



Information on SoEOR2005 and sub-report 1

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 |
| 4.1. | Trends and outlook in household water use (possibly by functions: alimentation, washing and irrigation; sewerage and wastewater; health aspects) | |
| 4.2. | Environmental effects of household water use: resources and pollution | |
| 4.3. | Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects (including policy effectiveness of household water pricing) | |
| 4. | Household energy use | 5 |
| 5.1. | Energy use trends and outlooks (by functions: housing, transport and type of energy: electricity, gas, diesel, coal, fuel wood) | |
| 5.2. | Environmental effects of household energy use (climate change and air pollution) | |
| 5.3. | Policy effectiveness, policy options and distributive effects (including technology, economic instruments) | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 5. | Household consumption of other goods | 7 |
| 3.1. | 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) | |
| 3.2. | Environmental effects of consumption of other goods (including energy and water use; waste; effects from production, chemicals in the environment etc.) | |
| 3.3 | 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) | |
| 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.