

Information on SoEOR2005 and sub-report 1 and sub-report 8

The EEA State of the Environment and Outlook Report (SoEOR2005)

The EEA State of the Environment and Outlook report (SoEOR2005) and its sub-reports are being prepared for possible publication in 2005, to comply with the EEA Council Regulation and to support the mid-term review of the 6th Environmental Action Programme. It is the current thinking of the EEA that SoEOR2005 will be a brief and concise report supported by the following sub-reports:

1. European household consumption and the environment – trends, outlooks and policy effectiveness
2. Environmental aspects of enlargement
3. Conserving ecosystems and biodiversity (ecosystem goods and services)
4. Sustainable use and management of natural resources
5. Policy integration
6. Climate change and the use of clean energy
7. European environment outlook
8. Global issues – Europe's impact on the global environment
9. Environment and health

The reports will cover all EEA member and participating countries. They will cover trends in the 20th century, with a focus on 1990 – present, and outlooks to 2010/20 and beyond where appropriate.

Sub-report 1: European household consumption and the environment – trends, outlooks and policy effectiveness

This will be the first report by the EEA providing an assessment of the past trends and future outlooks for the European household sector and its environmental effects. The report will focus on the recent and possible future changes in the consumption of the main goods and services by European households, the major environmental effects of consumption and the effectiveness of policies to limit these effects.

The report will provide information at a regional, national and local level in EEA member countries (EU countries, Accession countries, EFTA countries, other participating countries) focusing on past trends from 1990 onwards and possible future outlooks to 2020. When information is provided on a national or local level it will often not cover all countries, but will be used to provide examples.

Section I of the report (SR1) will introduce the political and institutional context (chapter 0) and analyse the economic and social drivers underlying changes in consumption patterns and the distributive effects of consumption policies (chapter 1). Section II will focus on the consumption “inside” the households of food (chapter 2), water (chapter 3), energy (chapter 4) and other goods (chapter 5). Section III will focus on waste and material flows from consumption inside households and will thus contain a chapter on waste and material flows from household consumption (chapter 6). Section IV will focus on consumption outside the households of mobility and transport (chapter 7), tourism (chapter 8), recreational services (chapter 9) and environmental protection services (chapter 10). Each of the chapters in sections II, III and IV will assess, provide information on and analyse the recent trends and future outlooks, the environmental effects of consumption and the policy effectiveness and policy options. Section IV will identify the main patterns in European household consumption and the ex-post and ex-ante effectiveness of household consumption policies (chapter 11).

EEA outlooks and projections will be included in chapter 1 (driving forces), chapter 3 (water use), chapter 4 (energy use), chapter 6 (waste and material flows), chapter 7 (mobility and transport) and chapter 11 (changing consumption patterns and policy effectiveness). For the remaining chapters, scenarios and outlooks prepared by others will be included to the extent possible.

Draft outline of sub-report 1 (excluding executive summary, conclusions etc)

Chapt.	Title	Pages
SECTION I: INTRODUCTION AND DRIVING FORCES		
0.	Introduction: Purpose and context	2
0.1.	Purpose: Sub-report of SOEOR2005; input to EU and UN policy process; information to public and decision-makers	
0.2.	The political and institutional context: UN (Agenda 21; framework of programmes on consumption and production; accounting; poverty); EU (6EAP; EU SD Strategy; enlargement; Cardiff process; thematic strategies)	
1.	Household consumption driving forces and policies	7
1.1.	Economic driving forces of consumption: income level and distribution; interest rates; production; technology (including internet); public and private expenditures; budgets; advertising; geographical distribution of population	
1.2.	Social driving forces of consumption: changing lifestyles, ageing; household size; increased leisure time; demand for housing; demand for mobility; consumers attitude to the quality of the products; the poverty issue	
1.3.	Consumption and production policies, technology and its distributive effects: e.g. larger impacts on poorer households, energy taxes.	
SECTION II: CONSUMPTION INSIDE THE HOUSEHOLDS		
2.	Household food consumption	7
2.1	Trends (and outlook) in food consumption: historical; from post-war scarcity to the over-consumption; demand vs. prices and quality; trade incl. Imports; health concerns	
2.2.	Environmental effects of food consumption (including waste; resource use; water, soil and air pollution from agriculture and food industry)	
2.3.	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects (including labelling; economic instruments; regulation)	
3.	Household water use	5
3.1.	Trends and outlook in household water use (possibly by functions: alimentation, washing and irrigation; sewerage and wastewater; health aspects)	
3.2.	Environmental effects of household water use: resources and pollution	
3.3.	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects (including policy effectiveness of household water pricing)	

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4.	Household energy use	5
4.1.	Energy use trends and outlooks (by functions: housing, transport and type of energy: electricity, gas, diesel, coal, fuel wood)	
4.2.	Environmental effects of household energy use (climate change and air pollution)	
4.3.	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects (including technology, economic instruments)	
5.	Household consumption of other goods	7
5.1.	Trends (and outlook) in consumption of other goods: Durable goods (refrigerators; freezers; electric cookers; clothes washers; clothes dryers, dishwashers; microwaves; air conditioning; TVs; stereos; computers; mobiles); non-durable goods (clothes, hygiene products etc)	
5.2.	Environmental effects of consumption of other goods (including energy and water use; waste; effects from production, chemicals in the environment etc.)	
5.3	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects (including technology; taxes and other economic instruments; regulation)	
SECTION III: WASTE AND MATERIAL FLOWS FROM CONSUMPTION INSIDE THE HOUSEHOLDS		
6.	Waste and material flows from household consumption	7
6.1	Trends in material flows related to household consumption	
6.2.	Trends and outlooks for waste flows from households (municipal waste, packaging waste, electronic waste; hazardous waste, management)	
6.3.	Environmental effects of waste flows from households	
6.4	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects	
SECTION IV: CONSUMPTION OUTSIDE THE HOUSEHOLDS		
7.	Meeting household mobility and transport needs	7
7.1.	Trends and outlook for household mobility and transport (by functions and modes)	
7.2.	Environmental effects of transport by households (emissions; compare with goods transport; impacts on ecosystems and on quality of life; noise and time spent)	
7.3	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects	
8.	Tourism	5
8.1.	Trends (and outlook) for tourism (Eurostat statistics, TOUERM)	

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8.2.	Environmental effects of tourism (emissions; land use; water use; waste; frequentation of natural sites)	
8.3	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects	
9.	Household consumption of recreational services	5
9.1	Trends (and outlook) for household consumption of recreational services (e.g. access of citizens to forests and green areas, parks, beaches, various landscapes, biodiversity, species etc)	
9.2	Distributional issues (of access to recreational services)	
9.3	Effectiveness of policies to ensure access to recreational services	
10.	Household consumption of environmental protection services	6
10.1	Introduction on public procurement	
10.2	Household consumption of environmental protection services	
10.3	Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects	
SECTION IV: CONSUMPTION PATTERNS AND POLICY EFFECTIVENESS		
11.	Changing consumption patterns and evaluation of policy effectiveness	7
11.1	Main patterns identified in recent and possible future household consumption	
11.2	Effectiveness of policies to limit environmental effects of household consumption (ex-post policy effectiveness)	
11.3	Policy options and possible effects (ex-ante policy effectiveness)	
Total		70

Sub-report 1 relations to policy objectives (6EAP, SDS and others)

The aim is that the report will contribute to the European and global policy processes to change consumption and productions patterns. At an informal meeting of EU countries on sustainable consumption and production in June 2003 Member countries expressed a considerable interest in the report and in it being used as an input in the European policy process on sustainable consumption and production.

The report is related to the mid term review of 6EAP, in particular the actions identified in 6EAP to

- “promote sustainable production and consumption patterns...”;
- “improve collaboration and partnerships with consumers and their organisations”;
- “help ensure that individual consumers... are better informed...with a view to achieving sustainable consumption patterns”; and
- “improve collaboration and partnerships with consumer groups.

It is also linked to the EU thematic strategies and to the EU Sustainable Development Strategy and its implementation.

Sub-report 8: Europe's environment and the Global dimension: key interactions

(working title)

Storyline

The enlarged EU, being a leading economic and political region on the international scene, bears an important responsibility within the 'global governance' process. The consideration of the environmental dimension in this context of 'globalization' has been fluctuating over the past decade; however, it seems that since the Doha World Trade Organization meeting and the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development the concerns for environment integration in international public and business policies are getting articulated. There is growing consensus today that, all evidence showing, environmental degradation and resource depletion can amplify or cause conflict and instability. Environmental or resource problems that substantively diminish incomes or employment result in increasing poverty and crime, cause environmental and health hazards, aggravate insecurity, social tensions and political instability, and pose threats to national security. Furthermore, conflicts over shared natural resources and ecosystems may lead to tensions within and between States. All this undermines the efforts of the countries themselves and of the international community to promote an economically prosperous, and environmentally and socially sound 'globalized development'.

What is the share of Europe in the array of environmental problems of the world? Do some of these problems have their origin in Europe? How in turn international issues affect Europe's management of its environment? Can one anticipate the effects on the environment, somewhere outside Europe, of Europe's economic growth? And so on. This will be the first report by the EEA to attempt addressing such questions in a structured way. It will provide - data allowing - more than an up-to-date analysis of the EU 'footprint' on other regions in the world. The report will try to illustrate the order of magnitude of EU/global interactions when it comes to the need for integrated policies on environmental sustainability issues. To this end, the report will take into consideration sustainability features such as global responsibility, distributional equity, adaptability and security, decoupling. The issue of trade and environment is a central one in this context as it covers the question of flows of goods and services (footprint), the development of environment standards (policies, business behaviour), the issue of damaging subsidies, 'responsible' investments, in other words main aspects related to the debate for a global governance.

The report, due to its scope, will link to most of the SOER 2005 sub-reports, if not rely on these sub-reports to articulate the main messages. While looking at these links, the following can be highlighted:

- SR1 (Household consumption)): consumption patterns have a direct influence on trade (products/standards), some influence on exports of industrial production, and are connected to other activities (e.g.; international tourism). The development of a sustainable consumption & production plan provides the policy context here.

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- SR2 (Enlargement): the extension of the internal market to the new countries can provide appropriate case studies on, for instance, the effects of trade agreements on the environment.
- SR3 (Loss of biodiversity): the issues of footprint (including preservation of goods and services of ecosystems), global responsibility and equity are very present here
- SR4 (Use of natural resources): idem. Europe's contribution to the Millennium goal on Water provides another context here
- SR5 (Policy integration): progress towards integrating the concerns of the EU impacts on the world's environment should be analyzed.
- SR6 (Climate change and energy): climate change is a global issue for which Europe's policies on mitigation and adaptation interacts with other policies in other regions. Europe's contribution to the Millennium goal on Energy provides another context here.
- SR7 (outlooks): Assumptions on global socio-economic developments are part of the approach.
- SR9 (health): perhaps the most difficult area where to see clear links. Causation needs to be studied more precisely.

Draft outline (excluding executive summary, conclusions etc)

Chapt.	Title	Pages
SECTION I: INTRODUCTION AND DRIVING FORCES		
1.	Framing the Global/EU environmental interactions	5
1.1.	What are the key challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting European needs, consuming world resources (responsibility, equity, decoupling, irreversible damages) • Vulnerability to global changes (adaptability, intergenerational equity) • Global governance (trade policies, international environmental commodity agreements) 	
1.2.	Current policy context and state-of-action	
2.	European economies depend on the world's environment	15
2.1.	Resources (footprints): stocks, flows, accounts and impacts	
2.2.	Movement of European polluting productions	
2.3.	Prospects of European lifestyles (consumption patterns) and their impacts	
3.	Global changes: Europe's share	15
3.1	Contribution to global changes (climate change, ozone, biodiversity loss)	
3.2.	The prospects of mitigation: Europe's efforts vs. world's trends	

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3.3.	Vulnerability to changes: distribution of Europe's ecosystems goods and services, human security	
4.	The case of trade and environment	25
4.1.	What are the main EU trade flows with an environmental dimension	
4.2.	Their environmental impacts: selected case studies	
4.3.	The potential effects of environment integration on trade flows: selected case studies	
4.4.	The use of trade measures to support environmental objectives	
5.	Measures, policies and options to address the environmental effects of EU/Global interactions	15
5.1.	EU/international comparisons on progress towards major MEAs	
5.2.	Natural and man-made resources (technologies): substitutes or complement; selected case studies, use of the precautionary principle	
5.3.	Setting European environmental standards: effects (selected case studies)	
5.4.	Sustainability impact assessments of multilateral trade agreements	
5.5	'Responsible' investment: the role of foreign direct investments	
5.6	Ethical responsibility of business (behaviour, stewardship)	
Total		75

<i>Relation to policy objectives (6EAP, SDS and others)</i>
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If considering the WSSD Implementation Plan, all Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements, environment-oriented direct investments and policy guidelines on impact assessments (like in trade policies), there appear to be a wealth of policy documents which include in their objectives the preservation/protection of the global environment. Subsequently, the EU commitment to these policies expresses the role, the share and the contribution of the EU to this end. However, in contrast, there exist only a limited and highly-fragmented set of targeted actions towards reaching such objectives. This renders any evaluation of progress difficult, in addition to the lack of an appropriate information basis on EU-global interactions related to environment. The aim with the sub-report is to contribute, via illustrative cases, to increase the understanding of what these interactions are and how one can relate them to existing policy objectives or not.

<p>The Commission Communication COM(2002) 82 final ("Towards a global partnership for sustainable development") complements the strategy endorsed by the Göteborg European Council in defining the European Union's contribution to global sustainable development. The Communication sets out the six priorities listed below, which are then detailed in terms of priority objectives and EU actions:</p>

- Harnessing globalisation: trade for sustainable development;
- Fighting poverty and promoting social development;
- Sustainable management of natural and environmental resources;
- Improving the coherence of EU policies;
- Better governance at all levels;
- Financing sustainable development.

The 6EAP, in describing the principles and overall aim states that “The Programme shall stimulate:

- the positive and constructive role of the European Union as a leading partner in the protection of the global environment and in the pursuit of a sustainable development; the Community institutions, taking full account of the need to promote transparency and access to information, to ensure that environmental considerations are fully reflected in Commission policy initiatives, including relevant decisions and legislative proposals; awareness and public participation;
- the development of a global partnership for environment and sustainable development;
- the integration of environmental concerns and objectives into all aspects of the Community's external relations.”

The external dimension is also reflected in the EU thematic strategies, such as Climate change and Biodiversity. Article 9 of 6EAP goes on describing the objectives and priority areas for action on international issues:

“1. The aim set out in Article 2 on international issues and the international dimensions of the four environmental priority areas of this Programme involve the following objectives:

- the pursuit of ambitious environmental policies at the international level paying particular attention to the carrying capacity of the global environment;
- the further promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns at the international level;
- making progress to ensure that trade and environment policies and measures are mutually supportive.

2. These objectives shall be pursued by means of the following priority actions:

- (a) integrating environment protection requirements into all the Community's external policies, including trade and development cooperation, in order to achieve sustainable development by inter alia the elaboration of guidelines;
- (b) establishing a coherent set of environment and development targets to be promoted for adoption as part of ‘a new global deal or pact’ at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002;
- (c) work towards strengthening international environmental governance by the gradual reinforcement of the multilateral cooperation and the institutional framework including resources;
- (d) aiming for swift ratification, effective compliance and enforcement of international conventions and agreements relating to the environment where the Community is a Party;
- (e) promoting sustainable environmental practices in foreign investment and export credits;

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- (f) intensify efforts at the international level to arrive at consensus on methods for the evaluation of risks to health and the environment, as well as approaches of risk management including the precautionary principle;
- (g) achieving mutual supportiveness between trade and the needs for environmental protection, by taking due account of the environmental dimension in Sustainability Impact Assessments of multilateral trade agreements to be carried out at an early stage of their negotiation and by acting accordingly;
- (h) further promoting a world trade system that fully recognizes Multilateral or Regional Environmental Agreements and the precautionary principle, enhancing opportunities for trade in sustainable and environmentally friendly products and services;
- (i) promoting cross-border environmental cooperation with neighbouring countries and regions;
- (j) promoting a better policy coherence by linking the work done within the framework of the different conventions, including the assessment of interlinkages between biodiversity and climate change, and the integration of biodiversity considerations into the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. “