD ALWAYS BE CLEARLY EXPLAINED AND JUSTIFIED

N/A

4.2.2 QUANTIFY THE EXPOSURE (IMPACT IN MONETARY TERMS) AS FAR AS POSSIBLE

N/A

4.2.3 EXPLAIN THE IMPACT ON THE DECLARATION OF ASSURANCE

N/A

4.2.4 SET OUT THE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANNED AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TAKING THIS ACTION IN AN ACTION PLAN INCLUDING TARGET DATES AND AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE ACTIONS

N/A

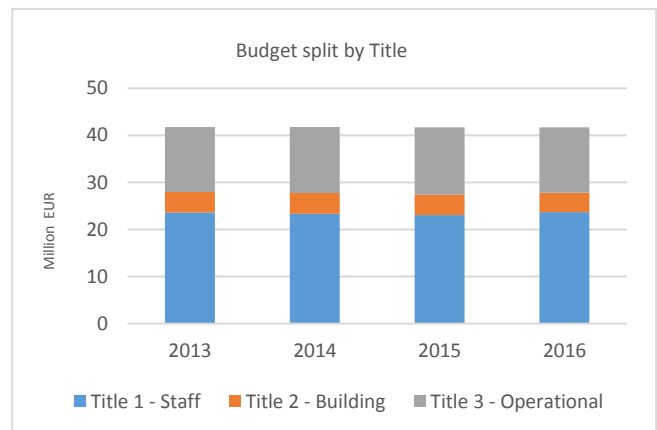
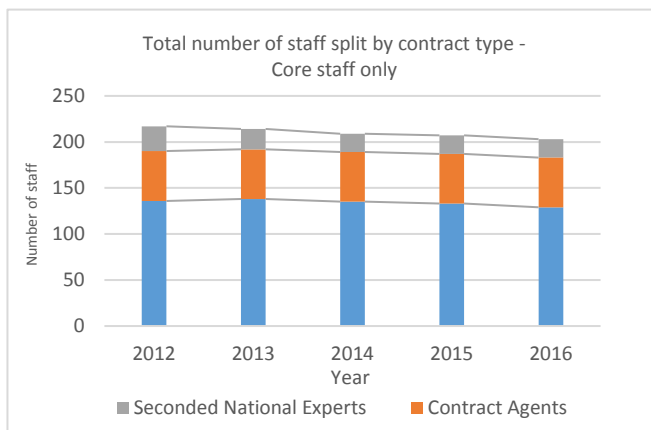
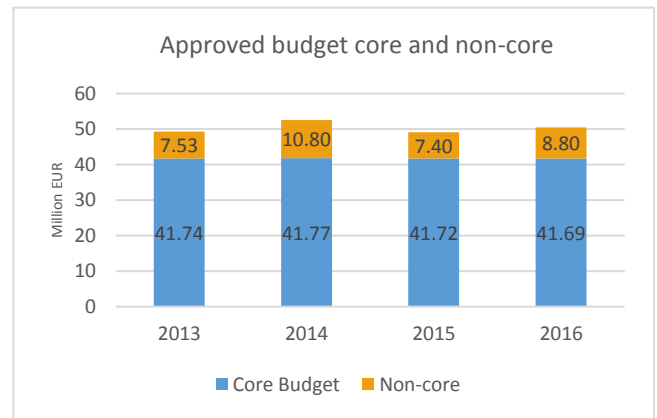
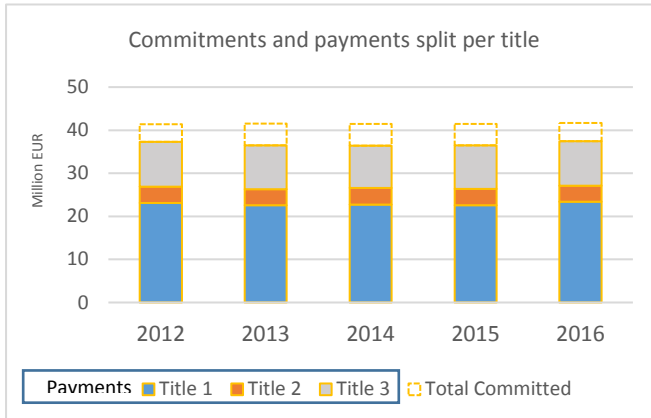
4.3 OVERALL CONCLUSION ON ASSURANCE

4.3.1 AN ASSESSMENT OF THE COMBINED IMPACT OF ANY RESERVATIONS MADE ON THE DECLARATION AND A CLEAR CONCLUSION AS TO WHETHER, IN THE LIGHT OF THOSE RESERVATIONS, THE ASSURANCE TO BE PROVIDED IN THE DECLARATION CAN BE GIVEN. CONSIDERATION IS TO BE GIVEN TO THE OVERALL FINANCIAL IMPACT RESULTING FROM THE RESERVATIONS, WIGHED BY THE RELATIVE SHARE OF THE ACTIVITY CONCERNED BY EACH RESERVATION I.E. TO WHAT EXTENT DO THE RESERVATIONS REFER TO CORE BUSINESS VS. OTHER ACTIVITIES?

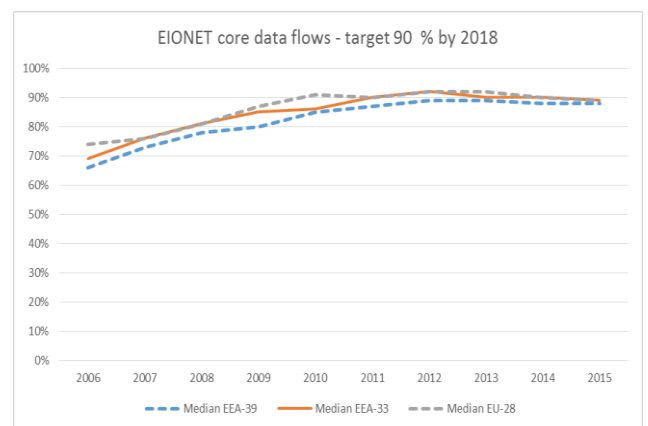
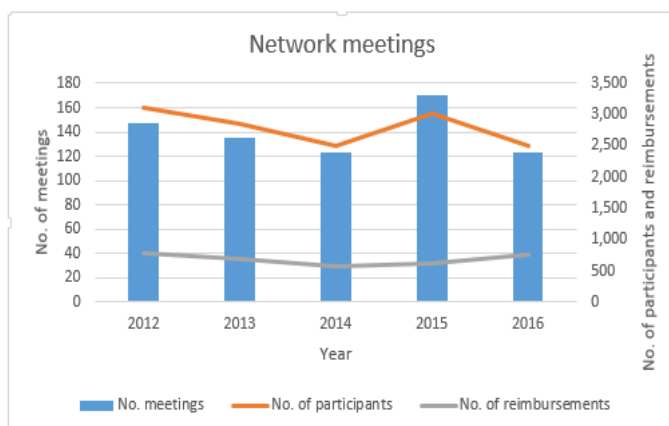
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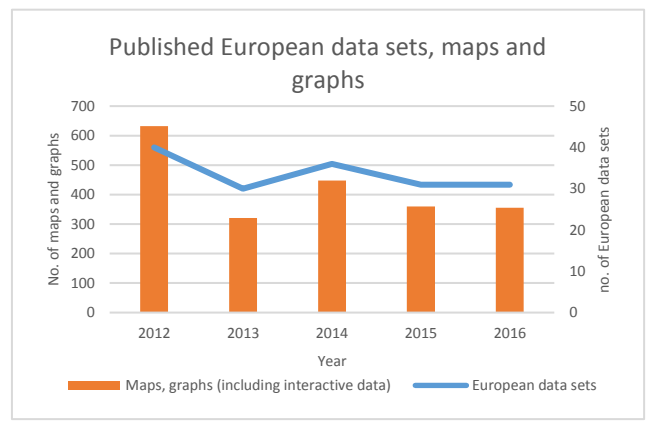
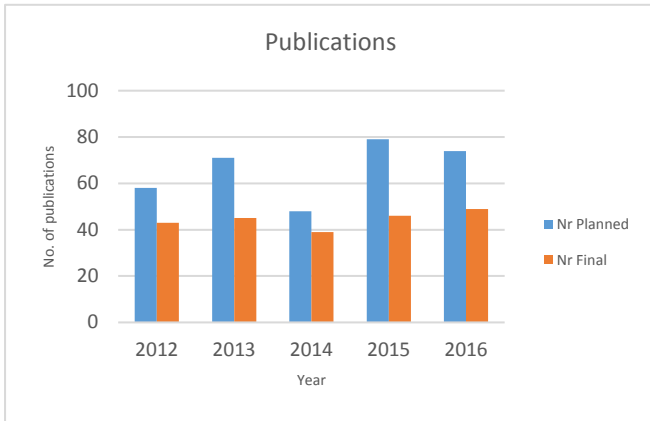
ANNEX 1 CORE BUSINESS STATISTICS

FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES PERSPECTIVE

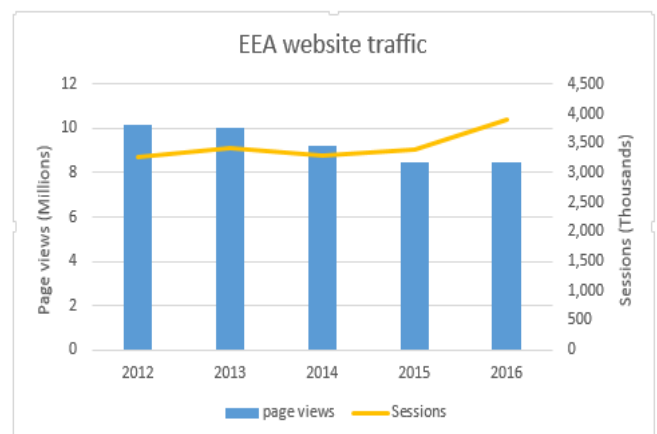
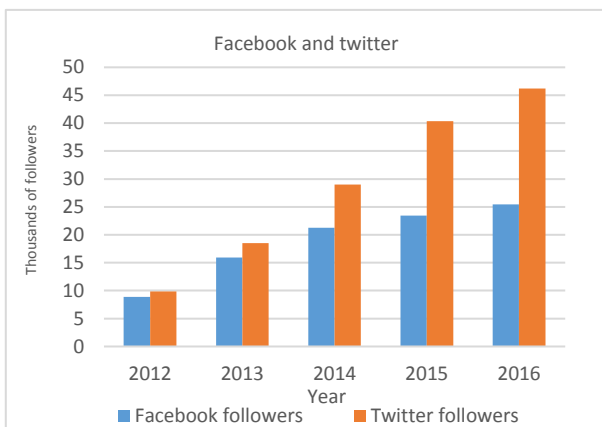
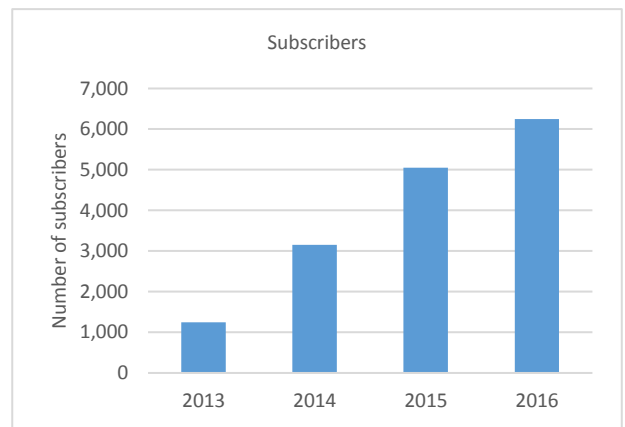
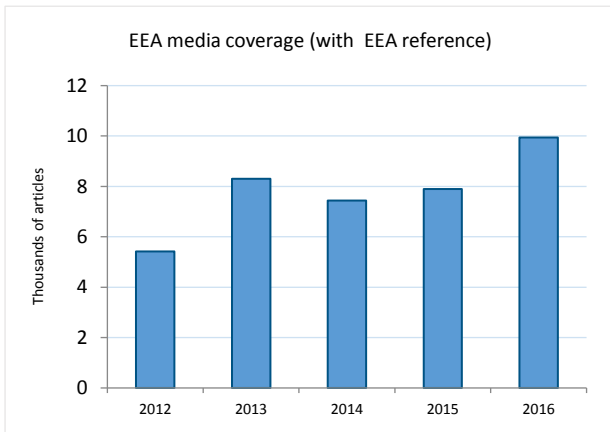


PRODUCTION PERSPECTIVE

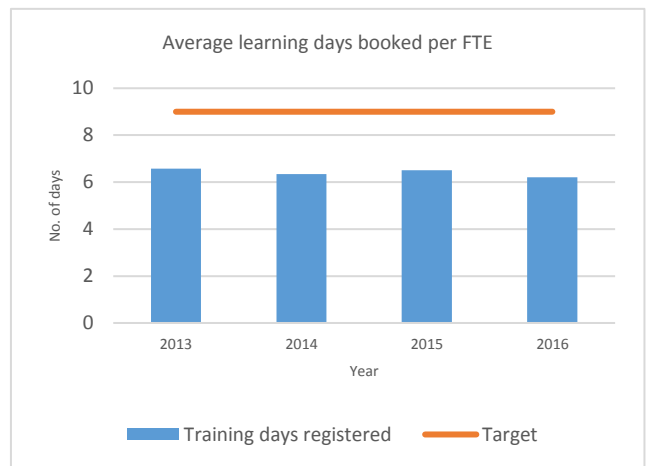
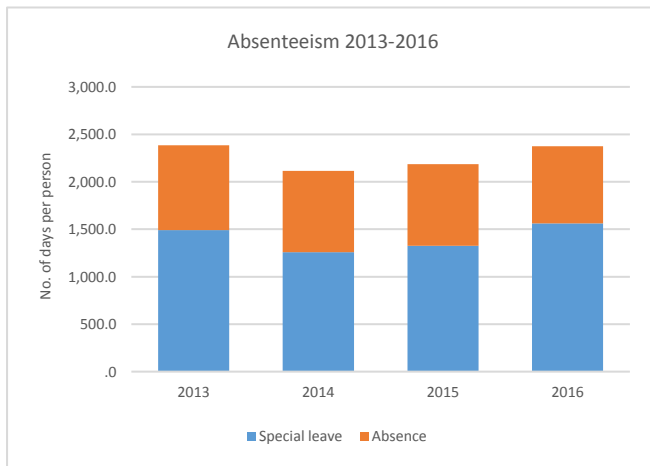
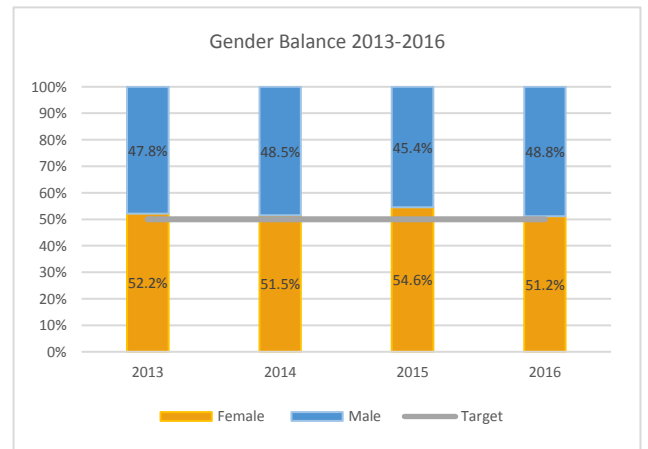
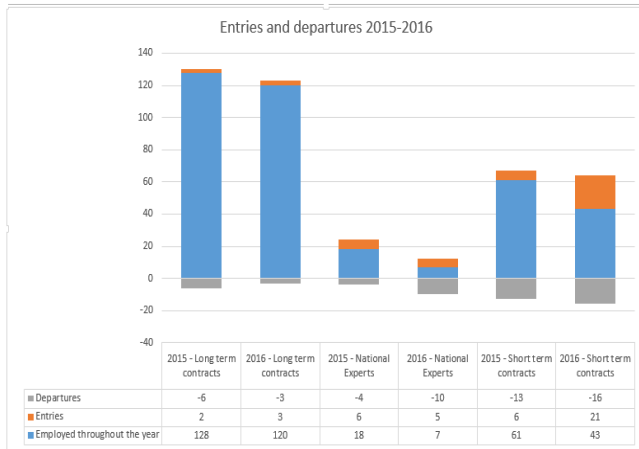




USER PERSPECTIVE



LEARNING AND GROWTH PERSPECTIVE



ANNEX 2 STATISTICS ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Commitments (C1 – 2016 – core only)

Titles	Appropriation 2016 (core funds only)	Committed	Non-committed appropriations cancelled (Appropriation-committed)	Paid	Available for carryover (Committed-paid)	Carried over	Committed appropriation cancelled
1. Staff expenditure	23 660 474.00	23 637 510.34	22 963.66	23 373 662.91	263 847.43	263 480.07	367.36
2. Adm expenditure	4 158 411.00	4 147 104.86	11 306.14	3 710 849.85	436 255.01	436 255.01	0
3. Operating expenditure	13 868 612.00	13 860 550.79	8 061.21	10 357 174.83	3 503 375.96	3 503 375.96	0
Total	41 687 497.00	41 645 165.99	42 331.31	37 441 687.59	4 203 478.40	4 203 111.04	367.36

2016 – C8

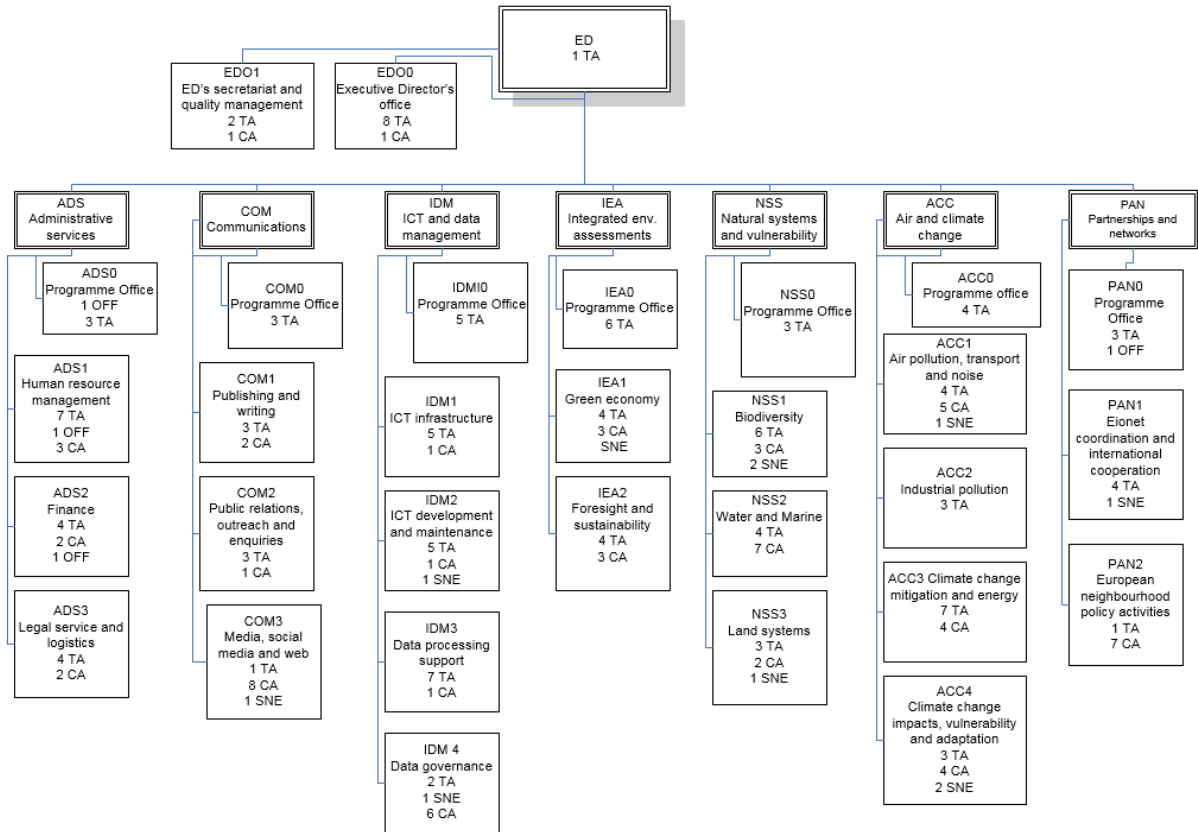
Titles	Carryover from 2015	Paid	Committed appropriation cancelled
1. Staff expenditure	324 051.38	263 251.34	60 800.04
2. Administrative expenditure	376 684.40	287 016.28	89 668.12
3. Operating expenditure	4 244 003.43	4 049 560.30	194 443.13
Total	4 944 739.21	4 599 827.92	344 911.29

Total cancelled appropriations

Titles	2016 – C1 Non-committed	2016 – C1 (2017 – C9) Committed appropriation cancelled	2016 – C8 Committed appropriation cancelled	2016 – R0 INSEIS Un-committed appropriation cancelled	2016 – R0 GIO Appropriation cancelled	Total cancelled appropriations on all fund sources
1. Staff	22 963.66	367.36	60 800.04	10 556.63	135 805.72	230 493.41
2. Administrative expenditure	11 306.14	0	89 668.12	39 740.00	40.13	140 754.39
3. Operating Expenditure	8 061.21	0	194 443.13	43 458.99	2 087 878.72	2 333 842.05
Total	42 331.01	367.36	344 911.29	93 755.62	2 223 724.57	2 705 089.85

ANNEX 3 ORGANISATIONAL CHART

As of 1 January 2017



ANNEX 4 ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

MULTIANNUAL STAFF POLICY PLAN

Table 1 – Staff population and its evolution - overview of across all contract types categories

Contract type	Actually filled at 31.12.2015	Voted EU Budget 2016	Actually filled at 31.12.2016	Authorised under EU budget 2017	Included in draft budget for 2018	Envisaged for 2019	Envisaged in 2020
Posts in subject to establishment plan							
<i>Officials (OF)</i>							
AD	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
AST	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
AST/SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total OF	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
<i>Temporary Agents (TA)</i>							
AD	61	64	63	62	60	60	60
AST	63	62	62	61	60	60	60
AST/SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total TA	124	126	125	123	120	120	120
<i>Officials and Temporary Agents (TA)</i>							
Total	128	130	129	127	124	124	124
Other posts							
<i>Contract Agents (CA)</i>							
CA GF IV	37	50	50	50	50	50	50
CA GF III	11	10	10	11	11	11	11
CA GF II	13	10	7	10	10	10	10
CA GF I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total CA	61	70	67	71	71	71	71
<i>Seconded National Experts (SNE)</i>							
SNE	18	20	12	20	20	20	20
Structural service providers	12	16	14	16	16	16	16
TOTAL	219	236	222	234	231	231	231

Table 2 – Contract agent posts - number of positions filled on 31.12.2016

Positions filled on 31.12.2016	GF I	GF II	GF III	GF IV	Total
under core funds		6	8	40	54
under InSEIS					
under IPA					
under ENIS			1	1	2
under Copernicus				6	6
under ENIE		1	1	3	5
Total		7	10	50	67

Table 3 –Establishment plan 2016

Category and grade	Establishment plan in EU budget 2016	
	Officials	TA
AD 16		
AD 15		1
AD 14		2
AD 13	1	3
AD 12		11
AD 11		10
AD 10		10
AD 9		10
AD 8		10
AD 7		7
AD 6		
AD 5		
Total AD	1	64
AST 11		3
AST 10		3
AST 9	3	8
AST 8		10
AST 7		10
AST 6		10
AST 5		10
AST 4		7
AST 3		1
AST 2		
AST 1		
Total AST	3	62
AST/SC 6		
AST/SC5		
AST/SC4		
AST/SC3		
AST/SC2		
AST/SC1		
Total AST/SC	0	0
Overall total	4	126

INFORMATION ON ENTRY LEVEL AND BENCHMARKING EXERCISE

INFORMATION ON ENTRY LEVEL FOR EACH POST

Table 4 –Entry level per key function for establishment plan posts

Key functions (examples)	Type of contract (official, TA or CA) (a)	Function group; grade of recruitment (or bottom of the brackets if published in brackets)
Executive Director — level 1	TA	AD14–15
<i>Head of Department (please identify which level in the structure it corresponds to assuming the Director is level 1)</i>	n/a	n/a

Key functions (examples)	Type of contract (official, TA or CA) (a)	Function group; grade of recruitment (or bottom of the brackets if published in brackets)
<i>Head of Unit</i> (please identify which level in the structure it corresponds to assuming the Director is level 1)	Official/TA Head of Programme — level 2	AD9–14
<i>Head of Sector</i> (please identify which level in the structure it corresponds to assuming the Director is level 1)	Official/TA Head of Group — level 3 (excluded from management allowance)	From AD6/AST6
<i>Senior Officer</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Officer</i>	Official/TA/CA Project Manager (see also below under ‘Project Officer’)	From AD6/FGIV
<i>Junior Officer</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Senior Assistant</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Assistant</i>	Official/TA Resource Officer	From AST1
<i>Junior Assistant</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Head of Administration</i> Head of Programme — level 2	Official/TA Head of Programme ‘Administrative Services’	AD9–14
<i>Head of Human Resources</i>	Official/TA Head of Group ‘Human Resource Management’	From AD6/AST6
<i>Head of Finance</i>	Official/TA Head of Group ‘Finance’	From AD6/AST6
<i>Head of Legal</i>	Official/TA Head of Group ‘Legal services and Logistics’	From AD6/AST6
<i>Head of Communication</i> Head of Programme — level 2	Official/TA Head of Programme ‘Communications’	AD9–14
<i>Head of IT</i> Head of Programme — level 2	Official/TA Head of Programme ‘ICT and data management’	AD9–14
<i>Head of IT</i>	Official/TA Head of Group ‘ITC infrastructure’	From AD6/AST6
<i>Senior Officer</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Officer</i>	Official/TA/CA Project Officer (see also above under ‘Project Manager’)	From AST3 (plus pre-reform B-grades); from FGIII
<i>Junior Officer</i>	n/a	n/a

Key functions (examples)	Type of contract (official, TA or CA) ^(a)	Function group; grade of recruitment (or bottom of the brackets if published in brackets)
<i>Webmaster — Editor</i>	Official/TA/CA Project Officer	From AST3 (+pre-reform B-grades); from FGIII
<i>Secretary</i>	Official/TA/CA Secretary	From AST1 (plus pre-reform C-grades); from FGII/4 Phasing out of AST in light of the new function group AST/SC
<i>Mail Clerk</i>	Official/TA/CA Technical Assistant (e.g. 'Logistic services')	Pre-reform D-grades/FGI (Mail service <i>per se</i> externalised)
<i>Data Protection Officer</i>	Official/TA Data Protection Officer	From AD6
<i>Accounting Officer</i>	Official/TA Accountant	From AD8
<i>Internal Auditor</i>	Official/TA Project Manager — Internal Audit Capability	From AD8

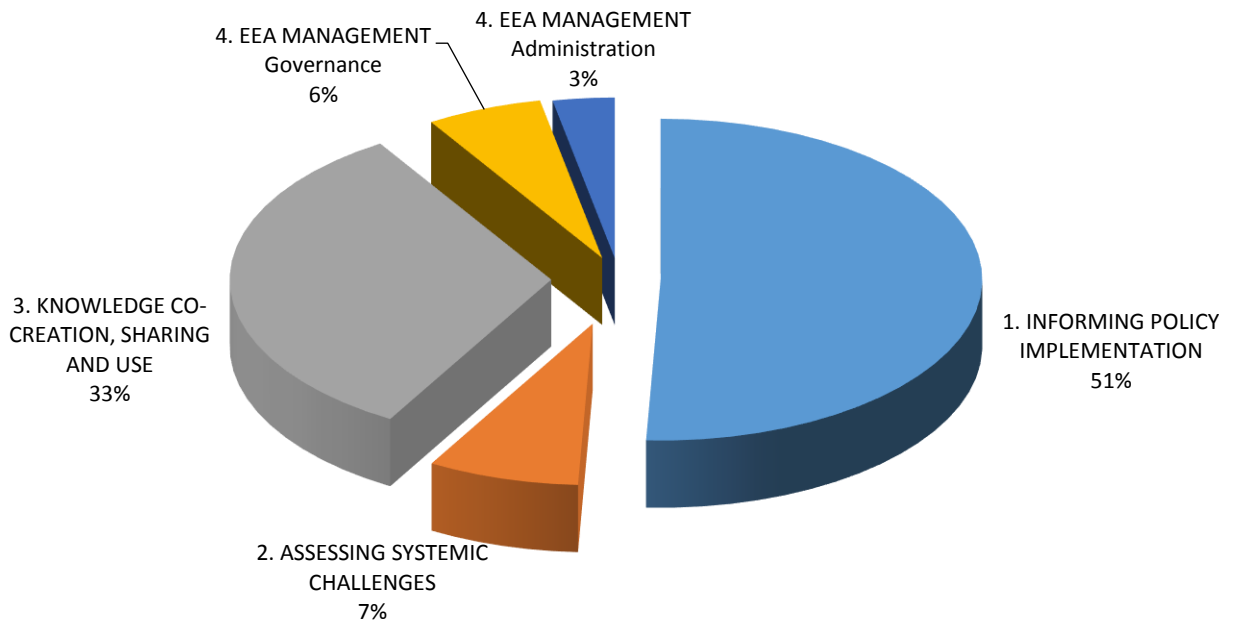
^(a) The text in bold indicates official EEA titles.

INFORMATION ON BENCHMARKING EXERCISE

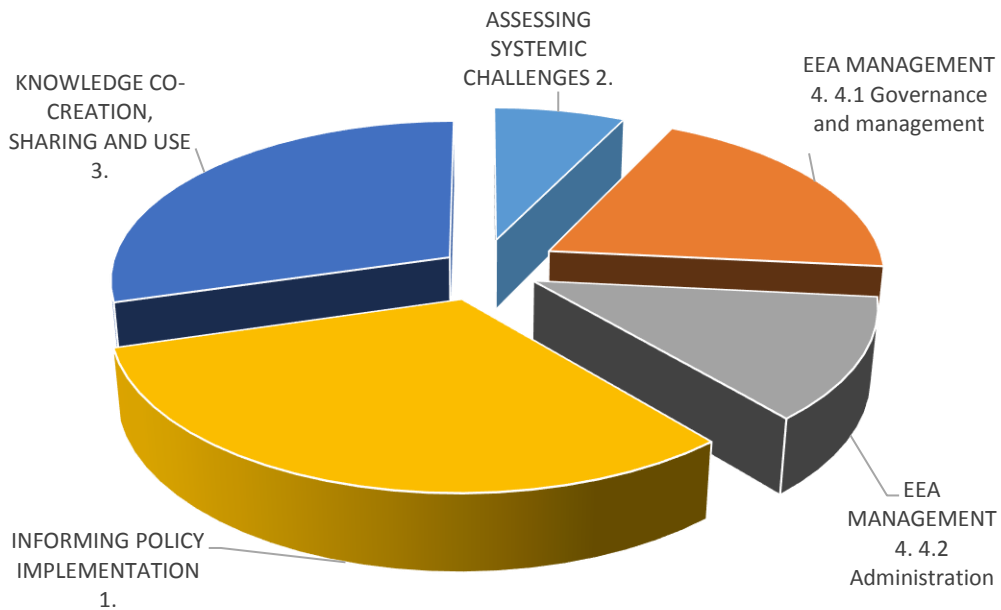
Job Type (sub) category	Year N-1 (%)	Year 2016 (%) (=Year N)
Administrative support and Coordination	13.93	14.69
<i>Administrative Support</i>	11.55	12.08
<i>Coordination</i>	2.38	2.61
Operational	78.33	77.37
<i>Top Level Operational Coordination</i>	3.8	4.5
<i>Programme Management & Implementation</i>	73.57	72.16
<i>Evaluation & Impact Assessment</i>	0.48	0.71
<i>General operational</i>	0.48	0
Neutral	7.74	7.94
<i>Finance/Control</i>	7.74	7.94
<i>Linguistics</i>	0	0

ANNEX 5 HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES BY ACTIVITY

**Operational costs 2016
Execution by Strategic Activity
(payments)**



Staff time in 2016 by Strategic Activity



ANNEX 6 FINAL DRAFT OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Budget outturn and cancellation of appropriations

Calculation of budget outturn (EUR)

Budget outturn	2014	2015	2016
Revenue actually received (+)	52 313 845	43 022 053	56 797 441
Payments made (-)	-43 777 178	-51 024 771	-45 805 099
Carryover of appropriations (-)	-21 982 721	-16 726 848	-23 198 314
Cancellation of appropriations carried over (+)	385 124	854 824	344 911
Adjustment for carryover of assigned revenue appropriations from previous year (+)	23 273 912	16 988 141	11 782 109
Exchange rate differences (+/-)	2 741	-13 013	5 236
Adjustment for negative balance from previous year (-)	-9 463 337	8 042 450	486 947
Positive balance from year N-1 reimbursed in year N	-1 422 874	-752 387	-1 142 835
Total	752 386	1 142 835	413 233

Cancellation of appropriations

- Cancellation of commitment appropriations: Non-committed core funds in 2016 amount to EUR 42 331 (i.e. 0.10 % of total commitment appropriation).
- Cancellation of payment appropriations for the year: See above.
- Cancellation of payment appropriations carried over: Unpaid C8 amounts to EUR 344 911; 56 % in Title 3.

Justification

A positive budgetary result is to be reimbursed to the Commission. The positive result for 2016, EUR 413 232.74, is composed of the following elements:

Budget result specification	2015	2016
C1 – CURRENT YEAR APPROPRIATIONS		
Amount not made available in the budget		
Non-committed	266 519	42 331
Committed, carried over to C9	1	367
C4 – REUSE OF FUNDS CURRENT YEAR		
Amounts not made available in the budget	34 504	1 795
C8 – APPROPRIATIONS CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS YEAR		
Cancellation of unused appropriations	854 824	344 911
R0 – EARMARKED FUNDS		
Amounts not made available in the budget		18 592
Exchange rate difference (gain+/loss-)	-13 013	5 236
Total	1 142 835	413 232

Cancellation of unused payment appropriations carried over from previous year (C8 funds) amounted to EUR 344 911.29 which is substantially lower than in the previous year (EUR 854 824).

ANNEX 7 IAS 'VERY IMPORTANT' AND 'IMPORTANT' RECOMMENDATIONS

AUDIT ON DATA/INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING AN IT COMPONENT)

'Very important' recommendations

No 1: Define and implement a data/information management framework	
<p>The EEA should develop and adopt an organisation-wide data/information management framework supported by a set of procedures that would consistently, effectively and efficiently implement the EEA's data policy in the day-to-day operations across the whole organisation.</p> <p>The EEA should also ensure the implementation of this framework through the AWP.</p>	
Action plan:	Target date:
Analysis of applicable reference frameworks	Complete
Define overarching data management principles and framework document, including roadmap	Complete
Include training, objectives and performance indicators in AMP 2016	Complete
Document and implement detailed data management practices	Completed 2016
No 2: Update and implement the IT strategy	
<p>The EEA should update its organisation-wide IT strategy and align it with the new MAWP and thematic area needs, as well as emerging new IT technologies. In parallel, the EEA should develop an IT strategy that can be implemented in the frame of the AWP.</p> <p>In this context, the EEA should ensure that all key stakeholders are involved in defining an organisation-wide service-oriented IT architecture that covers scalability, resilience, security, and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.</p> <p>The EEA should consider the need to sign SLAs for hosting services with EC DGs.</p> <p>The EEA should also consider including representatives of the thematic areas as permanent IT steering committee members.</p>	
Action plan:	Target date:
Update IT strategy according to MAWP	Complete
Update terms of reference of ICT SC (SMT decision)	Complete
Inventory of existing IT services commissioned by or hosted for the Commission	Complete

Definition of criteria for use of SLAs (proposed SMT decision)	Complete
Procedure on decisions for initiating new systems/services at EEA	Complete
Include training, objectives and performance indicators in AMP2016	Complete

No 3: Map the data/information flows

The EEA should carry out an organisation-wide mapping of the data/information life cycle: from data sources to data flows, data sets and outputs/products, to stakeholders/target audiences. The mapping should reflect data criticality, associated risks, dependencies and interdependencies.

The EEA should use the data/information flow mapping to coordinate thematic groups that relate to specific data flows in order to rationalise the way the EEA, as an organisation, interacts with the ETCs and other partners.

The mapping may also support the process of data-/information-provider management.

Action plan:	Target date:
Initial dataflow mapping document	Complete
Initial analysis of how to coordinate, rationalise and manage interactions	Complete
Revisit Eionet priority data flows and proposal to Management Board on stepwise implementation of new set in AMP 2016	Complete
Systemised overview of Eionet data flows and monitoring tools available	Complete 2016
Data inputs for EEA products made explicit in work planning	Complete 2016

'Important' recommendations

No 4: Establish an organisation-wide cross-cutting data/information management function

The EEA should define organisation-wide data/information management-related roles, responsibilities, authorities and accountabilities for the complete data/information life cycle across the organisation; assign the roles to individuals; and set up a process for executive oversight of data/information management.

Action plan:	Target date:
Definition of roles and terms of reference for groups and teams	Complete
Adjustments to organisational structure of EEA	Complete
Include training, objectives and performance indicators in AMP 2016	Complete
Proposal to SMT for adjustments to take into account b-case approach	Complete 2016

No 5: Use business cases for data/information management-related decision-making

The EEA should introduce the practice of using business cases to support data/information investment decisions. A sound business case should reflect the total cost of activity ownership covering the complete data life cycle, potential benefits and associated risks.

EEA management should define measurement/monitoring methods and set up tools for monitoring data management activities. Such methods and tools could be used for measuring activities in cases in which an analysis is needed to support important management decisions (e.g. the input for business cases).

Action plan:

Design of systematic approach based on template
 Proposal to SMT on Initial definition of EEA decision points/roles
 Ensure stepwise implementation of approach (see Recommendation No 4)

Target date:

Complete
 Complete
 Complete 2016

No 6: Define and implement an organisation-wide data/information quality framework

The EEA should define and implement a data/information framework, which should:

- standardise data quality objectives, targets and thresholds;
- identify internal and external roles, responsibilities, authorities and accountabilities;
- differentiate the sources of data/information and define minimum requirements for corresponding data sets;
- disseminate data/information quality requirements to relevant partners.

Action plan:

Assessment of existing EEA data quality policies and procedures and benchmarking against reference frameworks from Eurostat and others
 Define the data quality metrics and formulate a data/information quality framework
 Data management procedures revised and extended in QMS
 Communication and promotion of the new quality framework
 Analysis of technical possibilities for quality monitoring and measuring
 Machine-readable quality assessment for pilot data flows
 Include training, objectives and performance indicators in AMP 2016
 Roadmap for implementing the data quality framework for all EEA data flows

Target date:

Complete
 Complete
 Complete
 Complete
 Complete
 Complete
 Complete

No 7: Improve the management of the supporting IT processes

The EEA should define the requirements for relevant supporting IT processes, assess the existing processes against these requirements, identify any gaps and take corrective actions to eliminate any deficiencies.

IT controls for the data centre should be strengthened to mitigate the risk of disruption in cases of environmental or other hazards.

Action plan:

Scoping study to define requirements and benchmark against capacities

Analysis of IT processes and documents

Improve data centre environmental controls

Undertake corrective actions stepwise through AMP2016/17

Target date:

Complete

Complete

Complete 2016

Complete 2016

AUDIT ON THE SOER 2015 PREPARATION PROCESS**'Important' recommendations****No 1: Enhance the monitoring of the resource consumption of the SOER process**

The Agency should closely monitor and fully analyse the resource consumption on multi-annual projects like SOER using the Management Plan System data as a base. They should use it to adjust their implementation plan and to produce a project completion report at the end of the project.

Annually or at least upon the project completion, the total multiannual project costs should be analysed. The EEA should also reflect on the possibility to include not only the directly attributable internal costs, but also hidden (i.e. tasks performed and not reported as SOER activity) and external costs in its analysis.

Action plan:

Implement stronger resource planning and within-year monitoring in the Management Plan System for the period 2018–2020.

Implement clear staff objectives through the annual Career Development Cycle process for the period 2017–2020

Target date:

January 2018

January 2017

No 2: Ensure coherence of the general SOER and communication team planning

The EEA should better align the future Communication and Dissemination plan to the overall SOER Implementation Plan to ensure that the tasks, expectations and commitments of all teams involved are clear and support the overall strategic objectives. Alignment of the plans in terms of concepts and level of detail should facilitate the coordination, implementation and monitoring of the communication activities within an important project such as the SOER.

Action plan:

Design a coherent reasoning and clear set of activities between EEA staff on developing the assessment and communicating the results of the assessment.
Agree these through the 2016 Roadmap and the 2017 Implementation Plan.
Prioritise assessment activities in the period 2018–2019 and communication/feedback activities in 2019–2020

Target date:

December 2016 Roadmap
December 2017 Implementation Plan

No 3: Clarify the roles and responsibilities in the review process of SOER content

The EEA should ensure that all staff members contributing to the SOER preparation are fully aware of all actors and the related workflows, the roles of these actors and the assigned hierarchical responsibilities.

In this respect, the IAS recommends a uniform approach for the electronic workflows and the written documentation of approvals, which should remain consistent throughout the implementation of the project and between briefing sections. The workflow should be reflected in the supporting FMS; it should be implemented in a way that retains the audit trail of approvals.

Action plan:

Clarify the roles and responsibilities in the 2016 Roadmap and the 2017 Implementation Plan, ensuring common understanding and purpose through discussions with the EEA Management Board, EEA Scientific Committee, Eionet and Commission Services

Target date:

December 2016 Roadmap
December 2017 Implementation Plan

ANNEX 8 GLOSSARY

AEI	Agri-Environmental Indicators
AMP	Annual Management Plan
ANCA	Advancing Natural Capital Accounting
AQ	Air quality
AWP	Annual Work Programme
BEPA	Bureau of European Policy Advisors
BISE	Biodiversity Information System for Europe
BWD	Bathing Water Directive
CAAR	Consolidated Annual Activity Report
CAMS	Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDDA	Common Database on Designated Areas
CE	Circular economy
CEIP	(EMEP) Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections (CHECK)
CLC	Corine Land Cover
CLCC	CLC change
Climate-ADAPT	European Climate Adaptation Platform
CLP	Classification, Labelling and Packaging
CLRTAP	Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
CoE	Council of Europe
COP21	21st session of the Conference of the Parties
CORDA	Copernicus Reference Data Access Node
CRM	Client relationship management (CHECK)
CSI	Core set of indicators
DG	(European Commission) Directorate-General
DG AGRI	DG for Agriculture and Rural Development
DG BUDG	DG for Budget
DG CLIMA	DG for Climate Action
DG COMP	DG for Competition
DG DEVCO	DG for International Cooperation and Development
DG ECHO	DG for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection
DG ENER	DG for Energy
DG ENTR	DG for Enterprise
DG ENV	DG for Environment
DG ESTAT	Eurostat (the statistical office of the EU)
DG GROW	DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
DG JRC	Joint Research Centre
DG MARE	DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
DG MOVE	DG for Mobility and Transport
DG NEAR	DG for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
DG REGIO	DG for Regional and Urban Policy
DG RTD	DG for Research and Innovation
DG SANTE	Dg for Health and food safety
DPSIR	Driving forces–pressures–state–impact–responses
DWD	Drinking Water Directive

EAP	Environment Action Programme
E3I	Eionet Improvement and Innovation Initiative
EC	European Commission
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECDC	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
ECHA	European Chemicals Agency
ECMWF	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
EEA	European Environment Agency
EEEN	European Environmental Evaluators Network
EFSA	European Food Safety Agency
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EHBMI	European Human Bio-monitoring Initiative
Eionet	European Environment Observation and Information Network
EIR	Environmental Implementation Review
EKC KIP	Environment Knowledge Community's Knowledge Innovation Projects
EMAS	EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
EMEP	European Monitoring and Evaluation Programme
EMIS	Emission measurements in the automotive sector
EMRT	Emission Review Tool
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
ENPI	European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument
EP	European Parliament
EPA	Environment Protection Agencies
EPA network	European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies
EPDF	Eionet priority data flow
E-PRTR	European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
ESD	Effort Sharing Decision
ETC	European topic centre
ETC/ACM	ETC on Air Pollution and Climate Change Mitigation
ETC/BD	ETC on Biological Diversity
ETC/CCA	ETC on Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability
ETC/ICM	ETC on Inland, Coastal and Marine Waters
ETC/ULS	ETC on Urban, Land and Soil Systems
ETC/WMGE	ETC on Waste and Materials in a Green Economy
ETS	Emissions Trading System
EU	European Union
EU SDS	EU Sustainable Development Strategy
EUNIS	European Nature Information System
FD	Floods Directive
F-gas	Fluorinated gases
FLIS	Forward-Looking Information and Services
FOEN	Federal Office for the Environment (Switzerland)
FTE	Full-Time Employee
GBIF	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
GEO	Group on Earth Observations
GEO-6	Global environment outlook 6
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems
GES	Good Environmental Status
GHG	Greenhouse gas

GI	Green Infrastructure
GIO	Copernicus Initial Operations
GIO land	Copernicus Initial Operations (CHECK)
GIS	Geographical Information System
GISC	Global megatrends
GMO	Genetically modified organism
HBM4EU	European Human Biomonitoring Initiative
HNV	High Nature Value
HRL	High resolution layers
IAC	Internal audit capability
IAS	Internal Audit Service of the European Commission
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
ICT	Information and communication technology
IDM	ICT and data management
IED	Industrial Emissions Directive
IEEG	Industrial Emissions Expert Group
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
Inspire	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community
IPA	Pre-Accession Assistance
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPChem	Information Platform for Chemicals Monitoring
IRP	(UN) International Resource Panel
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KIP	Knowledge innovation project
LCP	Large combustion plant
LRTAP	Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
MAES	Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystems and their Services
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MAWP	Multiannual Work Programme
MDIAK	Knowledge, Assessment, Indicators, Data and Monitoring
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
MPA	Marine protected areas
MS	Member State
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
NEC	National Emission Ceilings
NFP	National focal point
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NRC	National Reference Centre
NO _x	Nitrogen oxide
ODS	Ozone-Depleting Substance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PM	Particulate matter
QMS	Quality management system
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RE	Resource Efficiency
REC	Regional Environmental Centres
RES Directive	Renewable Energy Directive

SC	Scientific Committee
SCP	Sustainable consumption and production
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SDI	Spatial Data Infrastructure
SDS	(EU) Sustainable Development Strategy
SEBI	Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators
SEIS	Shared Environmental Information System for Europe
SENSE	Shared European and National State of Environment
SIIF	Structured implementation and information framework
SLA	Service-level agreement (CHECK)
SMT	Senior Management Team
SoE	State of Environment
SOER	The European environment — state and outlook
SO _x	Sulphur oxides
STRN	Sustainability Transitions Research Network
TFEIP	(UNECE) Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections
TERM	Transport and Environment Reporting Mechanism
TOUERM	Tourism and environment reporting mechanism
TQMS	Total Quality and Environmental Management System
UN	United Nations
UNCEEA	United Nations Committee on Environmental and Economic Accounting
UN-GGIM	UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management
UNEA-2	2 nd UN Environment Assembly
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
UWWTD	Urban Waste-Water Treatment Directive
TERM	Annual Transport and Environment Reporting Mechanism report
WCMC	World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WEEE	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive
WFD	Waste Framework Directive
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WG DIKE	Working Group on Data, Information and Knowledge Exchange
WHO	World Health Organization
WiLoP	Within the limits of our planet
WISE	Water Information System for Europe