

Aarhus convention

EEA and access to environment information

EEA Founding regulation

Regulation (EC) No 401/2009

- ...provides for the European Environment Agency, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Agency’, and aims at the setting up of a European Environment Information and Observation Network (Eionet).
- The objective of EEA and Eionet shall be to provide the Community and the Member States with:
 - ***objective, reliable and comparable information at European level*** enabling them to take the requisite measures to protect the environment, to assess the results of such measures ***and to ensure that the public is properly informed about the state of the environment...***

Tasks of EEA

- to establish, in cooperation with the Member States, and coordinate the Network; in this context, the Agency shall be responsible for the **collection, processing and analysis of data**;
- to provide the Community and the Member States with the **objective information** necessary for framing and implementing sound and effective environmental policies; ..to provide the Commission with the information for... evaluating measures and legislation in the field of the environment;
- **to record, collate and assess data on the state of the environment**, to draw up expert reports on the quality, sensitivity and pressures on the environment within the territory of the Community, **to provide uniform assessment criteria for environmental data to be applied in all Member States**, to develop further and maintain a reference centre of information on the environment;
- to help ensure that **environmental data at European level are comparable and, if necessary, to encourage by appropriate means improved harmonisation of methods of measurement**;

Tasks of EEA

- **to publish a report on the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment every five years**, supplemented by indicator reports focusing upon specific issues;
- to promote the **incorporation of European environmental information into international environment monitoring programmes** such as those established by the United Nations and its specialised agencies;
- to **stimulate the exchange of information** on the best technologies available for preventing or reducing damage to the environment;
- to ensure **the broad dissemination of reliable and comparable environmental information**, in particular on the state of the environment, to the general public and, to this end, to promote the use of new telematics technology for this purpose

Initial areas of work

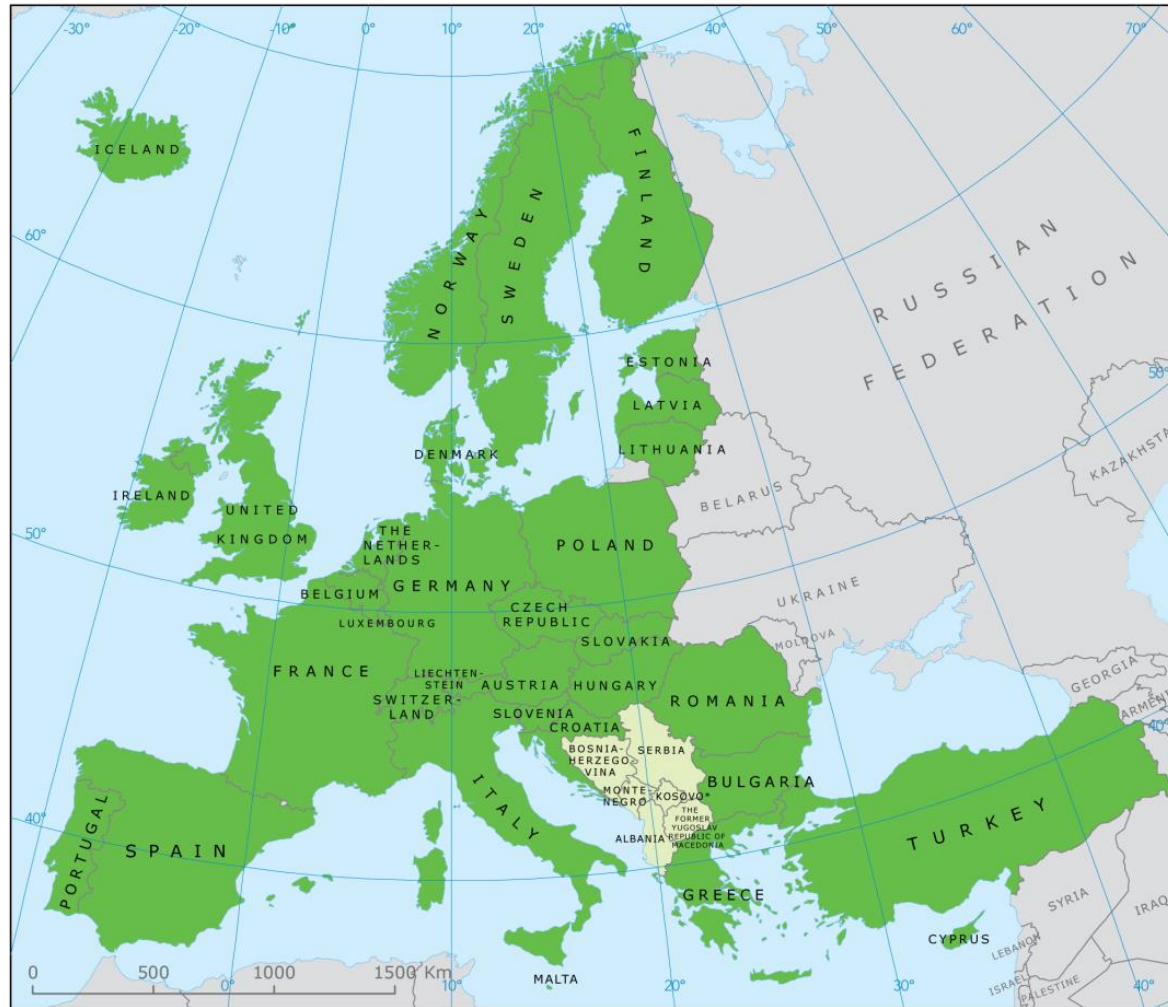
- Air quality and atmospheric emissions
- Water quality, pollutants and water resources;
- The state of soil, of the fauna, flora and biotopes;
- Land use and natural resources;
- Waste management;
- Noise emissions;
- Chemical substances;
- Coastal and marine protection.....

.....Further expanded today

Geographical coverage

- EU Member States
- EU institutions and bodies...
BUT ALSO OPEN ...
- *to other countries which share the concern of the Community and the Member States for the objectives of the Agency under agreements to be concluded between them and the Community*

EEA member and collaborating countries



EEA coverage

Member countries

Cooperating countries

*Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99

EU neighbouring countries cooperating with EEA



EEA and ENPI-SEIS project coverage

- EEA member countries
- EEA cooperating countries
- ENP East
- Strategic partnership
- ENP South

The map does not imply any opinion from EEA concerning the legal status of any country or territory, its area of authority or the delineation of its frontiers and boundaries.

* Syria: Collaboration is temporarily suspended



Legal framework

- 2005 - EU becomes party to Aarhus convention (Decision 2005/370/EC)
- 2003 –two Directives concerning the first and second "pillars" of the Aarhus Convention were adopted (to be implemented by 2005):
 - [Directive 2003/4/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2003 on **public access to environmental information**
 - [Directive 2003/35/EC](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 providing for **public participation** in respect of the drawing up of certain plans and programmes relating to the environmentBoth directives contain provisions on access to justice.
- 2006 – Regulation 1367/2006 on the application of the provisions of the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters to Community institutions and bodies (applicable from 2007)

The "Aarhus Regulation" covers not only the institutions, but also bodies, offices or agencies established by, or on the basis of the EC Treaty. They now need to adapt their internal procedures and practice to the provisions of the Regulation.

EEA data policy

- Approved by the Management Board in 2013.
- Provides guidelines about EEA's handling of data and ensures that **data is handled in a consistent and transparent manner.**
- **Publicly available at:**

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/legal/eea-data-policy>

EEA data policy

EEA expects the data providers to follow the principle that all data and products, financed with public means should be fully available for use by public bodies, and that these data should be made available for others to use with as few restrictions as possible.

- The data policy provides *guidelines about EEA's handling of data*.
- It ensures that data is handled *in a consistent and transparent manner*.
- EEA aspires to promote the *sharing of environmental data*.
- In agreeing to share, *data providers need to have assurance that their data are properly handled, disseminated and acknowledged following similar principles and rules* across countries and stakeholders.

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/legal/eea-data-policy>

Key elements

- **Credibility:** protection of integrity, transparency, and traceability in environmental data, analysis and forecasts;
- **Accessibility:** full, free and open access to all kinds of data where possible, whilst recognizing and respecting the variety of business models and data ownerships that enable these data to be created;
- **Multiple use:** wider exploitation, re-use and re-combination of data from different sources in different frameworks and media than those for which they were originally commissioned;
- **Ownership:** recognition of data providers, their intellectual property rights through citation and data licenses; Publication of relevant metadata;
- **Quality/ Reliability:** recognition of the quality of data through QA/QC procedures, documented in the Agency's Quality Management System (QMS). This does not apply to crowd sourced data.

What is available

- **Environmental data collected, acquired, processed and disseminated by EEA**, including data flows within the framework of Eionet;
- **Products created by EEA** are considered a public good and where possible, they will be made fully, freely and openly available for others to use.
- All data held by EEA shall be made available with **minimum time delay** and at **no cost** (some exceptions but limited due to : ownership, licensing, handling capacities)
- EEA will aim to provide **meta-information** for all data.

EEA indicators by theme & their updates

EEA indicators by theme (CSIs)	
Theme	Indicators
Air pollution	11 (5)
Biodiversity	27 (3)
Climate change	45 (5)
Energy	11 (5)
Environmental scenarios	2 (0)
Fisheries	3 (3)
Green economy	1 (0)
Household consumption	1 (0)
Land	1 (1)
Soil	1 (1)
Transport	20 (3)
Waste	2 (2)
Water	11 (7)
Total	136 (35)

The EEA currently maintains 136 indicators from 13 themes:

- Core Set Indicators (CSIs), established to support EU policy priorities
- other indicator sets (SEBI, TERM, etc.), developed for specific processes such as supporting sectoral targets or reporting on progress with sectoral integration

Most indicators are based on statistics from international organisations and EU partners as well as on national data

53% of EEA indicators updated every year

www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/indicators

Traceability of data

1) STORY / ASSESSMENT

Green economy

Briefing Published 18 Feb 2015 Last modified 05 Mar 2015, 11:54 AM

Topics: Green economy



Europe's resource efficiency has improved in recent years but this has not always translated into improved ecosystem resilience or reduced risks to health and well-being. Creating a green economy will require fundamental changes in the production-consumption systems that meet basic demands, such as for food, mobility, energy and housing. This will depend on better implementation and integration of environmental and economic policies, a broader knowledge base for long-term transitions, and use of finance and fiscal policies to support major investments in innovation and infrastructure.



THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT STATE AND OUTLOOK 2015

SOER 2015

Synthesis report

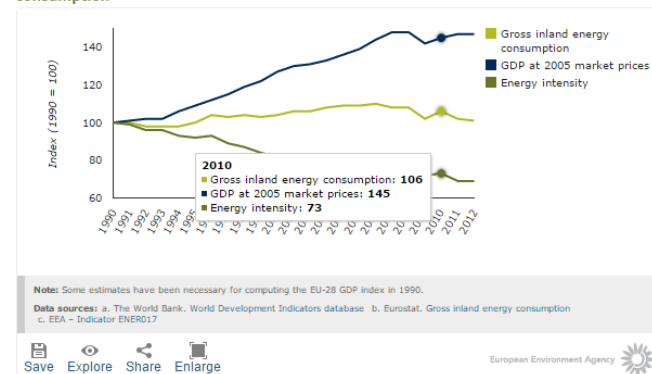
Global megatrends

European briefings

- Agriculture
- Air pollution
- Biodiversity
- Climate change impacts and adaptation
- Consumption
- Energy
- Forests
- Freshwater quality
- Green economy
- Health and environment
- Hydrological systems and sustainable water management

2) INTERACTIVE GRAPHS

Fig. 1. Trend in energy intensity, gross domestic product and gross inland energy consumption



3) INDICATOR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Indicator ENER017 - Assessment published Nov 2014

This is the latest published version. See older versions.

Topic: Energy

Generic metadata

Indicator codes: CS 028, ENER 017

Topics: Energy (Primary topic)

Tags: gdp | energy | sem 2015 european | sem 2015

OSOE Response: Performance indicator (Type 0 - Does it matter?)

Temporal coverage: 1990-2012

Geographic coverage: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom

CONTENTS

- Key policy question: Has there been an absolute decoupling in Europe between economic growth and energy consumption?
- Data sources
- Justification for indicator selection
- More information about this indicator
- Contacts and ownership
- Related content

Switch to full indicator view

Key policy question: Has there been an absolute decoupling in Europe between economic growth and energy consumption?

Key messages

Between 1990 and 2012, energy intensity (the ratio of gross inland energy consumption and GDP) in the EU28 decreased by 1.7% per year. In 2012, the energy intensity in the EU28 was 31% below the 1990 level.

During this period, the rate of decrease of energy intensity in the EU28 has been rather constant. The period 1990-2005 is characterised by a relatively high economic growth and a more modest growth of gross inland energy consumption. The period 2005-2012 is characterised by a much smaller economic growth and decreasing gross inland energy consumption. The absolute rate of decrease of energy intensity is higher earlier in the period.

4) ACCESS TO DATA

Country	1990	2000	2005	2010	2012	Annual average change 1990-2012	Annual average change 2005-2012	Relative energy intensity in 2012	Per capita energy intensity
EEA	100	83	80	75	71	-1.6	-1.7	100	3.1
EU28	100	82	79	73	69	-1.7	-1.9	100	3.3
Austria	100	89	87	81	86	-0.7	-1.7	92	4
Belgium	100	81	75	73	66	-1.9	-1.7	129	5.1
Bulgaria	100	79	62	49	49	-3.2	-3.3	159	2.5
Croatia	100	83	79	71	69	-1.7	-1.4	94	1.9
Cyprus	100	100	90	86	81	-1	-1.6	96	2.9
Czech Republic	100	78	70	61	58	-2.4	-2.7	155	4.1
Denmark	100	85	79	82	73	-1.4	-1.1	78	3.3
Estonia	100	35	28	30	29	-6.9	-6.6	196	4.6
Finland	100	92	86	89	79	-1.1	-1.2	107	6.3
France	100	93	92	86	82	-0.8	-1.7	111	4
Germany	100	79	77	70	65	-2	-2.4	96	3.9
Greece	100	85	84	101	108	0.4	2	99	2.5
Hungary	100	65	76	72	66	-1.9	-2.1	110	2.4
Ireland	100	68	56	56	51	-3.1	-1.6	70	3
Italy	100	97	89	84	89	-0.5	-1.5	82	2.7
Latvia	100	79	56	60	52	-2.9	-1.1	108	2.2
Lithuania	100	61	52	38	36	-4.5	-4.9	102	2.4
Luxembourg	100	63	79	63	59	-2.3	-2.4	96	2
Malta	100	62	83	81	70	-1.6	-4	70	2.5
Netherlands	100	83	84	83	79	-1.1	-0.9	115	4.9
Poland	100	69	53	46	42	-3.9	-3.3	117	2.5
Portugal	100	104	108	93	89	-0.5	-2.7	84	2.1
Romania	100	31	25	20	19	-7.2	-3.6	102	1.8
Slovakia	100	73	69	44	40	-4.1	-5.6	125	3.1
Slovenia	100	91	87	78	77	-1.2	-1.6	126	3.4
Spain	100	102	101	87	87	-0.6	-2.1	87	2.7
Sweden	100	84	77	79	66	-1.8	-2	124	5.3
United Kingdom	100	81	71	63	60	-2.3	-2.5	87	3.2
Turkey	100	101	90	96	97	-0.1	1.1	90	1.6
Iceland	100	116	105	159	162	2.2	6.4	493	18.3
Norway	100	66	79	93	81	-0.8	0.4	93	6.1



SOER 1995



SOER 1999

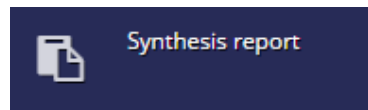


SOER 2005

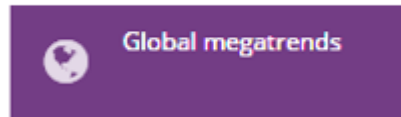


SOER 2010 ...

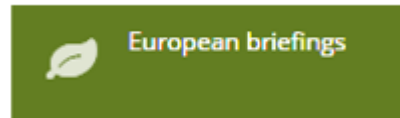
THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT STATE AND OUTLOOK 2015



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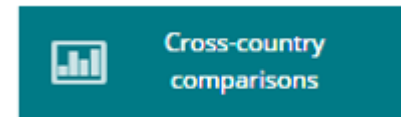
Global megatrends



European briefings



Countries
and regions



Cross-country
comparisons

A suite of products

www.eea.europa.eu/soer

EEA Official languages

The screenshot shows the EEA website interface. At the top, there is a browser address bar with the URL <http://www.eea.europa.eu/>. Below the browser, the website header includes the EEA logo, a search bar with the text "Search Europe's environment...", and a language selection dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing a list of languages: Bulgarian (bg), Czech (cs), Croatian (hr), Danish (da), Dutch (nl), Greek (el), English (en), Estonian (et), Finnish (fi), French (fr), German (de), Hungarian (hu), Icelandic (is), Italian (it), Latvian (lv), Lithuanian (lt), Maltese (mt), Norwegian (no), Polish (pl), Portuguese (pt), Romanian (ro), Slovak (sk), Slovenian (sl), Spanish (es), Swedish (sv), and Turkish (tr). The main content area features a large banner for "THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT STATE AND OUTLOOK 2015" with images of a bee, a wind turbine, and a person jumping. Below the banner, there are sections for "Featured article" (Living in a changing climate), "Ask your question", "Apps for your mobile", and "Follow us".

European Environment Agency

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Topics Data and maps Indicators Publications Media About EEA The EEA is an agency of the European Union

Featured article Archive

Living in a changing climate

Our climate is changing. Scientific evidence shows that the global average temperature is rising, and rainfall patterns are shifting. It also shows that glaciers, Arctic sea-ice and the Greenland ice ...

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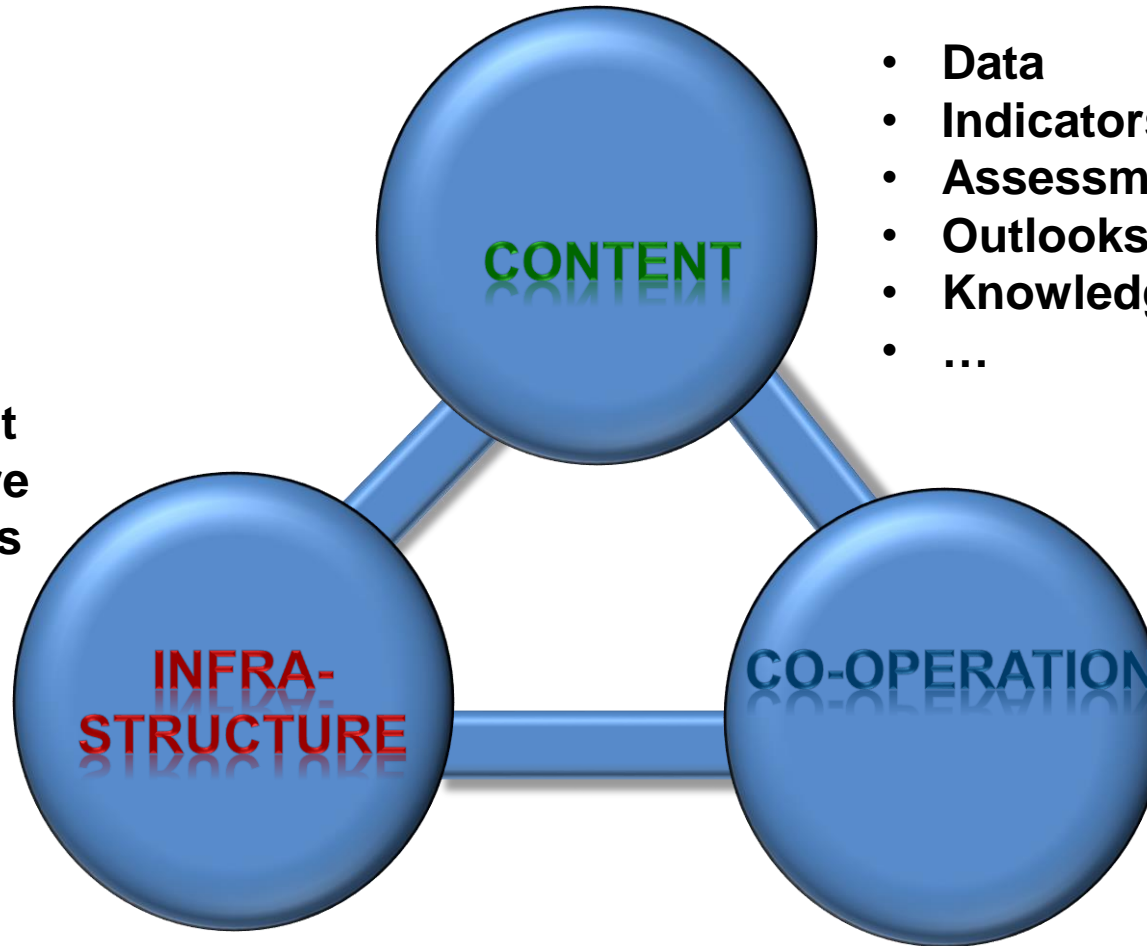
Filtered by All topics

Strengthening cooperation on Earth observation and the environment

SEIS components



- SDI -Spatial Development Infrastructure
- Web services
- Standards
- Copernicus
- ...



- Data
- Indicators
- Assessments
- Outlooks
- Knowledge
- ...

- Networks
- Governance
- Agreements
- Projects
- Citizens
- ...

Thank you!

Adriana Gheorghe
Adriana.gheorghe@eea.europa.eu