

Annual report 2005



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Message from the Executive Director



Jacqueline McGlade

Our mission is to:

- *be the leading public body in Europe committed to providing environmental information to policy-makers and the public, to support sustainable development, and to help achieve significant and measurable improvements in Europe's environment;*
- *assist the European Community institutions and EEA member countries to identify, frame, prepare and implement sound and effective environmental policy measures and legislation; and to monitor, evaluate and assess actual and expected progress in the implementation and results of such measures;*
- *establish and coordinate the European environment information and observation network (Eionet), based on the infrastructure for collection, analysis, assessment and management of data shared with the European Commission services, EEA member countries and international organisations, agreements and conventions.*

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

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

Message from the Chairman of the Board



Lars-Erik Liljelund



2005 was a year that posed considerable challenges to the European Environment Agency. The major process upon which the Agency remained focused throughout the year was the completion, publication and launch of 'The European environment – State and outlook 2005' report. That the Agency was able to meet this challenge – at the same time that it responded to external requests for a redirection of its priorities by reorganising its internal structure – is testimony to the capacity of the Agency to respond to the needs of its clients.

Following the decision in the EEA Management Board early in 2005 to produce a different – and more weighty – kind of state and outlook report than had been planned in 2004, the timetable for completion of the report was rescheduled and several other products were either dropped or rescheduled to enable most staff to focus on the state and outlook report. In particular, it was decided to cancel the EEA Signals 2005 report initially scheduled for publication in June 2005. As this annual report for 2005 illustrates, 'The European environment – State and outlook 2005' report required a sustained effort from staff across the Agency (from technical experts to the production team, from communications experts to those engaged in international work) to deliver this authoritative report on time.

On behalf of the Management Board, I would again like to thank Agency staff, members

of the European environment information and observation network (Eionet), other EEA stakeholders and external consultants who contributed to the drafting, editing and review of the report. Our thanks are also extended to everyone who provided data and information, especially Eionet, the services of the European Commission, international organisations and secretariats of international conventions.

The annual report for 2005 also highlights the important role the EEA plays in policy effectiveness evaluation. The ex-post policy effectiveness pilot studies which were launched in October 2005 on the occasion of the visit of the Commissioner for Environment, Stavros Dimas, to the EEA testify to the Agency's efforts to strengthen further its competence and its reputation in this important area. The Management Board fully supports the Agency in building on the good work it has carried out in this area.

As it comes up to the mid-way point of the corporate strategy 2004–2008, the Agency is on track to achieve its main strategic goals, as recalled in the introductory chapter of this report, by 2008. In seeking to do so, it will continue to invest in, and in turn rely upon, the support of the network without which it could not fulfil its role as the leading European body committed to providing environmental information to policy-makers and the public.

Lars-Erik Liljelund

1 Introduction

The EEA continued to deliver a major contribution to the European Community's 6th environment action programme in 2005, at the same time as developing further its information systems and networks, providing support to the European Parliament and meetings of the Council of Ministers, and underpinning initiatives in the wider world. The role of the Agency in performing policy effectiveness evaluations was also consolidated.

These achievements were delivered against the backdrop of two notable milestones for the Agency in 2005, namely the publication of the five-yearly state of the environment report and a significant internal reorganisation.

The European environment – State and outlook 2005

The Agency, together with its European environment information and observation network (Eionet), began working in 1994 to provide the EU Member States, other EEA member countries and EU institutions with objective, reliable and comparable information on the state, pressures and sensitivities of the environment in the EU and its surroundings. Under its founding Regulation (EEC/1210/90), the EEA is required to 'publish a report on the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment every five years,

supplemented by indicator reports focusing on specific issues'.

The European environment – State and outlook 2005 was the third such report produced since the EEA was established. It supports strategic environmental programming in the EU and beyond and constitutes a timely input to strategic policy review processes, the most important of which is the mid-term review of the 6th environment action programme scheduled for completion in 2006.

Refocusing on priority data collection and management activities

The Agency undertook two reorganisations in 2005 as explained in Chapter 10 of this annual report. The second – and more significant of these – was made in October in order to refocus on priority data collection and management activities. Following discussions on a technical arrangement with the services of the European Commission (the Directorate-General for Environment, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat) on environmental data centres, the EEA decided upon a reorganisation of its internal resources.

As part of the technical arrangement agreed with the services of the European Commission and endorsed

by the Management Board of the EEA, the Agency will continue to assess the full range of environmental issues as specified in its founding Regulation, including policy analysis and economic analysis. Moreover, it will serve as 'data centre' in the following five areas: air pollution, climate change, fresh and marine water, biodiversity and land use. The Agency reorganisation produced a restructuring of the operational programmes to provide greater focus on these five areas.

Meeting the goals of the corporate strategy 2004–2008

Against the backdrop of *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* and internal reorganisation of the Agency, the EEA was able to make further progress towards delivering on its strategic goals for 2008. Coming up to the mid point of the corporate strategy 2004–2008, it is important to recall the main strategic goals to be achieved by 2008 as set out in the box opposite.

This annual report for 2005 shows how, by working together with its clients and through partnerships, the Agency has continued to make solid progress against these 10 strategic goals.

A photograph of a vast field of golden wheat under a clear, bright blue sky. The wheat is in the foreground and middle ground, with some stalks in sharp focus. The sky is a uniform, light blue color, suggesting a clear day. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

10 strategic goals to be achieved by 2008

- Full development of the Eionet
- Development of an integrated spatial information system
- Increased emphasis on communication
- Established role for the EEA in EU policy cycles
- Sectoral policy integration
- Economic analysis of policy interventions
- Assessments of health and quality of life
- Development of future environmental scenarios
- Assessments of Europe's impact on the global environment
- Support for environment in sustainable development

2 Information systems and networks



NFP/Eionet coordination

Eionet is a partnership network of the EEA and its member countries consisting of a network of experts in national organisations dealing with environmental information. The partnership with Eionet and national focal points is crucial to the EEA in facilitating the collection, development and distribution of data and information relevant to Europe's environment. 2005 was therefore another year of active cooperation with Eionet partners.

The NFP/Eionet group was very active in cooperating with the Agency on the production of its key outputs in 2005. In particular, the national focal points contributed to the development of the country level analysis in Part C of *The European environment – State and outlook 2005*. They also played an important role in the consultation process on the technical reports which underpinned the state and outlook report. In addition, a valuable contribution was made to the consultation on the Agency's core set of indicators.

One major development that took place in the first half of 2005 was the restructuring of the network, when the composition and areas of the national reference centres (NRCs) were revised and new NRCs were set up.

One of the top priorities for the network in 2005 was the development of 'The ABC for working together', which will contribute to basic guidelines on how the EEA works with its networks. The NFPs, together with the members of the Management Board, actively contributed to discussions on the EEA annual work programme for 2006 and priorities for subsequent years.

Under the CARDS programme (Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation), the Agency cooperated closely with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia and Montenegro by fully integrating them into the Eionet network. Since 2004 all West Balkan countries have participated in the priority data flows exercise. For the first time in 2005, all of these countries were rated as having very good performance in the Agency priority data flows report.

Eionet priority data flows and Reportnet tools

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

monitored and summarised in annual progress reports. In 2005, the eighth progress report was prepared, covering deliveries for 12 priority data flows from 34 countries in Europe. The objective of the progress reports is to encourage countries towards better performance through *compétition amicale* concentrating on praise for achievements rather than blame for failures.

In terms of data quality, the best results have again been achieved with the collection of air quality data and air emissions data, followed by data collected through the different components of Eionet – water data flow (rivers, groundwater, lakes, marine waters). The concept of the priority data flows, their continuous monitoring and annual country benchmarking has over the past few years contributed substantially to the improvement of data quality in the Eionet reporting system.

Use of Reportnet tools to facilitate data flows has continued to increase during 2005. In particular, the central data repository (CDR) has been more systematically used by an increasing number of countries. Reportnet's data dictionary (DD) now holds complete descriptions and data element definitions for all priority data flows. Reportnet's generic data exchange



Gold medal from Brno University

module (GDEM) has been successfully extended to include the Eionet – water data collection on rivers and the reporting of monthly and summer ozone exceedances required by the 3rd daughter directive. Reportnet's indicator management service (IMS) is also clarifying the connection between indicators in the EEA core set and their source data sets and reporting obligations.

Eionet software development

A contract was awarded to European Dynamics to make some improvements to the Reportnet tools. The most requested feature has been the introduction of a means to receive a notification when a reporting event takes place. This was delivered in December 2005 and is called the Unified Notification System. Alongside this system, which will be expanded in 2006, the Webdashboard is a website which provides a quick overview of what is moving in real time in Reportnet at any one time.

Further work is being carried out on the handling of data flows and a module to merge country deliveries into European datasets.

Electronic Eionet (e-Eionet) work conference

The e-Eionet conference took place in early September in Brno, in the Czech Republic in parallel with the EnviroInfo2005 scientific conference (<http://enviroinfo2005.org>).

The Executive Director of the EEA gave a keynote speech during the scientific conference and, alongside the Chairman of the EEA Scientific Committee, was also presented a gold medal from Brno University for her scientific achievements.

The part of the conference dedicated to the Eionet started with a workshop, which was open to the scientific community and therefore also to the participants of the EnviroInfo conference, on Inspire and the emerging European spatial data infrastructure. The event then continued as an Eionet workshop with a practical session on

how the EEA and the Commission services and others are implementing the spatial data infrastructure. A further session of the workshop gave an update on the current developments (both technical and organisational) with regard to the Reportnet tool. The final thematic session addressed the issue of data quality, from an EEA data flow perspective as well as from a national viewpoint and the perspective of the European topic centre (ETC).

The work conference concluded with recommendations on how to further intensify cooperation with the member countries on data reporting and addressing spatial data infrastructure. It encouraged the continuation of joint activities to build the shared environmental information system.

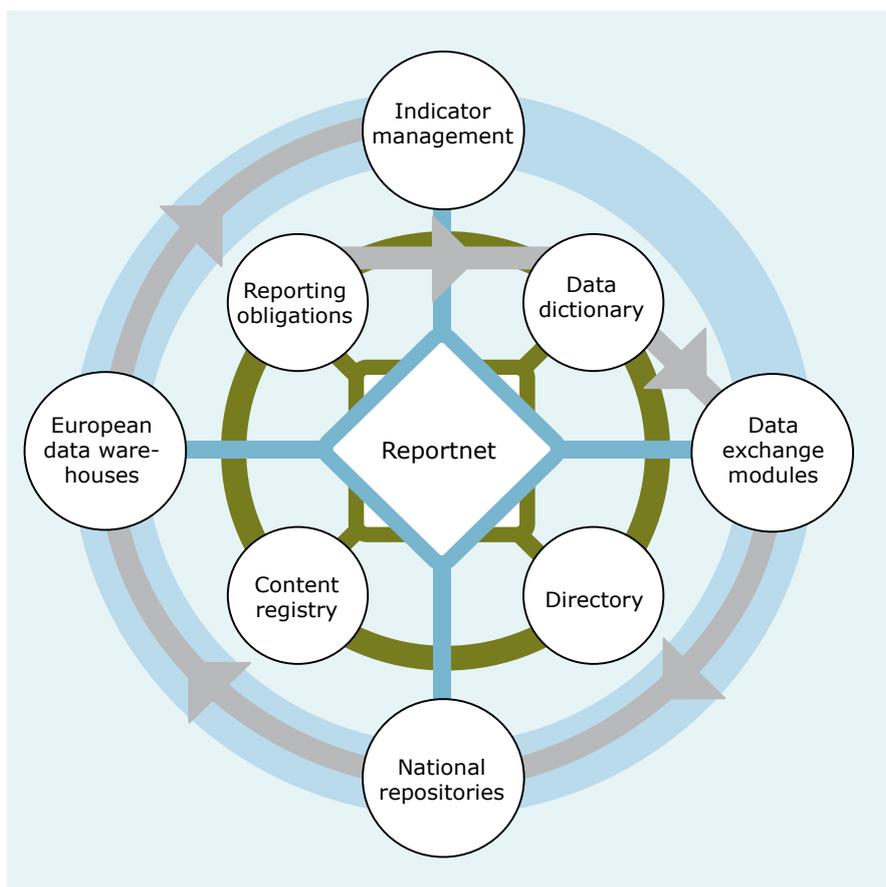
All material related to the event is available at <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/events/eEIONET2005>.

Core set of indicators

In March 2004, the EEA Management Board endorsed the Agency proposals for a core set of indicators (CSI) and their implementation in 2004–2008 in cooperation with Eionet and other partners, for example Eurostat. The indicators were selected on the basis of criteria endorsed by the Bureau of the EEA. The criteria are widely used elsewhere in the EU and in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). For the purposes of the EEA set, the most important criteria include policy relevance, policy targets, readily available and routinely collected data, good geographical coverage

and sufficient temporal coverage. Responses from countries on policy relevance and data availability, which were provided in the second round of country consultation undertaken in the second half of 2003, were a major factor in selecting the 37 listed indicators.

The EEA core set has three main purposes: to provide a manageable and stable basis for indicator reporting by the Agency on the web and in its reports; to prioritise improvements in the quality and geographical coverage of data flows; and to streamline EEA/Eionet contributions to other European and global indicator initiatives, for example structural indicators and sustainable development indicators.



During 2005, the EEA completed the implementation of the core set of indicators as an operational part of the EEA information system.

- Assessments were published on EEA web site (<http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/CSI>) for all 37 indicators. Each assessment will be updated regularly following the update of its source data.
- All diagrams supporting the assessments were quality checked and archived by the EEA data service (<http://dataservice.eea>.

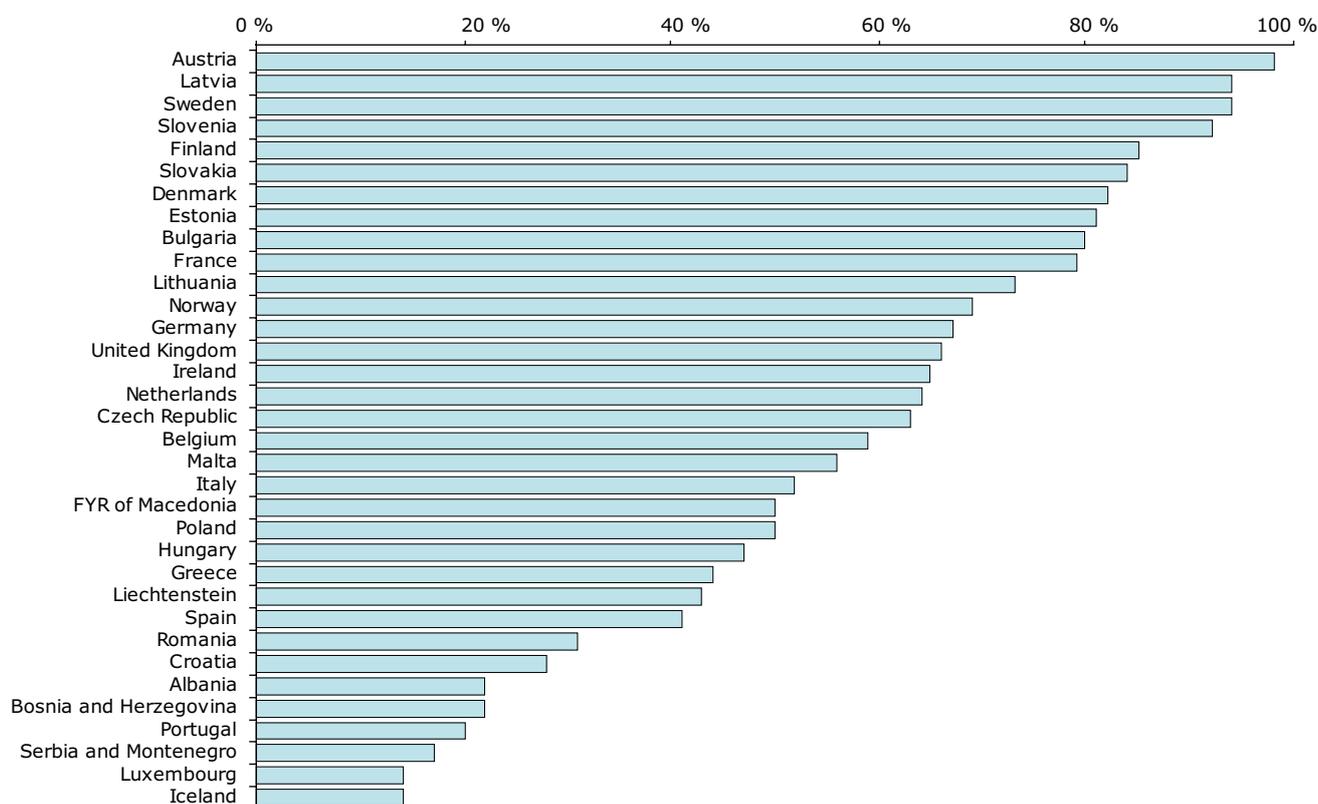
europa.eu/atlas/available2.asp?type=findkeyword&theme=CSI). The focus will now be on improving the traceability of the data in the indicator assessments back to source data sets.

- Summary extracts from the core set of indicators were used in the *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report.
- EEA proposed the expansion of the core set to include an indicator on Domestic Material Consumption. While Eionet partners and

the Scientific Committee were consulted before the discussion by EEA Management Board, it was decided not to adopt the indicator at this stage (see news item: <http://ims.eionet.europa.eu/Highlights/IMSHighlight1139239774036>).

- A workshop (<http://www.eionet.europa.eu/Training/ims2005>) was held to provide practical training for EEA and European topic centre staff on using the indicator management service (IMS) to support the production of indicators in the EEA core set.

Eionet priority data flows provide the data needed for regular EEA products in 12 thematic areas. Overall performance in data delivery from the countries in 2004–2005 (monitoring cycle covers period from May 2004 to April 2005)

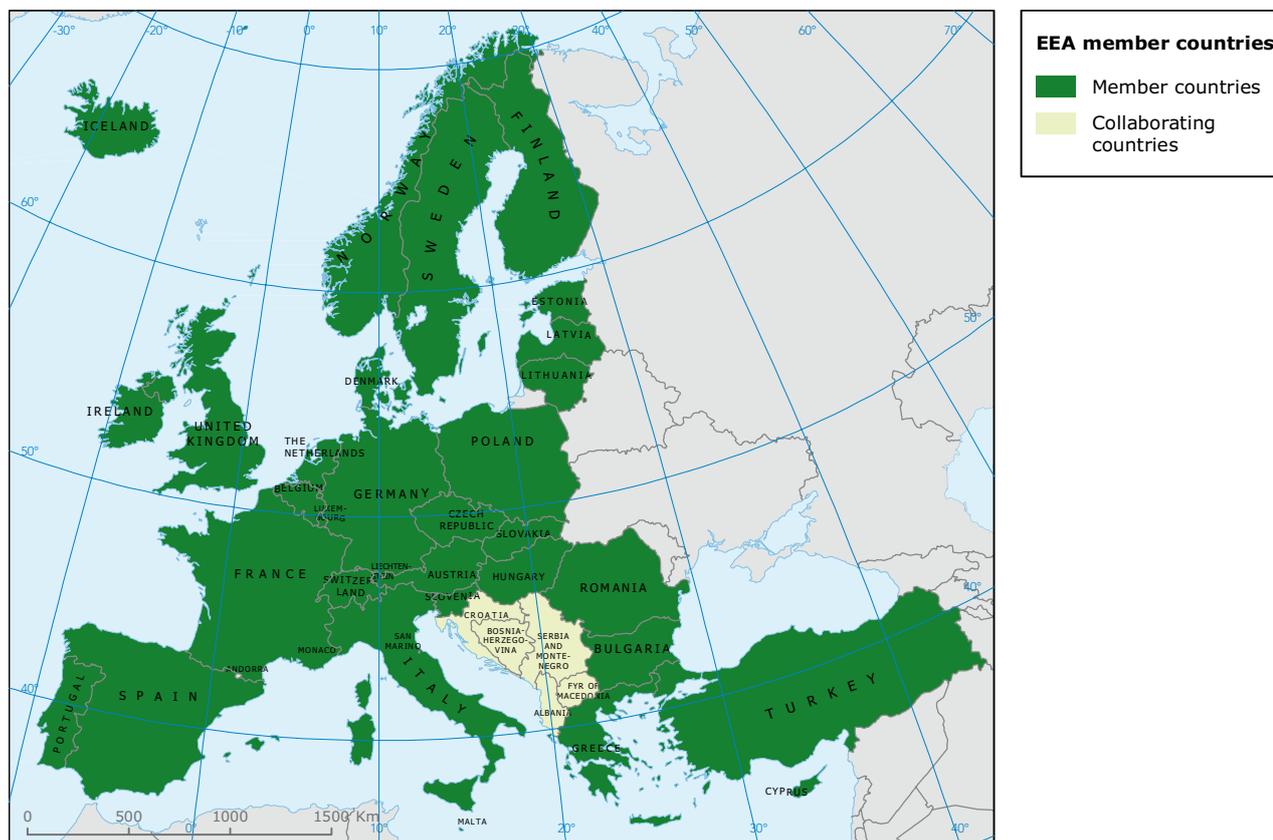


Note: See latest version on <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows>.

Building the infrastructure of the EEA spatial information system and Inspire

Development of an integrated spatial information system is an important strategic goal of the EEA which was taken forward by the Agency in 2005 as follows:

- An implementation plan was prepared setting out the roadmap 2005–2008 for the development of the EEA spatial data infrastructure (EEA SDI). See http://eionet.europa.eu/gis/docs/EEA_SDI_Implementation_plan_2005_v1.3_may.doc.
- Web map viewers for browsing and downloading of EEA geospatial databases were developed and upgraded i.e. land cover, water, flood risk mapping methods, nature information, emissions, inventory of monitoring sites for chemicals.
- Several new environmental geospatial reference data sets were produced and integrated the EEA SDI such as the urban morphological zones and the green urban areas extracted from satellite data.
- The number of datasets that were downloaded by external users from the EEA dataservice doubled from 44 750 in 2004 to 88 481 datasets in 2005. The EEA SDI was used internally to support the production of 594 maps and graphs which were published in EEA reports. These illustrations were downloaded 58 808 times.
- Eionet was registered as a spatial data interest community (SDIC) for Inspire to support the preparation of the proposed directive for an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe. EEA staff participated in the Inspire expert group meetings as well as the drafting teams related to the metadata and the environmental thematic data specifications.



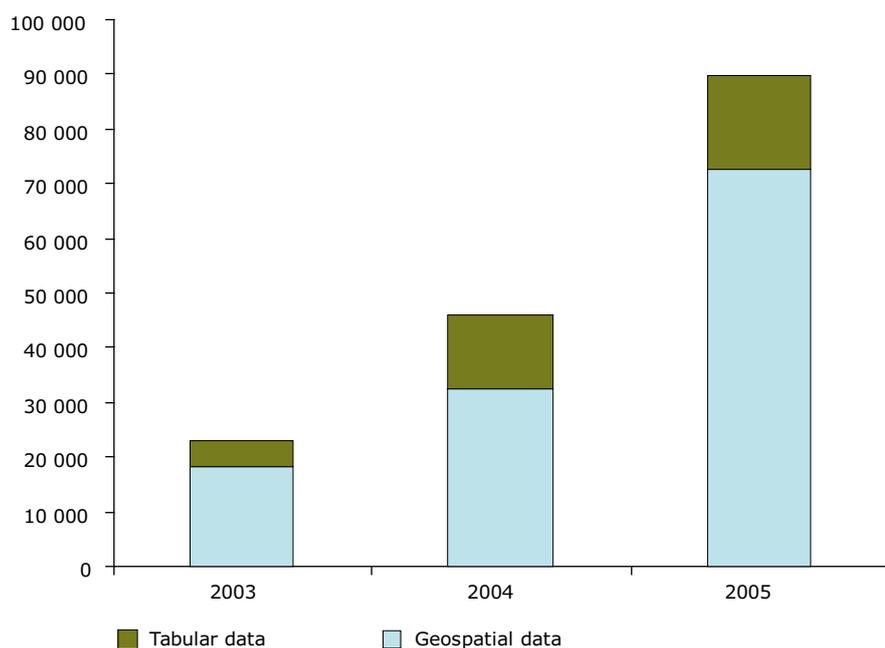
- An Eionet workshop was organised in Athens in January 2005 to present and evaluate the Corine land cover 2000 results and to initiate the discussion for updating the Corine land cover data more frequently.

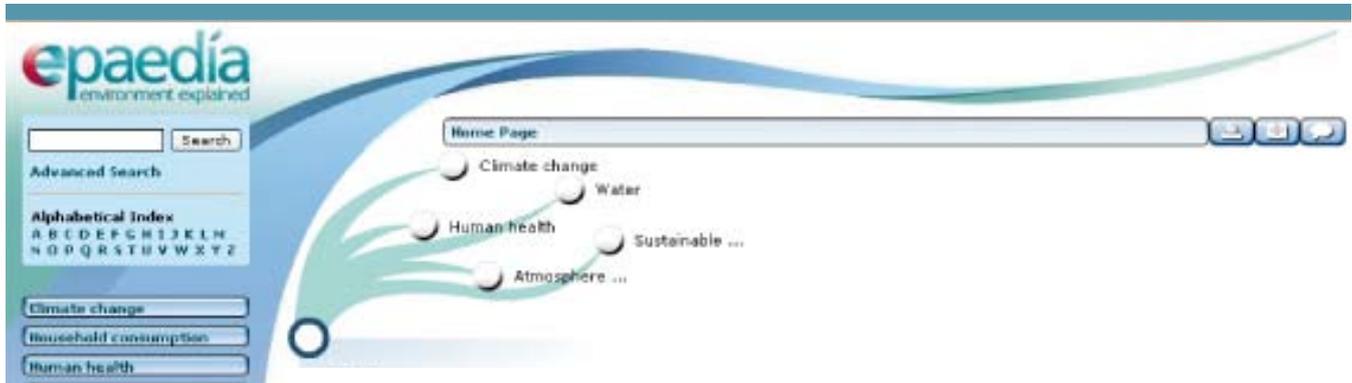
Global Monitoring for Environment and Security

In 2005 the EEA participated in the Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) Programme Office and the GMES Advisory Council and took a leading role in defining the user requirements for the GMES 'fast track' service on land monitoring to be implemented by 2008. The EEA supported the European Commission (Directorate-General for Enterprise) during the preparation of the GMES Workshop on Land Monitoring which took place in October 2005.

The EEA also supported the European Space Agency on the preparation of the second stage for scaling up consolidated GMES services related to the monitoring of land cover and land use change, forests, floods and fires and the polar environment. Moreover, the Agency contributed to the GEO (Global Earth Observation) high level working group to prepare a coordinated European contribution to the global earth observation system of systems (GEOSS).

Total number of data set downloads from EEA dataservice





In your neighbourhood

The neighbourhood project aims to provide local information on-line about environmental issues in local neighbourhoods. Preparatory work in 2005 included scoping of a two-way web service for data and information input from non-governmental organisations and business to support assessments in the area of biodiversity.

In 2005 the Agency also undertook a feasibility study that consisted of liaison with countries, a data availability review, focus groups with users as well as the development of prototypes. Information was collected on existing and planned national real-time, near real-time and other on-line local and neighbourhood services, including air quality information systems. A prototype for flood risk information was created.

Epaedia launched

The online environmental encyclopaedia 'Epaedia' was launched at the same time as *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report. Epaedia aims to explain complex environmental issues in an easily understandable way to the general public. It started off with the five main environmental priorities and will gradually be extended over the coming years.



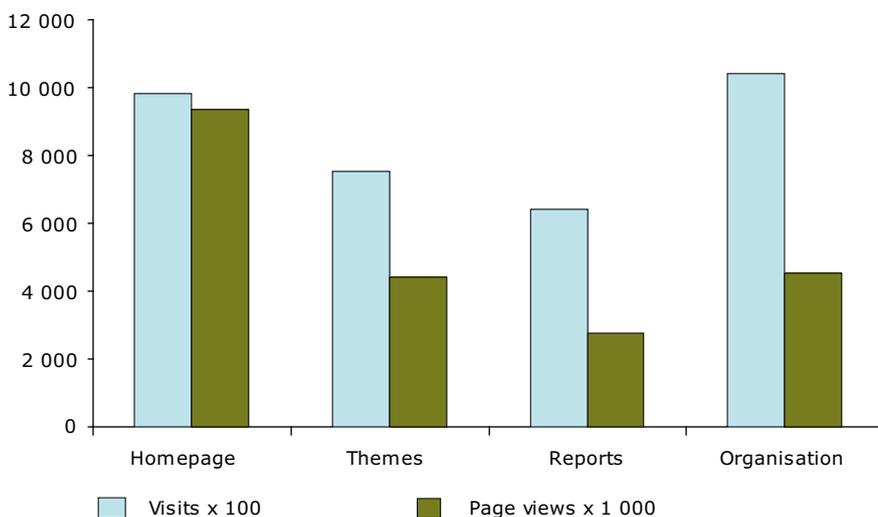
SOER 2005 success required the website to find a mirror

Following the launch of *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report in November, the EEA website received such a massive amount of traffic that it had to find a 'mirror'. Even though the EEA has a considerable bandwidth (15 Mbit/sec) at its disposal, for the first time in its history it had to find external space. Therefore, for a period of about two weeks, half of the requests were diverted to the Global

Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) website. GBIF had kindly offered space to the EEA on their website to deal with the demand for the report.

Overall, statistics show a steady increase in the popularity of the EEA website. The chart below shows an impressive number of 21 million page views on the main EEA site in 2005. Moreover, around 15 000 subscribers now automatically receive information about published reports.

Visits and page views on the EEA website 2005



Progress on knowledge reference service

A call for tender was prepared jointly with the European Topic Centre on Resources and Waste Management to produce a scoping study on a knowledge reference service in the field of the sustainable use of natural resources and the related Thematic Strategy. Discussions were also initiated with the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC-IES) on the implementation of the European Environmental Health Information System (EHIS) with the JRC as the lead partner.

The *Environmental Technology Portal* to support the Environmental Technology Action Plan (ETAP) was launched by former EU Commissioner for Environment, Yiannis Paleokrassas, on behalf of Commissioner Stavros Dimas in Athens on 4 February 2005. The portal was subsequently integrated with a section on subsidies and regulations as barriers to technology uptake to support a study requested by the European Parliament on evaluating the impact of such measures. The study is due to be completed in June 2006.

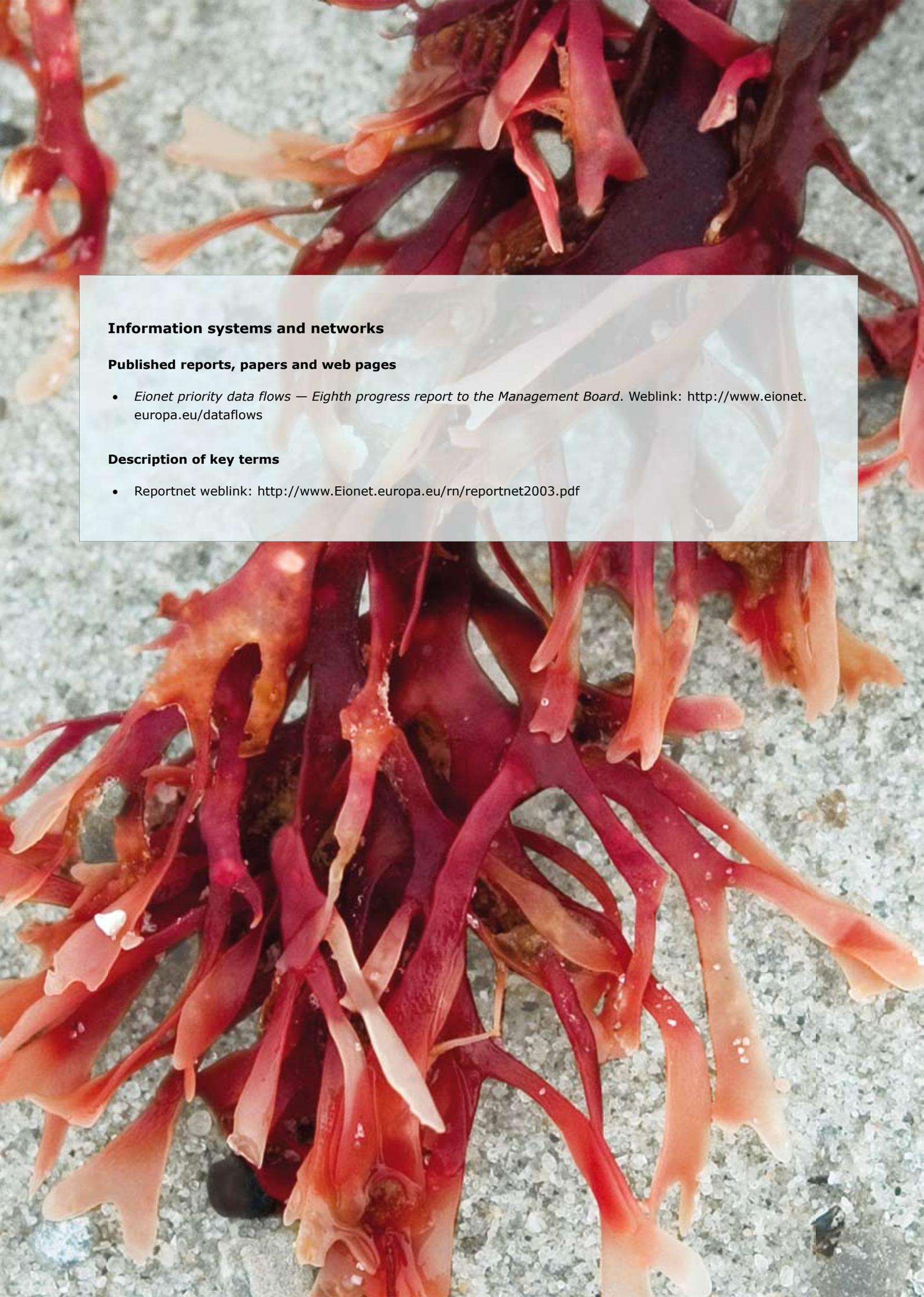
Further progress on the development of the Knowledge Reference Service (KRS) included:

- the new urban indicator portal for the *European Common Indicator web platform* under the Urban Environment Thematic Strategy;
- the development of a new web portal on *Cross-compliance Indicators in the context of the Farm Advisory System* and the creation of the *High nature value farmland* interest group forum;
- the support to the European Commission DG Enterprise, Tourism Sustainability Group with *DestiNet* portal on sustainable tourism;
- the *Regional Euro-Mediterranean Programme for the Environment (SMAP) Clearing House* portal was completed in July to allow information uploading by several Mediterranean countries under the supervision of APAT, Italy;
- the establishment in EnviroWindows of a preliminary section structure for the *Marrakech Process task forces on Sustainable Consumption and Production*; and,
- the portals on *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* and the *Belgrade 2007* reports to facilitate communication and document management.

The Network of Heads of European Environmental Protection Agencies

The Network of Heads of European Environmental Protection Agencies is an informal network that brings together heads of environmental agencies and similar bodies from EEA member countries and other countries participating in the EEA work programme, along with the Executive Director of the EEA and representatives of the European Commission. The purpose of the network is to exchange views and experience on information issues of common interest to organisations involved in the practical day-to-day implementation of environmental policy. The EEA's role is to act as the secretariat for the network which was created in 2003 to fill a gap recognised by EEA member countries. The meetings in 2005 took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia in March and in Prague, Czech Republic in September.

In November 2005 the Network published a paper on *The Contribution of Good Environmental Regulation to Competitiveness*, known as the Prague Statement, reviewing the evidence on the links between environmental regulation and competitiveness (weblink: http://org.eea.europa.eu/documents/prague_statement/prague_statement-en.pdf).

A close-up photograph of vibrant red seaweed, likely a species of red alga, lying on a light-colored, pebbly beach. The seaweed has a complex, branching structure with many thin, leaf-like blades. The background is a soft-focus view of the same seaweed and beach.

Information systems and networks

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Eionet priority data flows — Eighth progress report to the Management Board.* Weblink: <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows>

Description of key terms

- Reportnet weblink: <http://www.Eionet.europa.eu/rn/reportnet2003.pdf>

3 Tackling climate change



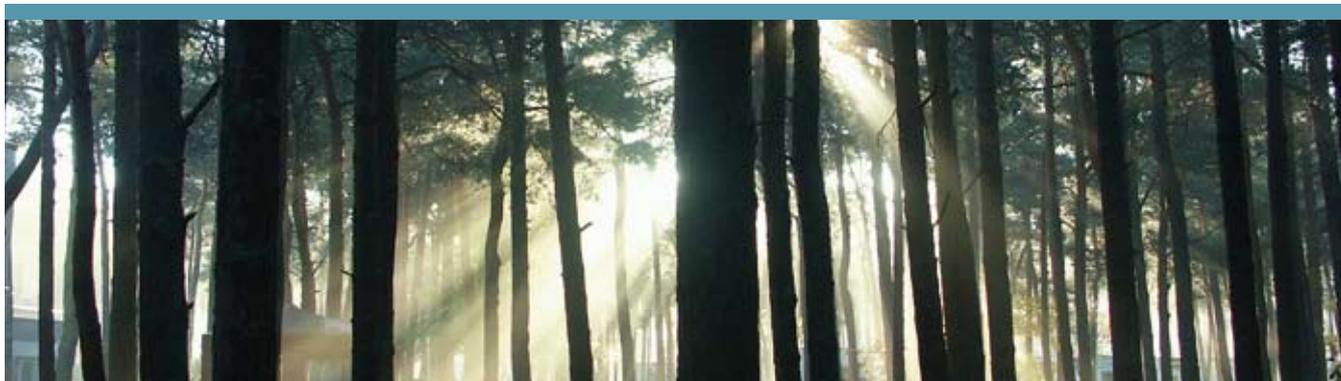
Climate change

The EU continues to take the lead in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by aiming to meet the targets set in the Kyoto Protocol. For the EU, this requires an 8 % reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2012 compared with 1990 levels. Annually, the EU evaluates progress to its target and the EEA provides an assessment on trends in emissions of greenhouse gases and projections to 2010 for EU Member States as well as other EEA member countries. Climate change and its impacts are becoming more visible in Europe and are projected to become more pronounced in the future. In 2005 the EEA published an indicator-based assessment of current and projected trends in emissions.

Progress of the EU to meet the Kyoto Protocol targets

The 2005 version of the annual EEA report, *Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe*, shows that the EU and its Member States could meet their Kyoto Protocol targets, but only if all planned domestic policies and measures and all projects based on the 'Kyoto mechanisms' are fully implemented. The latest projections, based on countries' own information, show that the EU-15 can cut their total emissions to 6.8 % below 1990 levels by 2010. They are based on the existing domestic policies and measures already being implemented and, more importantly, additional policies and measures currently planned. Plans by nine EU-15 Member States to use credits from emissions-saving projects in third countries through the Kyoto Protocol's 'flexible mechanisms' would contribute a further reduction of around 2.5 %, taking the total to 9.3 %. The EU emissions trading scheme, which started in 2005, is a key measure, but its impact on projections to 2010 has not yet been taken into account.

The report was published and launched through coordinated EEA and European Commission press releases in December 2005.



Greenhouse gas inventories and emission trading

The annual EU Greenhouse Gas (GHG) inventory was also published in 2005 together with a press release, showing the trends and underlying data for 1990 to 2003. The report focused on EU-15, and also included data on the 10 new EU Member States. The EU inventory was subject to an in-depth analysis performed by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The main conclusion was that the quality of the report had improved substantially, while some recommendations were provided for further improvements.

An EEA workshop was held on the improvement of greenhouse gas emission estimates from waste management, in particular landfills. It shared best practices in emission calculation methods and made recommendations on how to improve methods and reporting in future. Participants took part from many EEA member countries, the European Commission (Directorate-General for Environment and Eurostat), the European Topic Centres on Air and Climate Change (ETC/ACC) and on Resource and Waste Management (ETC/RWM).

Another workshop was held on software tools for reporting GHG inventories to UNFCCC, the European Commission and the EEA. All reporting countries need to use these new tools for reporting in 2006. The workshop consisted of demonstrations and practical training in the use of the software. Participants attended from many EU Member States, the European Commission (DG Environment), ETC/ACC and the UNFCCC secretariat.

January 2005 saw the start of the implementation of the EU emission trading directive. The EEA worked with the European Commission on collecting and analysing information, provided by Member States and on the first experiences gained from the implementation of the directive. A report will be published in early 2006. The questionnaire requesting information from countries will be improved in 2006.



Climate change and low-carbon energy

The EU has set a target of limiting global temperature increase to 2 °C above pre-industrial levels. To achieve this target, global greenhouse gas emissions would have to be reduced by up to 50 % in the long term. The EU has proposed ambitious emission reduction pathways for developed countries in the order of 15–30 % by 2020 and 60–80 % by 2050 compared with 1990 levels, to be discussed with other countries. The initial discussions started at the UN climate change conference in Montreal in December 2005. In 2005 the EEA published a report that analysed possible emission reduction pathways and a transition to a European low-carbon energy system by 2030. A summary was included in *The European environment — State and outlook 2005* report.

Vulnerability and adaptation to a changing climate

Climate change and its impacts are becoming more visible in Europe and are projected to become more pronounced in the future. In 2005, the EEA published a briefing and a report on vulnerability and adaptation to changing climate. Mountain regions, coastal zones, wetlands, and the Mediterranean are particularly vulnerable. Adaptive measures are already being put in place for example in flood defence. However, there is scope for measures in other areas within health, water resources and management of ecosystems. The report was presented at a meeting of the EPA Network, at a UK Presidency conference on adaptation and at the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol, held in Montreal in December 2005.

Tackling climate change

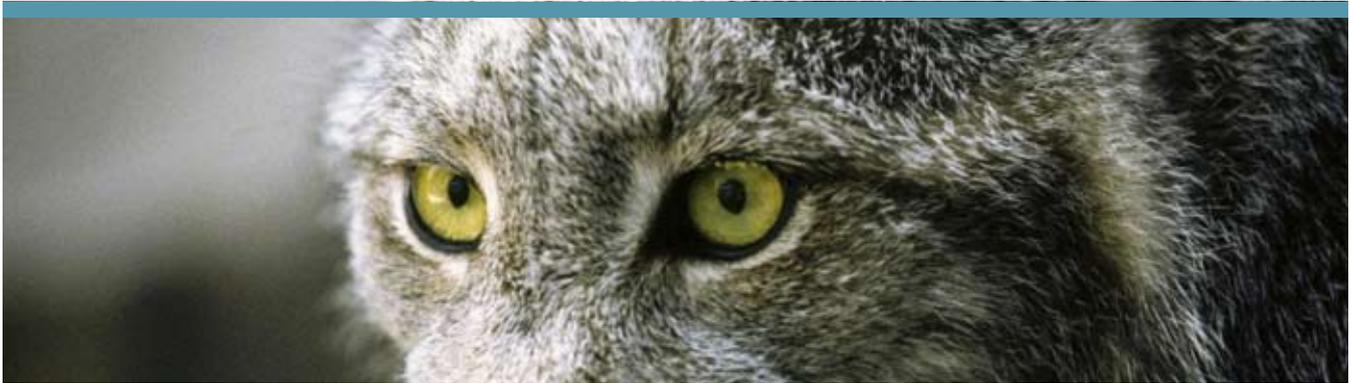
Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Climate change and a European low-carbon energy system*. EEA Report No 1/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2005_1/en
- *Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe 2005*. EEA Report No 8/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2005_8/en
- *Annual European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2003 and inventory report 2005*. Technical report No 4/2005. Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2005_4/en
- *Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in Europe*. Briefing No 3/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/briefing_2005_3/en
- *Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in Europe*. Technical report No 7/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2005_1207_144937/en

Launches and meetings

- Workshop on greenhouse gas emissions from waste management, 2–3 May 2005, Copenhagen
- Workshop on training on the use of greenhouse gas emission reporting software tools, 12–13 September 2005, Copenhagen
- Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol (COP11/MOP1), 6–17 November 2005, Montreal
- UK Presidency conference on adaptation, 9 November 2005, London
- Professor Jacqueline McGlade, *A low carbon society — reality or fiction?*, Seminar on the Role of Trade and Industry in Climate Change, 13 October 2005, Stockholm

4 Tackling biodiversity loss and understanding spatial change



Nature and biodiversity

Through the European Topic Centre on Biodiversity (ETC/BD), the EEA has provided ongoing support to the Natura 2000 process, which in 2005 saw completion of the coverage of the bio-geographic regions. This was also the year when focus shifted to adopting the Natura 2000 lists for the 10 new EU Member States for which substantial progress was made in a relatively short period of time. Focus also moved to preparing, with the European Commission, the process for reporting by Member States on the ecological condition of Natura 2000 sites from 2007. In particular, agreement was reached to develop and pilot in 2006 a software platform for electronic reporting by countries; work also continued on formulating the reporting template that will form a central plank of the software platform.

A first analysis of the Natura 2000 database has been run to organise the assessment of the spatial distribution and pressures within and around the Natura 2000 sites. A project has been designed to frame such an assessment within the scientific understanding of potential long-term impacts of climate change. The EEA has also continued the work on fragmentation and connectivity of large habitats in cooperation with the

Council of Europe to prepare for the report to the Belgrade pan-European environment ministers meeting in 2007.

Progress continued on population of the EU Clearing House Mechanism (EU-CHM), in support of the EU's obligations under the UN Convention on biodiversity. Notable achievements include a successful launch of the 2nd version of EU-CHM in December 2005 and increased participation by EEA member countries in using the software for their national biodiversity clearing house mechanisms and also in developing technical collaboration with the EEA in content and management issues. For the latest information see <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/>.

Streamlining European 2010 biodiversity indicators (SEBI2010)

A first set of global-level biodiversity indicators to monitor progress towards reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 was adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity in February 2004. This decision provided the basis for the endorsement by the Council of Ministers (Environment) in June 2004 of a set of EU headline biodiversity indicators to monitor progress towards the EU target of halting biodiversity loss by 2010. To help streamline these and

other pan-European indicator initiatives and help deliver consistent indicators as quickly as possible, the Agency in collaboration with the European Centre for Nature Conservation and UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Centre established 'Streamlining European 2010 biodiversity indicators'.

Over 120 experts from 52 pan-European, governmental and non-governmental organisations participate in this activity, which is funded by the European Community, the 'Pan-European biological and landscape diversity strategy' (PEBLDS) and national contributions. Six expert groups were established at the kick-off meeting in January to review, evaluate and prepare draft fact-sheets for candidate indicators on species, ecosystems, genetic diversity, nitrogen deposition, invasive alien species and the sustainable use of biological resources. Options for the remaining headline indicators were initially considered in 2005 by the SEBI2010 coordination team.

It is expected that the first set of indicators within the EU headlines will be ready by the end of 2006, after which time work will continue within SEBI2010 on the presentation and communication of these indicators to monitor progress towards the 2010 target. The EEA will also be using the indicators in assessments to help policy-makers achieve the 2010 target.

Development of an integrated spatial information system

Following the successful launch of the Corine land cover 2000 database in 2004, work continued intensively in 2005 to produce analyses in support of environmental, agriculture, transport and spatial development-related policies at national and European level. This analysis was used extensively to support the integrated assessment in Part A of *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report.

The changes observed in the use of land, mainly the spread of urban areas, conversions from pasture to arable and vice-versa within agro-environment systems and forested areas, were assessed in consultation with countries and other experts. Combining these observations with other geo-referenced information, such as protected areas, population densities, pressures from transport infrastructure, for instance for European coasts, was a major development in helping to understand

the changing face of Europe's landscapes.

To enable the necessary organisation of geospatial data, the EEA has designed, in the context of the Agency's spatial data infrastructure, a business model for integrating and assimilating input data and various models, and for documenting derived products. Corine land cover provides the pivotal element in this model. The main method applied in this GIS-based working environment is environmental accounting, which allows a consistent interpretation of impacts of land cover/use changes across the European territory in a multi-scale approach, and the linkage with identifying the processes underpinning these changes (e.g. farmland abandonment, build-up of residential areas, afforestation). As part of this activity, an internet-based tool was developed which allows users to run their own analysis of land cover changes over the area of their choice.

Description of key terms

- CBD weblink: <http://www.biodiv.org>
- SEBI2010 weblink: <http://biodiversity-chm.eea.europa.eu/information/indicator/F1090245995>
- PEBLDS weblink: <http://www.strategyguide.org/>

5 Protecting human health and quality of life



Air pollution

The quality of ambient air has improved substantially in the last few decades as a result of the considerable reduction in emissions of air pollutants. However, current levels of fine particles and ground-level ozone remain a significant risk to human health. In summer 2005, the levels of ground-level ozone were still high in southern Europe with widespread exceedances of the information threshold value. The long-term objective of the Ozone Directive (2002/3/EC) to protect human health was extensively exceeded in the EU and other European countries. In many parts of Europe the target value to protect human health was also exceeded. The summary of the report Air pollution by ozone in Europe in summer 2005 was provided to the European Commission in December 2005.

The annual EEA indicator fact-sheets on air quality and air pollutant emissions were published. Also, the EEA and the European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change (ETC/ACC) contributed to the development of Eurostat's air quality structural indicator.

The proposed 'Clean air for Europe' Thematic Strategy aims to further reduce emissions of air pollution and improve air quality. The EEA provided inputs to

the 'Clean air for Europe' steering group and several working groups.

It projected the air pollution caused by traffic at street level in selected European cities by 2030. At street level the annual limit value for NO₂ will be met in only a few cases with existing policies and measures. In a scenario which assumes all technically feasible measures are implemented by 2030, the NO₂ limit value will be met in most cases. However, the indicative limit value for fine particulates (PM₁₀) is not expected to be met even in this latter scenario. If the new proposed emission standards for vehicles (EURO 5 and EURO 6) are implemented substantial reductions are possible for fine particulates (both PM₁₀ and the smaller particulates PM_{2.5}).

The regular Eionet air quality workshop was organised in Vilnius, discussing air quality data reporting assessments and potential changes under the draft EU thematic strategy. Participants came from most EEA member countries, the European Commission, ETC/ACC and several research programmes. Another workshop was held at the EEA on training in the use of software tools for reporting of air quality data.

A first joint EEA/EUMETNET workshop was held with participants from National Meteorological Services, national and

regional/local environmental agencies, the EEA, ETC/ACC, the European Commission, EUMETNET, major research programmes (GEMS and PROMOTE) and the US Environmental Protection Agency. The workshop provided recommendations on how to improve up-to-date information on air pollution for the public and for data exchange on real time monitoring and forecasting (e.g. 5–10 days) at European level. For the EEA this is a key part of the 'in your neighbourhood approach'.

The annual EU air pollutant emission inventory submitted to the Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution Convention was published in 2005. Data is available for ozone precursors, acidifying pollutants, eutrophying pollutants, particulate matter, persistent organic pollutants and heavy metals. The report shows reduction trends for many of the pollutants and for most sectors from 1990 to 2003. Furthermore a report was prepared jointly with UNECE/EMEP on a trial review of the data reported by countries. The review provided comments back to countries and will thus help to further improve the quality of the data in future.

A partially updated version of the emission inventory guidebook prepared by the UNECE/EMEP Task Force on Emissions Inventories and Projections

(TFEIP) was published on the EEA web site. The guidebook provides a comprehensive guide to state-of-the-art atmospheric emissions inventory methodology. It supports reporting under the UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and the EU directive on national emission ceilings.

For *The European environment — State and outlook 2005* report scenario analyses were performed on the potential ancillary benefits of climate change policies (low-carbon energy scenario for 2030) for air quality in 2030. The scenarios show substantial ancillary benefits in terms of reduced air pollution and also reduction in the costs of abatement.

The regular Eionet workshop on air emission and projections took place in Rovaniemi, Finland, jointly with the annual EMEP TFEIP meeting. Participants came from most of the EEA and LRTAP member countries, UNECE and EMEP secretariats, EEA, ETC/ACC, and the European Commission (DG Environment). It was agreed to focus future work on further enhancing review of emission inventories with a first meeting to be held at EEA in early 2006 covering a trial in-depth review of inventories. Back-to-back meetings took place on emission inventory methodologies for heavy metals and POPs and on capacity building on preparing emission inventories for EECCA countries.

The EEA contributed to various meetings related to the EU national emission ceiling (NEC) directive discussing the streamlining of reporting of air pollutant emissions. These meetings aimed at further harmonisation with reporting of GHG emissions, as well as reporting under the EPER (European Pollutant Emission Register).

Noise

By way of support to the European Commission, the EEA elaborated a proposal for a Noise Data Reporting Mechanism, including guidelines, which was the subject of consultation with the Member States. Assistance was also provided in preparing the guidelines for the specific reporting related to spatial issues in 2005. A dialogue was established on the EEA's long-term involvement in supporting the Commission in the field of noise and what this would entail.

The EEA supported the Commission and the Member States by producing a guide on how to map noise (*Good Practice Guide 2*), which included issues related to methods, data availability and accuracy, all through the Working Group Assessments of Exposure to Noise. Furthermore, the Agency finalised a case study about state-of-the-art noise mapping in Europe with a focus on mapping tools, input data collection, data manipulation and lessons learnt from previous work.

Chemicals

Further development of the chemicals inventory of meta-information monitoring activities on chemicals in the environment was started with an additional review round finalised in April 2005. Data providers were asked to check if their data were entered into the database correctly and to report errors. The spatial integration towards a web based gateway to chemical monitoring data sources was initiated (dummy version of a web viewer available) and will continue in 2006.

To supplement the available monitoring information, an analysis of the feasibility of using certain models to evaluate the geographic distribution and environmental concentrations of chemicals from emission data reported to EPER was completed. The outcome of the study was reviewed at the Summer School of Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology, Brno, Czech Republic in July 2005 and further discussed at an expert meeting held at the EEA in August.

The applicability of substance and/or material flow methodology to chemicals was explored in a feasibility study conducted by the European Topic Centre on Resource and Waste Management.

Freshwater

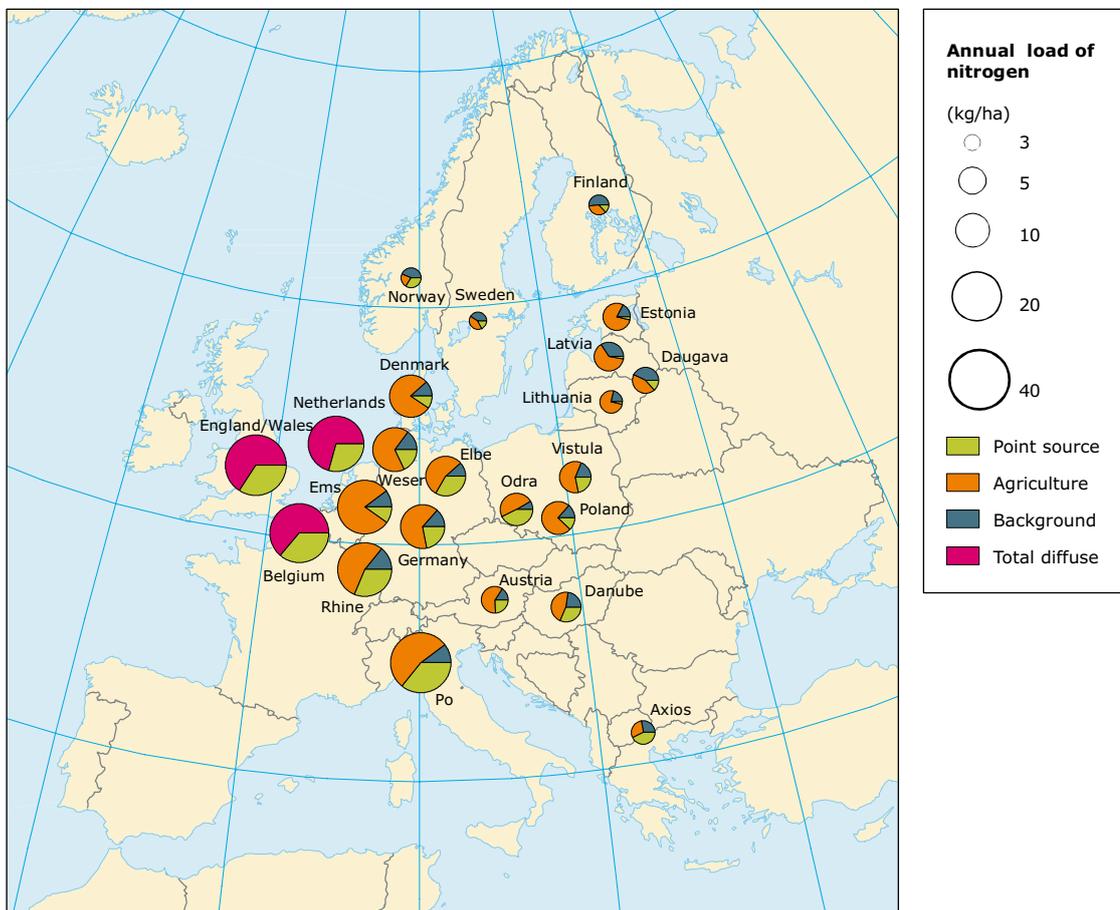
The first result of the broad evaluation of the linkages between agriculture and water quality using methodologies of large-scale spatial assessments was presented. It took the form of a study which aimed to split up contributions of nutrients – nitrogen and phosphorus – to the aquatic environment by societal sectors. Discharges of both nitrogen and phosphorus from point sources have decreased significantly during the past 30 years, whereas the loss from diffuse sources has generally remained at a constant level. For

nitrogen, run-off from agricultural land is the principal source of pollution typically contributing 50–80 % of the total nitrogen load. For phosphorus, point sources, such as households and industry, still tend to be the most significant. However, as point source discharges in many countries have been markedly reduced over the last twenty years, agriculture has sometimes become the main source of this pollutant.

As loss from diffuse sources has become relatively more significant due to reduced point source discharges,

improved measures are needed for further reductions in nitrogen and phosphorus inputs if eutrophication of water bodies is to be halted and reversed.

Source apportionment of nitrogen load in selected regions and catchments



Freshwater – developing indicators and the water framework directive

The ongoing data flow under Eionet-water, maintained over the last 10 years, was the main basis for continuously updating the 10 core set indicators on freshwater, marine waters and fisheries. On this basis the adjustment of Eionet-water to the requirements and processes under the water framework directive (WFD) made further progress by establishing an institutional framework linking the Eionet water community with the new established WFD

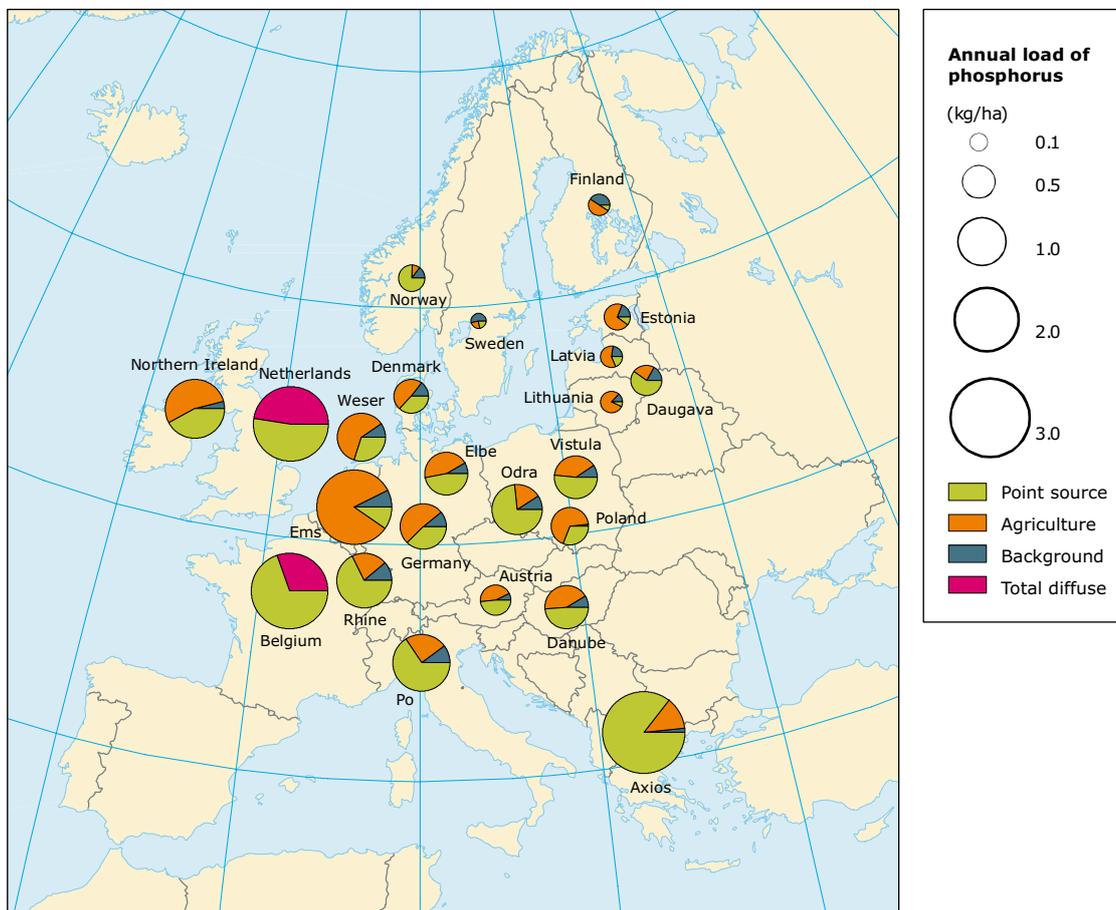
drafting group on state of environment reporting.

This new and adjusted state of environment (SoE) dataflow will be one of the first core data sets to be handled in an extended Water Information System for Europe (WISE), which now covers both compliance data under the WFD and SoE-data for the Agency's needs in a streamlined and consistent manner.

The first milestone for the further development of WISE in 2005 was the establishment of a work plan

until 2010 for the development of this shared information system between the Directorates-General for Environment, JRC, Eurostat and the EEA. In December 2005 a first prototype of the WISE-Viewer was presented to the WISE user community (<http://dataservice.eea.europa.eu/wise/>). As part of the development of the SoE-data flow, further work on emission data started in close cooperation with the reporting mechanisms under the urban wastewater treatment directive.

Source apportionment of phosphorus load in selected regions and catchments



Marine environment

In support of the ordinary meeting of the parties to the Barcelona convention, the EEA produced jointly with UNEP/MAP the report *Priority issues in the Mediterranean environment*. The report identifies the most polluted sites, country by country, addressing the six key issues of major concern across the Mediterranean. It draws the conclusion that the top priority for improving the marine environment in the region is to enforce national and international legislation (weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2006_4/en).

Work in the marine area in 2005 focused mainly on the development of the European Marine Strategy, and the Commission proposal for a marine strategy directive. With regard to the development of the monitoring and assessment aspects of the strategy, the EEA provided effective support based on its experience in the area of marine indicator assessments. A technical report on the concept of the large marine ecosystems and its use for pan-European assessments was produced (weblink: http://eea.eionet.europa.eu/Public/irc/eionet-circle/pewd/library?l=/marine_documents/).

Agriculture and water linkages

In late February an expert meeting was organised on agri-water modelling aspects. The report which came out of the meeting has been made available via the Eionet-Water website (http://eea.eionet.europa.eu/Public/irc/eionet-circle/water/library?l=/agri-water_meeting&vcm=detailed&sb=Title).

The first result of the broad evaluation of the linkages between agriculture and water quality using methodologies of large-scale spatial assessments were presented in terms of a study aimed at splitting up contributions of nutrients – nitrogen and phosphorus – to the aquatic environment by societal sectors.

The work described above, background studies by the European topic centre and contacts of EEA staff with the JRC were key elements in developing an outline framework to describe the linkage between agriculture and water quality. This will form the basis for a report on the issue in 2006.

Protecting human health and quality of life

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *Air pollution by ozone in Europe in summer 2004*. Overview of exceedances of EC ozone threshold values during April–September 2004. EEA technical report No 3/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2005_3/en
- *EMEP/CORINAIR Emission Inventory Guidebook — 2005*. EEA Technical report No 30.
Weblink: <http://reports.eea.europa.eu/EMEPCORINAIR4/en>
- *Annual European Community CLRTAP emission inventory 1990–2003*. EEA Technical report No 6/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2005_6/en
- *Inventory Review 2004 Emission Data reported to CLRTAP and under the NEC directive. EMEP/EEA Joint Review Report. MSC-W*. Technical Report MSC-W 1/2004.
Weblink: http://www.emep.int/mscw/mscw_publications.html#2004

Launches and meetings

- EEA/EUMETNET Workshop on 'Real time air pollution data exchange and forecast in Europe', 7–8 April 2005, Copenhagen
- Workshop on improving data in air quality reporting, 9–10 June 2005, EEA, Copenhagen
- EIONET workshop on air quality management and assessment, 17–18 October 2005, Vilnius, Lithuania.
Proceedings: http://air-climate.eionet.europa.eu/docs/meetings/docs/ETCACC_TechPaper_2005_9_10th_EIONET_AQ_WS.pdf
- 6th Joint TFEIP/EIONET Workshop 19–21 October 2005, Rovaniemi, Finland.
Weblink: http://air-climate.eionet.europa.eu/meetings/past_html
- Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP), twenty-ninth session, 5–7 September 2005, Geneva.
Weblink: <http://www.unece.org/env/emep/>
- Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution Executive Body, twenty-third session, 12–15 December 2005, Geneva. Weblink: <http://www.unece.org/env/eb/welcome.23.html>

6 Supporting sustainable use and management of natural resources and waste



Stepping up cooperation through Eionet

With regard to cooperation with the Republic of Turkey, a workshop on waste data was held on 10 November in Ankara for representatives from the Ministry of the Environment and local authorities. The objective of the workshop was to address the topic of waste data collection and experience generated from data collection systems in selected EEA member countries in order to support Turkey in their future development of a waste information system.

With regard to general information on resources and waste management, the website of European Topic Centre on Resources and Waste Management (linked to the EEA website) has been expanded to cover not only waste issues, but also a section on life-cycle thinking in resources and waste management, its application, limitations and policy context (<http://waste.eionet.europa.eu/lca>).

Input to EU policy cycles

Two EEA *ex-post* policy effectiveness pilot studies were finalised in close collaboration with member countries and stakeholders. These reports

Effectiveness of urban wastewater treatment policies in selected countries: an EEA pilot study and Effectiveness of packaging waste management systems in selected countries: an EEA pilot study as well as the brochure *Policy effectiveness evaluation: the effectiveness of urban wastewater treatment and packaging waste management systems* were launched in October 2005 on the occasion of the visit of the Commissioner for Environment, Stavros Dimas, to the EEA.

In 2005, two additional pilot studies were initiated on the implementation of the landfill and incineration directives in selected countries and on the use of economic instruments to promote material resource efficiency in selected countries. The objective of the landfill and incineration study is to conduct a policy effectiveness evaluation for selected countries to determine whether, and to what extent, the implementation of the landfill directive and the incineration directive has contributed to an increase in recycling, recovery and waste prevention, and how the directives have supported the EU waste management hierarchy in general. The economic instruments for resource efficiency study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of aggregates taxes for selected countries.

Development of future environmental scenarios

With regard to scenarios and outlooks for waste and material flows, a model has been developed to enable quantitative projections of possible future trends in waste quantities and material flows, and in a number of environmental pressures from waste management. The model was used to prepare projections included in the report *European environment outlook*.

The overall objective is to establish a European centre of expertise in the application of environmental input-output analyses for policy support, particularly in the field of sustainable consumption and production patterns. During the first project phase, an inventory of national NAMEAs and monetary Input-Output Tables was made for selected countries. The project is being conducted in close co-operation with Eurostat and national statistical authorities.

Assessments of Europe's impact on the global environment

A multi-annual study entitled 'NAMEA based Environmental Input-Output Analyses' (NAMEA: National Accounts Matrix including Environmental Accounts) was initiated in 2005 aiming to:

- provide analysis of burden shifting (i.e. quantification of environmental impact potentials in the rest of the world induced by consumption in Europe);
- rank product groups according to their life-cycle-wide environmental impact potentials and resource uses;
- analyse changes in consumption patterns and of their effects on environmental impacts.

Support for environment in sustainable development

Supporting the implementation of the sustainable development strategy, with specific regard to the thematic strategy on the sustainable use of natural resources and the future action plan on sustainable production and consumption, the EEA published the reports *Household consumption and the environment* and *Sustainable use and management of natural resources*.

7 Sustainable development and other environmental policies



The European environment – State and outlook 2005

The European environment – State and outlook 2005 report was produced to support *inter-alia* the mid-term reviews of the EU's 6th environment action programme and the Sustainable Development Strategy. The report was the culmination of a process, started in 2003, and was launched in the European Parliament on 29 November 2005.

A cross-cutting activity throughout the EEA, the 5-year report – on the state of, trends in and prospects for the environment – required a major investment of resources from many staff. The report contributed, in an integrated manner, to all the EEA 10 strategic goals to be achieved by 2008.

The European environment – State and outlook 2005 report is divided into four parts:

Part A

Part A provides an integrated assessment at European level of the main environmental challenges that Europe faces and how these are influenced by socio-economic activities at home and throughout the world. It considers both past trends and future prospects. It is structured into five main clusters, each containing two chapters.

The first cluster, called 'setting the scene', contains chapters addressing environment's contribution to our quality of life and how the face of Europe has changed in recent times as a result of its changing landscape patterns. The first chapter looks at how citizens perceive the role of the environment alongside social and economic aspects in improving their overall welfare. The chapter on landscapes combines an assessment of the potential of Europe's land area to continue providing ecological goods and services in the face of changing pressures with an explanation of the main policy instruments influencing change at European level.

The second cluster focuses on atmospheric environment and addresses climate change; the foremost environment challenge facing Europe

and the world today. It also deals with air pollution and its impacts on people's health. In both chapters, particular attention is paid to the challenges posed by pollution from households, energy supply and transport, and the sensitivities in dealing with these through policy responses aimed at behavioural change. Considerable weight is given to future challenges and costs of action/inaction in the face of uncertainty.

The third cluster deals with the aquatic environment and has chapters covering freshwater, and marine and coastal environments. The freshwater chapter focuses on the main pollution sources and trends – with a lesser focus on ecological and ecosystem aspects – and on how managing freshwaters will continue to be a long-term and costly endeavour for Europe. The marine and coastal chapter focuses more on ecosystem aspects and especially on the important and fragile nature of coasts and oceans under climate change.

The fourth cluster focuses on the terrestrial environment and includes chapters on soil and biodiversity. The soil chapter reflects the present paucity of data and analysis for this



area. Nevertheless, it provides some useful insights as well as a clear basis for understanding the challenges ahead for Europe on soil monitoring and modelling. The biodiversity chapter provides a comprehensive analysis of terrestrial ecosystems and species and uses the ecological footprint to show how Europe influences the use of natural resources globally.

The final cluster of chapters deals with environment/economic integration and assesses the environmental impacts of the main economic sectors — agriculture, transport, energy and households — in the context of improving eco-efficiency. It concludes with some reflections on where priorities could lie in the future through improved policy design and coherence, better governance structures and investments in eco-innovation that could together deliver cost-effective improvements to Europe's environment, economy and overall quality of life in the face of changing demographics.

Part B

Part B of the report presents a first detailed, European level assessment that uses the 37 EEA/Eionet core set of indicators. These were agreed with EEA's stakeholders in March 2004. The core set was selected to offer a stable basis for indicator-based reporting by the EEA and others in Europe (e.g. the European Commission) and to provide a focus for prioritising improvements in data quality.

The core set includes selected indicators relevant to the main environmental problems — air pollution and ozone depletion, climate change, biodiversity, waste, terrestrial environment and water — as well as the main economic sectors — agriculture, transport, energy and fisheries. Other relevant priority areas (chemicals, noise, material flows, industry and household sectors) have not yet been included in the core set. This reflects the lack of sufficient data and methodological development. These areas will be the main focus for future work on the core set.

Part C

Part C of the report provides a more detailed country level analysis of progress on environmental issues. It uses a scorecard based on nine indicators from the 37 in the core set. Since the scorecard aims to give insights into progress with environmental performance, the nine indicators included relate to points that policy can affect and on which policy is targeted. Therefore most of the indicators either have specific policy targets associated with them that allow analysis of progress towards these targets, or aspirational targets that allow for a similar though less definitive analysis. These indicators also have data available at country level with trends covering a sufficient number of years to enable robust analysis of change.

The nine indicators are relevant to the main policy priorities in the environment and in the economic sectors that have most impact. They are: greenhouse gas emissions and removals, total energy consumption (energy intensity), share of renewables in electricity, emissions of acidifying substances, emissions of ozone precursors, freight transport demand, share of organic farming, municipal waste generation and use of freshwater resources.



Part D

Part C goes beyond a standard indicator-by-indicator-based assessment by providing a composite scorecard of results across the nine indicators. The scorecard also acts as a communication tool by bringing together information into one relatively easy to understand format and presentation.

For the first time ever in an EEA report, Part C also includes more detailed information on the situation in each country across the nine indicators. This part includes the different types of actions and challenges each country faces. The analysis is based on contributions provided by the countries which have been subsequently edited by the EEA. The Agency takes full responsibility for the final result. This unique feature of the report is very much a first step towards the long-term process of building into European reports information from countries on the state of their environments and actions which reflect their often diverse social, environmental and economic conditions.

Part D of the report provides an overview of the reports that the EEA has published since the previous five-year report *Environment in the European Union at the turn of the century*. It includes, in the electronic version, hyperlinks to all environmental reports published in the period from January 2000 to September 2005. Corporate documents, such as annual reports and yearly work programmes, are excluded, as are promotional brochures.

This report represents the pinnacle of a process from which a number of other specific published products and working documents have emerged. The most important of these is a series of 'sub-reports' that have been developed in line with the priorities of the 6th environment action programme, the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, and other reports to strengthen the EEA's information in the area of policy analysis, in particular *ex-post* policy effectiveness analysis and economic analysis.



Sectoral policy integration

Environmental policy integration (EPI) is an essential pillar of the EU sustainable development strategy, the 6th environment action programme, the Lisbon and Cardiff processes. To support these processes, the Agency completed a project on environmental policy integration. The project produced a series of self-standing papers dedicated to specific governance aspects (policy and institutional) of environmental policy integration (EPI). The first product, *Environmental policy integration in Europe – State of play and an evaluation framework* (Technical report No 2/2005) was published in May 2005. The second, *Environmental policy integration in Europe – Administrative culture and practices* (Technical report No 5/2005) was published in July 2005. Three additional discussion papers were developed, entitled 'The role of EU budgetary mechanisms and funding in EPI', 'Ex-ante sustainability impact assessment: an effective tool for EPI?' and 'Sector integration: an evaluation of EPI progress in three sectors (transport, agriculture and fisheries)'.

Genuine EPI requires changes in political, organisational and procedural activities, so that environmental issues are taken on board as early as possible and continue during implementation. The first of this project's reports

concluded that there is room for improvement. The past decades saw important strategic developments to promote the integration of environmental concerns into other policies in order to support sustainable development, but there is much scope to reinforce implementation and to improve evaluation and policy learning.

A particular gap from the EEA's perspective is the lack of a consistent evaluation and information framework. To fill this monitoring gap, this project produced a new common evaluation framework for environmental integration. The framework singles out six ingredients for success: political commitment, vision and leadership; administrative culture and practices; assessments and information for decision-making; policy instruments; monitoring progress; and the environmental context of EPI. With this framework the EEA aims to facilitate future evaluation efforts at national or at EU level.

While political commitment to EPI has received much attention, there has been less focus on support for EPI from administrations. Addressing this deficiency, the second report presented an overview of administrative culture and practices for environmental policy integration in Europe. It includes the

EU-25, the candidate and applicant countries, the EFTA countries, eastern European countries, and Caucasus and central Asia. To be effective, EPI has to be developed and implemented as a long term and continuous process. This underlines the importance of changing administrative cultures in order to institutionalise EPI and protect it from sudden change.



Specific sectors

Energy

A briefing on the potential of environmentally-compatible bioenergy was published. It develops environmental criteria that need respecting in order to minimise additional pressures of increased bioenergy production on biodiversity, soil and water resources. An estimation of the European bioenergy potential from agriculture, waste and forestry indicates that there will be sufficient potential to support ambitious renewable energy targets in an environmentally-responsible way. Preliminary results of this project were presented at the European Commission and the 14th European biomass conference, and were used as an input for the Commission's Biomass Action Plan.

The energy and environment core set indicators were published. The complete set of energy and environment fact-sheets, which measure the progress of environmental integration in the energy sector, was reviewed. A central outcome of the review was the demand to make the fact sheets publicly available.

The energy chapter of the report *Climate change and a European low-carbon energy system* was finalised. This work indicates that the introduction of a carbon permit price that rises up to EUR 65/t CO₂ would result in a decrease of energy-related emissions by 11 % between 1990 and 2030. This compares to an increase of 14 % over that period under a baseline development. Most of this reduction would be achieved in the power generation sector as a result of further fuel switch and efficiency improvements.

The joint International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Energy Agency (IEA), UN, Eurostat and EEA report *Energy Indicators for Sustainable Development: Guidelines and Methodologies* was published. This project was led by the IAEA. The report presents a set of energy indicators and is a versatile tool for countries to track their progress on energy for sustainable development. As a result of this work, the EEA was invited to produce an article for Natural Resources Forum: Energy and environment in the European Union: An indicator-based analysis, Natural Resources Forum, Volume 29, Number 4, November 2005, pp. 360–376(17).



Transport

The fifth report developed under the EU transport and environment reporting mechanism (TERM) was finalised. Transport volumes are growing faster than efficiency improvements. As a result of this, emissions of greenhouse gases are growing. This makes it increasingly difficult for Member States to meet their obligations under the Kyoto protocol. Improved technology has a role to play in curbing emissions. However, without stronger policies addressing the growth in transport demand, transport will continue to hamper efforts to reduce the climatic impact of human activities. Also, transport's contribution to urban air quality problems remains significant. Notably, important improvements have been made in this field. Nevertheless, further initiatives are needed to meet the air quality targets set under the 6th environment action programme.

Transport subsidies were taken up as an issue for further study and a literature review was carried out to help scope further work. Existing subsidies are classified by incidence and mode. Moreover, a literature database was developed with information from more than 100 studies on transport subsidies.

Agriculture

All outputs foreseen by the IRENA (Indicator Reporting on the integration of ENvironmental concerns into Agricultural policy) grant agreement were delivered to the European Commission during the course of the year (IRENA indicator report, Report on the integration of environmental concerns into agriculture policy, IRENA evaluation report, 42 indicator facts sheets and corresponding data sets, data guidance document, report on the use made of the IRENA grant, financial report).

High nature value farmland work relied principally on cooperation with the JRC, especially in taking forward the Corine land cover approach. A successful expert meeting on the mapping of HNV farmland was organised with the support of the JRC.

The CIFAS (Cross-compliance Indicators in the context of the Farm Advisory System) project was successfully implemented after a delayed start. Two stakeholder meetings were held and background material and proceedings were published on the CIFAS website. A project report on cross-compliance standards and the CIFAS interim report were delivered to the Commission in late 2005.

Energy

Published reports, papers and web-pages

- *How much biomass can Europe produce without harming the environment?* EEA briefing No 2/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/briefing_2005_2/en/briefing_2_2005.pdf
- *Core Set Indicators in the area of energy and environment (CSI027-031)*.
Weblink: <http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/CSI>
- *Energy Indicators for Sustainable Development: Guidelines and Methodologies* Joint publication by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Energy Agency (IEA), UN, Eurostat and EEA report.
Weblink: http://www-pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/Pub1222_web.pdf
- *Energy and environment in the European Union: An indicator-based analysis*, Peter G. Taylor, Aphrodite Mourelatou, Tobias Wiesenthal; Natural Resources Forum, Volume 29, Number 4, November 2005, pp. 360-376(17)

Launches and meetings

- 14th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition, 17-21 October 2005, Paris
- Preliminary findings of the project on the 'environmentally-compatible bioenergy potential in Europe' were presented in two presentations and the EEA briefing No 2/2005 was launched

Transport

Published reports, papers and web pages

- Transport and environment fact-sheets were updated with most recent data.
Weblink: http://themes.eea.europa.eu/indicators/all_indicators_box
- A chapter (in Danish) on energy and environment in transport was contributed to: Technological innovation in the transport sector, published by the Academy of Technical Science in Denmark.
Weblink: <http://www.atv.dk/c/C1-ATV-publikationer-omtaler-pdf-filer/C127.html>

Launches and meetings

- Sustainable Transport in Developing Countries. International conference, 29 January–2 February 2005, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Presentation on TERM to a global audience.
Weblink: <http://www.ead.ae/en/?T=1&ID=114>
- Technological innovation in the transport sector. Presentation of report to parliamentarians and public (in Danish), 25 May 2005, Copenhagen. Weblink: <http://www.atv.dk/b/Moeder-2005/B268a.html>
- Annual Transport and Environment PCP/NRC meeting on transport and environment indicators, 10 June 2005, Copenhagen
- Expert meeting on data on non-road transport modes, 29 June 2005, Brussels
- Co-organiser of workshop on statistics of road transport volumes under the UNECE working party on transport statistics, 1–2 December 2005, Copenhagen. Weblink: <http://www.unece.org/trans/main/wp6/wp6.html>

Agriculture

Published reports, papers and web-pages

- *Agriculture and environment in EU-15 — the IRENA indicator report*. EEA Report No 6/2005.
Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2005_6/en
- IRENA indicator fact sheets on IRENA website: <http://webpubs.eea.europa.eu/content/irena/index.htm>

Launches and meetings

- The IRENA indicator report was officially launched on 22 December 2005 and the IRENA webpage made available to public. Presentation on results of the IRENA operation at the OECD Joint Working Party meeting on agri-environment indicators



Input to EU policy cycles

An important component of the European Union financial perspectives for 2007 to 2013 was the orientations and objectives set out for cohesion policy. In this context, the EEA has initiated and developed a consultation on the territorial cohesion chapter of these policies and on the possibilities to enhance the environmental integration therein, from a spatial dimension perspective. Contacts were conducted with the European network of environmental administrations, Interreg secretariats and projects, and networks of regions. An important concern raised during the discussions was the adaptation to climate change impacts and the role of spatial development in supporting the maintenance of natural, cultural and socio-economic assets.

Economic analysis of policy interventions

Work was finalised on reviewing the use and effects of market-based instruments as tools for environmental policy in Europe. The work concludes that the use of market-based instruments, including emissions trading schemes, environmental taxes and charges, subsidies, and liability and compensation schemes, is spreading steadily across Europe. At EU-level, market-based instruments reached a milestone with the start on 1 January 2005 of the emissions trading system for CO₂. A number of countries are in the process of environmental fiscal reform, with a gradual shift of the tax burden from 'goods' (labour and income) to 'bads' (unpaid use of environmental functions and natural resources). There is also increasing attention upon public

financial support that may harm the environment.

The high-level network of environmental economists, established in 2004 by the EEA in collaboration with the Environment Directorate-General of the European Commission, advises on economic aspects of environmental policy information and preparation. In 2005, the network met twice. The Brussels meeting on 27 January, discussed the thematic strategy on the use of natural resources. The Bremen meeting on 23 June, focused on the potential of market-based instruments within the review of the IPPC (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control) directive, and on the use of auctioning for the allocation of emissions trading allowances in the next round of the national allocation plans (NAPs).



PRELUDE

Development of future environmental scenarios

During 2005, the scenarios group finalised two major scenarios exercises: the *Prospective Environmental Analysis of Land Use Developments in Europe* (PRELUDE) was presented by the Executive Director at the meeting of the Informal Agriculture and Environment Council organised by the UK Presidency on 11 September in London; and *The European environment outlook*, which was published the same day.

PRELUDE analyses the environmental implications of future land use/land cover changes. Alternative futures for Europe are depicted in qualitative storylines and underpinned by quantitative land use model data. This is carried out in an iterative process bringing together selected stakeholders

and land use experts from across Europe. The output of the project — a set of scenarios that provide insight into the environmental consequences of changes in land use and land cover in 30 years time — is now undergoing a set of focus discussions with different stakeholders.

The *European environment outlook* explores in detail plausible future developments across a range of environmental issues, linked to targets set in European environmental policies. The main issues include climate change, air pollution, waste generation, material flows, water stress and water quality. The report addresses the issues in a consistent and integrated manner, highlighting in particular links between environmental outcomes and the economic, social and technical factors that have most influence.

Until 2005, future-oriented assessments in EEA had been mostly oriented toward the 25 EU Member States (environmental outlooks). In the year 2005, the EEA was involved in two activities that reach beyond EEA member countries and involve European south-eastern countries, eastern and Caucasus countries and Central Asia countries:

- under the UNEP process of preparation of the next GEO-4 report, the EEA is coordinating the development of European scenarios and linkages to global level;
- the EEA started to compile scenario and outlook information for the Belgrade 2007 report.

The Agency also initiated a programme of cooperation with EEA countries in scenario development with the objective of building capacity into national environmental administrations in this field. Slovenia was the first country in this programme, and the workshop organised jointly by EEA and the NFP focused on national transport and waste strategies. Slovenian authorities intend to publish the results in their regular reporting exercise 2006.

Emerging issues and research agendas

Eco-innovation and environmental technology are emerging policies with a link to technology development supported by DG Research. The EEA organised and hosted a conference on Green Technology Foresight. The main area of interest for the EEA was the analysis of environmental potentials and risks related to the three generic technologies: nanotechnology, biotechnology and ICT. A workshop on eco-innovation indicators was a further contribution to EU's Environment Technology Action Plan.

The European Commission Directorate-General for Research is one of the partners supporting environmental and sustainable research. A closer link to DG Research is being forged to ensure necessary knowledge gathering as a basis for the EEA's state of the environment and outlook reporting, and also as a channel for scientists to communicate results.

Development of future environmental scenarios

Published reports, papers and web pages

- *European environment outlook*. EEA Report No 4/2005. Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/eea_report_2005_4/en
- Background paper '*Scenarios for Adaptation: Scenario Exercises in the Context of Climate Change Adaptation in Europe*'. Weblink: <http://scenario.ewindows.eu.org>. Main content integrated in the report *Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change in Europe*. Weblink: http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2005_1207_144937/en
- Background reports for the 'European environment outlook' exercise were finalised, and provided input for *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report. Weblink: <http://scenarios.ewindows.eu.org/>
- Background information on PRELUDE. Weblink: <http://scenarios.ewindows.eu.org/>

Launches and meetings

PRELUDE

- Organisation of Management Board seminar on 23 November 2005 including preparation of a CD-ROM with information on PRELUDE scenarios
- Presentation of PRELUDE at the Informal Joint Agriculture and Environment Council organised by the UK Presidency on 11 September 2005 in London. Weblink: <http://org.eea.europa.eu/news/Ann1126276903>
- The first joint annual meeting of European Nature Conservation Organisations; Conference 'Our landscapes, space for nature, opportunities for people'. Weblink: <http://www.natureconference.org/default.asp?id=173>
- Final stakeholder meeting on PRELUDE with results from European and regional modeling exercises, 30 May 2005

Outlooks

- Launching of the *European environment outlook* report. Weblink: <http://org.eea.europa.eu/documents/newsreleases/outlook-en>
- 6th Open Meeting of the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change Research Community, 9–13 October 2005, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany. Weblink: <http://openmeeting.homelinux.org/>
- International Energy Workshop 2005, 5–7 July 2005, Kyoto, Japan. Weblink: <http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Research/ECS/IEW2005/index.html>
- 2005 eceee Summer Study (European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy), 30 May–4 June 2005, Mandelieu La Napoule, France. Weblink http://www.eceee.org/summer_study/index.lasso
- The Future of Rural Europe (EAAE), 24–27 August 2005. Weblink: www.eaae2005.dk
- EnviroInfo 2005, 7–9 September 2005, Brno, Czech Republic

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

- Publication of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) synthesis report. EEA co-authorship in scenario analysis of Ecosystems. Weblink: <http://org.eea.europa.eu/news/Ann1113292390>

Others

- Organisation of the Scenario Capacity Building Workshop at the Slovenian Environmental Protection Agency, 19–20 May 2005, Ljubljana
- EPA Network (Interest Group Climate Change and Adaptation), 17 June 2005, Berlin. 'Scenarios for Adaptation: Scenario Exercises in the Context of Climate Change Adaptation in Europe'
- The EEA actively supported international environmental scenario activities by participating in various meetings and workshops. Activities included the UNEP's Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-4), Global Environment Change and Food Systems (GECAFS), and the International Assessment of Agriculture Science and Technology Developments (IAASTD).

8 Communications and institutional relations



*Launching The European environment
— State and outlook 2005 report at the
European Parliament, 29 November 2005*

Increased emphasis on communication

During 2005 a major effort was put into building up the Communication and Corporate Affairs programme in order to create a basis for a new communication strategy for the Agency. New workflows were tested, refined and put into practice with the goal of improving communications towards Agency clients and the public and also to raise the Agency's profile as the key provider of relevant quality information on the environment. Chapter 1 of this report has already shown the steady increase in the popularity of the EEA website.

Media relations

Work on media relations gained momentum during the second half of 2005 following a new, more focused approach and recruitment of new staff. Most effort was put into the strategic launch plan for the Agency's flagship report *The European environment — State and outlook 2005*. This report received major media coverage: the launch event was broadcast throughout the day on amongst others BBC World TV and radio and Europe by Satellite. Media coverage also included articles in the daily press in at least 28 countries on four continents.

The launch of the report took place at the European Parliament in Brussels on 29 November at a well-attended press conference in the press centre. Speakers included the Vice President of the European Commission, Margot Wallström, and the Chairman of the European Parliament's Environment Committee, Karl-Heinz Florenz.

A number of national launch events followed in the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Switzerland and the United Kingdom (with several other countries planning launches to take place in 2006).



Other targeted media events

The annual report *European Community greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2003 and inventory report 2005* released in June received substantial coverage.

A variety of press packages were produced and disseminated widely on a number of other reports and events, which resulted in various degrees of media coverage, for example. Other coverage was generated through the multi-lingual edition of the Honolulu PC game and Kids' Zone on our website and the visit of the EU Environment Commissioner, Stavros Dimas, to the EEA in October.

Exhibitions

The EEA provided staffed exhibition stands at Green Week in Brussels and the Copenhagen Environment Festival in June. The Agency also organised a display of products at the European Space Agency's Earth and Space Week event in Brussels in February, at the IARC II Arctic conference in Copenhagen in November and at the launch event for *The European environment — State and outlook 2005* report in Brussels in November.

In-house editing

The EEA established an in-house editing function in 2005, the aim of which was to help improve the readability, quality and message consistency of the Agency's products. This is being carried out by integrating a centralised editing and writing skill support function within the Agency's workflows. In 2005, editing was carried out on presentations, briefings, reports and technical reports for the EEA website, and articles and other materials for external publication.

Licensing

License agreements to reproduce EEA reports were concluded with a number of external publishers such as the Spanish Environment Ministry, the Wuppertal Institute and the University of Kassel in Germany, the Serbia and Montenegro European Integration Office, Fundación Santiago Rey Fernández-Latorre in Spain, the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization in Japan and the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources. There were also a number of requests to reproduce maps, graphs and smaller sections from Agency products.



Visit of the EU Environment Commissioner, Stavros Dimas, to the EEA, October 2005

Public access to information – the Information Centre

2005 marked the beginning of a new era for the EEA Information Centre – an integral part of the communications programme. In May, the Information Centre took part in Copenhagen Environment Festival, as well as Green Week hosted by DG Environment in Brussels. In October, the Centre was visited by Commissioner Dimas. During the launch of *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* in Brussels, the Information Centre worked as the key coordination point from Copenhagen. Moreover, it carried out media monitoring activities on the State and outlook 2005 report and will carry out further EEA media monitoring activities.

EEA governance – the Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee held three meetings in 2005, discussing major EEA products and priorities for work areas in 2006–2008. The Scientific Committee members were also engaged in the European topic centre review and steering committees, in the consultation process on *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report and in providing guidance on Agency involvement in initiatives such

as Inspire and GMES. The committee adopted opinions on the recruitment of EEA scientific staff in line with the establishment plan 2005 and on the annual work programme 2006.

Effectiveness evaluation of products and services

In summer 2005, the EEA conducted two polling surveys in order to evaluate the effectiveness of our products and services: one targeted at non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and one at media. This was conducted mainly to find out how well these actors know the EEA and to what extent they had used some of its recent climate change reports.

135 respondents for the NGO-survey and 121 respondents for the mass media survey (selected from the EEA address database) were interviewed by phone. The survey questionnaire used contained approximately 20 questions covering four evaluation criteria: image, effectiveness, quality/transparency and relevance.

One of the findings of the exercise was the need to maintain an updated database of clients; an action which has been given priority by the Agency. Nevertheless, the survey results give useful information regarding the two



target groups. As to the image of the EEA, those respondents who knew the EEA had a positive impression of it, but one third of the NGO-respondents and one quarter of the media respondents were not familiar with the EEA to any great extent. According to the survey's results, NGOs are more likely to turn to the EEA than the media when looking for environmental information; the latter preferring DG Environment as a source of environmental information.

Feedback from the 2005 polling surveys will feed into improvement of upcoming EEA outputs and specifically into better targeting of its reports.

European Parliament

The European Environment Agency stepped up its cooperation with the European Parliament in 2005. While the communications highlight of the year was undoubtedly the high-profile launch of *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report jointly with the Parliament in November, the working arrangements between the EEA and the Parliament were also discussed in meetings with the Chairman of the Environment Committee. Briefings were provided to MEPs and further efforts were made to communicate EEA products and promote the use of the EEA website in the Parliament. Input on

specific legislative dossiers — for example the proposed directive on Inspire — continued through the year. Finally, the EEA cooperated actively in discussions with the Parliament's Committees on Budgetary Control and Budgets.

Support to the Presidency in Office of the Council of Ministers (Environment)

The Agency continued to work closely with the Presidencies of the Council of the European Union during their six-month stints at the helm of the Council. Luxembourg held the Presidency between January and June 2005 and was followed by the United Kingdom between July and December. The EEA provided general support in the field of monitoring and data access within the thematic strategies, rolled out plans for the extension of the ETAP portal and provided analysis from Corine land cover for other ministerial meetings on spatial planning. Moreover, the Executive Director attended the meeting of the Council of Ministers for Environment on 2 December to present *The European environment – State and outlook 2005* report to ministers and discuss its main findings.

A further highlight was the keynote presentation on land use scenarios under 'PRELUDE' (see Chapter 7 above)

at the informal meeting of ministers for environment and agriculture on 11 September in London. Weblink: <http://org.eea.europa.eu/news/Ann1126276903>.

9 The EEA in the wider world



Supporting the EU in the wider European neighbourhood policy

Agreements with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) were established for cooperation on the 4th Global Environmental Outlook (GEO-4), especially on the sub-chapter covering the European region. The Executive Director of the EEA was invited to co-chair the GEO-4, high-level, multi-stakeholder consultative group which convened in February. The EEA also participated in the first GEO-4 authors' meeting which took place in June in Nairobi. The report is due to be published in autumn 2007.

The EEA attended the UNECE WGEMA (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment) in Geneva in June 2005, where consultations on the content and development of the 2007 Belgrade assessment report were held.

The EEA took part as an observer in the first UNECE Steering Committee meeting on Education for Sustainable Development in Geneva in December

and will continue to follow developments in this area, as this will be an important element at the Belgrade Ministerial Conference 2007.

Cooperation with United States federal agencies, including the US EPA, continued with a meeting of the *Ecoinformatics Network* in Washington in May 2005. Many commonalities on the technical working level, as well as on indicators and reporting, have emerged.

Cooperation with the *Asia-Europe Environment Forum* continued, focusing on EEA's involvement in the Forum's meeting in Jakarta in November, where there was the opportunity to showcase some of the results of *The European environment — State and outlook 2005* report.

Bilateral contacts with China continued. A meeting in the EEA with the China-EU Forum for Sustainable Development resulted in attempts to emulate the Eionet concept in China. The EEA was consequently invited to participate in the China-EU Sustainable Development Forum meeting in Beijing in September 2005 to further these aims.



Meeting with representatives of indigenous peoples from the Arctic

Developing partnerships to support global environmental governance

Support was given to a meeting of indigenous peoples from the Arctic area in Copenhagen in May 2005 on the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues in their region. Further discussions were held with Scandinavian countries concerning possible EEA assistance in coordinating Arctic environmental reporting from these countries. Support was given to the 2nd International Conference for Arctic Research and Planning (ICARP II) in Copenhagen in November. Almost 300 scientists attended this event, which was linked with a pre-meeting on funding the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007–2008. Discussions with UNEP/Grid Arendal's Polar programme were held on possible cooperation in the production of an Arctic Newsletter during IPY.

Mediterranean issues were dealt with in cooperation with UNEP/MAP (Mediterranean Action Plan) and DG Environment. Contacts were made with UNEP/MAP concerning the establishment of a joint EEA/MAP work programme. The EEA participated in MAP/Blue Plan workshops on sustainable development indicators

and in MEDSTAT training sessions on air emissions. A joint EEA/MAP report on priority issues in the Mediterranean environment was finalised during 2005. EEA participated in meetings of SMAP correspondents and UNEP/MAP focal points in Athens in September and in the Euro-Med partnership high-level environment meeting on 'Horizon 2020' in Barcelona in December 2005. Discussions with the European Commission on the EEA's role in developing tools for measuring progress within the Horizon 2020 initiative are ongoing.

The EEA's multilateral cooperation with EECCA countries was reinforced in 2005 through the establishment of a EUR 1 million TACIS project to support the process leading up to the 2007 Belgrade, pan-European ministerial conference, including the production of the 2007 Belgrade assessment report. A paper outlining the scope of the Belgrade report was sent for consultation to several stakeholder groups and met with approval. The report is due for publication in May/June 2007 prior to the conference in October 2007.

Cooperation with Switzerland continued throughout 2005 in preparation for their EEA membership.

10 Internal developments

Administrative and organisational development

The Agency undertook two internal reorganisations in 2005. The first in March focused on redistributing tasks in the Executive Director's Office and Communications and Corporate Affairs Programme (following the arrival of the new programme manager), moving the biodiversity group to the programme where work on spatial assessment was already located, and re-organising groups and responsibilities within the Administration Programme.

The second – and more significant – reorganisation was made in October in order to refocus on priority data collection and management activities. Following discussions on a technical arrangement with the services of the European Commission (the Directorate-General for Environment, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat) on environmental data centres, the EEA decided upon a reorganisation of its internal resources.

As part of the technical arrangement agreed with the services of the European Commission and endorsed by the Management Board of the EEA, the Agency will continue to assess the full range of environmental issues as specified in its founding Regulation, including policy analysis and economic analysis. Moreover, it will serve as a 'data centre' in the following five areas: air pollution, climate change, fresh and marine water, biodiversity and land use. The Agency's reorganisation produced a restructuring of the operational programmes to provide greater focus on these five areas. Redeployment of resources means a greater concentration of staff in addressing these five areas and scenarios, with these groups

doubling or tripling in size following transfers from other groups and additional recruitment.

The first EU body to achieve registration under the eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

The EEA achieved registration under the EU's eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS) and published its first annual environmental statement in April 2005. This was achieved following an intensive system development and training of the staff in seminars and through other communication channels. The EEA thus became the first EU body to achieve EMAS registration.

The main principle of the system development was to incorporate all aspects of environmental management as closely as possible in the overall management system of the EEA without creating any parallel system. When planning the following year's projects, lead project managers had to consider issues related to the environmental effects of proposed projects. This made it easier for the top management to take account of environmental considerations in the overall planning.

The EEA's environmental management is generally linked to line management giving managers responsibility for ensuring that the staff understands and complies with the environmental management system. In this way it is internalised in the day-to-day working of the EEA.

The EEA met most of the environmental targets it had set for 2005. Electricity and paper consumption were reduced. Baselines were created for heating consumption and for air emissions

caused by the travel of staff and meeting participants. In all procurement procedures conducted in 2005 one or two environmental criteria were used. In 2005 the EEA launched a green website (<http://org.eea.europa.eu/documents/emas>) where it shares information on its environmental management system and performance hoping to encourage other organisations to opt for EMAS registration.





Annex A Statement on financial position

Income

Table 1 Income 2001–2005 (million EUR)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
EU subventions	18.6	19.2	21.4	27.2	26.9
EFTA contribution	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6
New EEA member countries' contributions	—	2.3	5.7	3.3	3.8
Miscellaneous revenues	2.3	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	21.3	25.1	27.5	31.1	31.3

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

Expenditures

Table 2 Expenditure (E) 2001–2004, budget (B) 2005 (million EUR)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	E	E	E	E	B
Staff and administration	10.8	13.0	14.4	16.7	18.3
Operational expenditure	10.5	12.1	13.1	14.4	13.0
Total	21.3	25.1	27.5	31.1	31.3

Note: Figures for 2005 reflect the final status of the budget before the definitive closing of the 2005 accounts in June 2006.

Table 3 Operational expenditure and related staff allocations (person-years) for 2005 by programme area and project groups

Programme area and project group	1 000 EUR	Person-years
1 Providing an information system	5 501	16.8
2 Tackling climate change	842	1.8
3 Tackling biodiversity loss and understanding spatial change	1 401	4.9
4 Protecting human health and quality of life	1 555	6.0
5 Sustainable use and management of natural resources and waste	698	1.1
6 The EEA in the wider world	73	1.6
7 Supporting sustainable development and environmental policies	1 771	18.0
8 Corporate affairs	632	9.2
9 Technical and service support	164	38.9
Total	12 637	98.1

Note: The figures are based on the actual payments in 2005. Leave, absence and development of competencies are excluded in person-years.

Table 4 Breakdown of committed funds for ETCs (EUR)

		Water	Air/climate change	Nature protection and bio- diversity	Waste and material flows	Terrestrial environ- ment	Total allocation
1	Providing an information system	260 000	475 000	225 000	75 000	349 000	1 384 000
2	Tackling climate change	0	737 000	0	20 000	15 000	772 000
3	Tackling biodiversity loss and understanding spatial change	40 000	0	570 000	0	652 000	1 262 000
4	Protecting human health and quality of life	665 000	493 000	5 000	20 000	10 000	1 193 000
5	Sustainable use and management of natural resources and waste	0	0	0	565 000	0	565 000
6	The EEA in the wider world	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Supporting sustainable development and environmental policies	45 000	225 000	145 000	110 000	10 000	535 000
8	Corporate affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Technical and service support	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		1 010 000	1 930 000	945 000	790 000	1 036 000	5 711 000

Note: The figures are based on the actual commitments in 2005.

Annex B Status on human resources

Status on human resources – Officials, temporary agents, contract agents and national experts

Table 5 Staff development, 1998–2005, by category

Category	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
A (*) (academic staff)	27	30	28	33	37	43	49	47
B (*) (technical staff)	16	16	17	17	24	26	29	32
C (*) (secretarial staff)	20	22	20	18	20	22	25	24
D (*) (service staff)	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Contract agents	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	18
National experts	8	8	8	9	10	9	10	16
Total	73	79	76	80	95	104	117	141

(*) The grades from 2004 are according to the new staff regulation.

Table 6 Staff by category and nationality on 31 December 2005

	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Greece	Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	Turkey	United Kingdom	Total
A (*)		4		7	1	4	5	2	1	1	2	3	1	2	1		5		8				47
B (*)	1	1	2	11	2	1	3						1	1	1		1		2	2		3	32
C (*)				11	1	2	1						2		1				3	2		1	24
D (*)				4																			4
Contract agents				1	9	1		2	1			1						1	1			1	18
National experts				2			1	3			1	1		2	1					2	2	1	16
Total	1	5	2	3	42	1	4	10	13	2	1	3	6	4	4	4	2	1	6	11	2	14	141

(*) The grades from 2004 are according to the new staff regulation.

Table 7 EEA promotions in 2005

Grade	A4 to A3	A5 to A4	A6 to A5	A7 to A6	B2 to B1	B3 to B2	B4 to B3	B5 to B4	C2 to C1	C3 to C2	C4 to C3	C5 to C4	D2 to D1	D3 to D2	Total			
	A*12 to A*13	A*11 to A*12	A*10 to A*11	A*8 to A*9	B*10 to B*11	B*8 to B*9	A*7 to A*8	A*6 to A*7	A*5 to A*6	C*6 to C*7	C*5 to C*6	C*4 to C*5	C*3 to C*4	C*2 to C*3	D*4 to D*5	D*3 to D*4	D*2 to D*3	
Number of staff promoted	0	1	2	3	0	1	3	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	16

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

Annex C Members of the EEA Management Board

As of 31 December 2005

Austria	Georg Rebernig	Umweltbundesamt
Belgium	Philippe Bourdeau Professor	
Bulgaria	Dimitar Vergiev Executive Director	Executive Environment Agency
Cyprus	Nicos Georgiades (<i>Vice-Chairman, Bureau member</i>) Director of the Environment Service	Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
Czech Republic	Tomáš Novotný Deputy Minister — Director General Div. International Relations	Ministry of Environment
Denmark	Ole Christiansen Director General	Danish Environmental Protection Agency
Estonia	Allan Gromov Deputy Secretary General	Ministry of Environment
Finland	Markku Nurmi Director General	Ministry of the Environment
France	Guillaume Sainteny Directeur de la Direction des études économiques et de l'évaluation environnementale	Ministère de l'Écologie et du Développement durable
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Greece	John Vournas Director General for Environment	Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
Hungary	Erzsébet Gergely (alternate) Head of Department	Department of Environmental Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Environment and Water
Iceland	Óttar Freyr Gíslason	Ministry for the Environment
Ireland	Tom O'Mahony Assistant Secretary	Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government
Italy	Corrado Clini (<i>Vice-Chairman, Bureau member</i>) Director General	Sustainable Development and International Global Environment, Ministero dell'Ambiente
Latvia	Einars Cilinskis Deputy State Secretary	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
Liechtenstein	Felix Näscher Director General	Ministry for the Environment, Department of Forests, Nature and Landscape
Lithuania	Aleksandras Spruogis Undersecretary	Ministry of Environment

Luxembourg	Eric de Brabanter Economiste	Ministère de l'Environnement
Malta	Godwin Cassar Director General	Malta Environment and Planning Authority
Netherlands	Adriaan Oudeman (alternate)	Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and Environment
Norway	Harald Rensvik Secretary General	Ministry of Environment
Poland	Lucyna Dygas-Ciołkowska Deputy Director, Monitoring Department	Ministry of Environment Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection
Portugal	João Nobre Gonçalves (<i>Vice-Chairman, Bureau member</i>) Director-geral do Ambiente	Ministério do Ambiente e do Ordenamento do Território
Romania	Ioan Gherhes President	National Environmental Protection Agency
Slovak Republic	Jozef Dupej Deputy Director	Slovak Environmental Agency
Slovenia	Marko Slokar President, Management Board	Environmental Development Fund of the Republic of Slovenia ('Eco Fund')
Spain	Domingo Jiménez-Beltrán	Observatorio de la Sostenibilidad en España, Universidad de Alcalà
Sweden	Lars-Erik Liljelund (<i>Chairman, Bureau member</i>) Director General	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Turkey	Prof. Dr Hasan Zuhuri Sarikaya Undersecretary of State	Ministry of Environment and Forestry
United Kingdom	John Custance Chief Statistician	Environment Protection Statistics Division, Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
European Commission	Peter Carl (<i>Bureau member</i>) Director General	DG Environment
European Commission	Pierre Valette Acting Director	Environment Directorate, DG Research
Designated by the European Parliament	Nigel Haigh	
Designated by the European Parliament	Michael Scoullos (<i>Bureau member</i>) Professor Director	Environmental Chemistry Laboratory, University of Athens

Annex D Members of the EEA Scientific Committee

As of 31 December 2005

Prof. Teresa Andresen	Departamento de Botânica, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade do Porto, Portugal
Prof. André Berger	Institut d'Astronomie et de Géophysique G Lemaître, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Prof. David Briggs	Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, Imperial College London, United Kingdom
Dr Constantinos Cartalis	Department of Applied Physics, University of Athens, Greece
Dr Daniel Cossa	Laboratory of Biogeochemistry of Metallic Contaminants, Department of Biogeochemistry and Ecotoxicology, Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation, France
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Prof. Dr Ing Manfred Kleemann	Research Centre Jülich, Systemforschung STE, Germany
Dr Pierre Laconte	Belgium
Prof. Franc Lobnik	Biotechnical Faculty, Centre for Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
Prof. Juan Martinez-Alier	Department of Economics and Economic History, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Spain
Prof. Bedrich Moldan (<i>Chairman</i>)	Environment Centre, Charles University, Czech Republic
Dr Margaret O'Mahony	Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering, University of Dublin, Ireland
Dr Július Oszlányi	Institute of Landscape Ecology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia
Prof. Katherine Richardson (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	Department of Marine Ecology, University of Aarhus, Denmark
Prof. László Somlyódy	Department of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary
Dr Detlef F. Sprinz (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	PIK-Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research Global Change and Social Systems, Germany
MSc Theo Vermeire	National Institute of Public Health and Environment (RIVM), Expert Centre for Substances/Stoffen Expertise Centrum, the Netherlands
Prof. Peter Wadhams	Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics (DAMTP), University of Cambridge, Centre for Mathematical Sciences, Cambridge
Dr Tomasz Zylicz	Economics Department, Warsaw University, Poland

Annex E EEA national focal points

As of 31 December 2005

Albania	Narin Panariti Director	Policy, Integration and Legislation Ministry of Environment
Austria	Johannes Mayer	Umweltbundesamt (UBA)/Federal Environment Agency
Belgium	Jan Voet	Intergewestelijke Cel voor Leefmilieu (IRCEL)
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Mehmed Cero Assistant to Minister for the Environment	Federal Ministry of Physical Planning and the Environment
Bulgaria	Ioana Hristova Head of Unit, International Cooperation	Bulgarian Executive Environment Agency
Croatia	Jasna Butuci Assistant Director	Croatian Environment Agency
Cyprus	Nasia Dikigoropoulou Environment Officer	Environment Service Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment
Czech Republic	Jiří Hradec Director	Czech Environmental Information Agency
Denmark	Michael Stjernholm Department of Freshwater Ecology	National Environmental Research Institute (NERI)
Estonia	Leo Saare Director	Estonian Environment Information Centre
Finland	Tapani Säynätkari	Finnish Environment Institute
France	Bernard Nanot	Institut Français de l'Environnement (IFEN)
Germany	Christina Pykonen	Umweltbundesamt (UBA)
Greece	Mata Aravantinou	Ministry for the Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works
Hungary	Pál Bozo Chief Information Officer	Ministry of Environment and Water
Iceland	Gunnar Jónsson	Environment and Food Agency of Iceland
Ireland	Gerard O'Leary Programme manager	Environmental Protection Agency
Italy	Claudio Maricchiolo	Agenzia per la Protezione dell'Ambiente e per I Servizi Tecnici (APAT)
Latvia	Ilze Kirstuka Director	Latvian Environment Agency
Liechtenstein	Hermann Schmuck	National Office for Forests, Nature and Landscape
Lithuania	Liutauras Stoskus Director	Environmental Protection Agency

Luxembourg	Eric De Brabanter	Ministère de l'Environnement
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Svetlana Gjorgjeva Head of Macedonian Environmental Information Centre	Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning
Malta	Antoine Zahra Chief Information Officer	Malta Environment and Planning Authority
Monaco	Wilfrid Deri	Bureau de la Coopération Internationale
Netherlands	Roel Thomas RIVM-MNP-LED (ipc 24)	Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
Norway	Johnny Auestad	Norwegian Pollution Control Authority
Poland	Lucyna Dygas-Ciolkowska Deputy Director, Monitoring Department	Chief Inspectorate for Environmental Protection
Portugal	Maria Leonor Gomes	Institute of Environment
Romania	Dorina Mocanu General Commissariat of Environmental Guard	Ministry of Waters and Environmental Protection
Serbia and Montenegro	Natasa Veljkovic Adviser	European Integration Office
Slovak Republic	Vladimir Benko Director of CEPI	Slovak Environmental Agency
Slovenia	Irena Rejec Brancelj Counsellor to Government	Environment Agency of the Republic of Slovenia
Spain	Jose Ignacio Elorrieta Pérez de Diego Dirección General de Calidad del Aire y Prevención de Riesgos	Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Sweden	Bernt Røndell Environmental Assessment Department	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Switzerland	Gardaz Jean-Michel Environmental Monitoring Section	Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape
Turkey	A. Çağatay Dikmen	Ministry of the Environment and Forestry
United Kingdom	David Lee	Environment Statistics and Indicators Division, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
European Commission representatives in the NFP/Eionet group		
European Commission	Peter Wicks	DG Environment
European Commission	Palle Haastrup Head, Technology Assessment	Environment Institute, Joint Research Centre
European Commission	Christian Heidorn	Eurostat

Annex F EEA European topic centres

Water	Tim Lack WRC plc Swindon, United Kingdom
Terrestrial Environment	Stefan Kleeschulte European Topic Centre on Terrestrial Environment Barcelona, Spain
Air and Climate Change	Rob Swart RIVM, National Institute of Public Health and Environment Protection Bilthoven, the Netherlands
Nature Protection and Biodiversity	Carlos Romão National Museum of Natural History Paris, France
Waste and Material Flows	Birgit Munck-Kampmann European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows Copenhagen, Denmark

Annex G EEA staff

Officials, temporary agents, auxiliary agents and national experts as of 31 December 2005

Executive Director's Office (EDO)	
GONIN Clara	Secretary
HENRIKSEN Merete	Secretary
HOFFMANN Ulrike	Secretary
McGLADE Jacqueline	Executive Director
ANDERSEN Hanne Koch	Secretary
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KNUDSEN Tarja Porkka	Environmental management system and effectiveness evaluations
McALEAVEY Paul	Group leader
RIVIERE Josiane	Brussels bureau
Administrative services (ADS)	
CLEMENT Marc	Legal adviser
FONTECHA Isabel	Secretary
McINNES Gordon	Deputy Director — Programme manager
MAES Jozef	Programme manager
DØSSING Birgitta	Secretary
HOKKANEN Arita	Secretary
KRANTZ Ulla	Group leader
PEDERSEN Lene Bang	Project officer — Personnel
WINTHER Kathryn	Project officer — Personnel
FOLKMANN Pernille	Secretary — Training coordinator
NIELSEN Søren Brostrup	Group leader
ORTIZ HUGUET Rosa	Secretary — Mail registration
SØRENSEN Lisa	Secretary — Resource management
WILHELM Philipp	Project officer — Document management
ANDERSEN Morten	Technical assistant
BRAD Eugenia	Project officer — Procurement services
HANSGAARD Bo	Technical assistant
KRISTENSEN Jette Lind	Project officer — Financial services
LASSEN Bente	Receptionist
MULTALA Tommi	Group leader
PEDERSEN Linda	Secretary — Travel service
RAINER Gerda	Resource officer — ADS
SØRENSEN Eva	Secretary — Travel service
ZORRILLA Domingo	Project officer — Logistic services
ELMEGAARD Harald	Project officer — Accounting
FLINDT Jimmy	Project officer — Accounting
HARTMANN-FITZGERALD Anne-Li	Group leader — Accountant

Analysis, Integration and reporting (AIR)	
DOM Ann	Group leader
GENTILE Anna Rita	Soil and contaminated sites
MARTIN Colin	Programme manager
MARTINS Ivone Pereira	Regular state of the environment reporting
CARLSON Eva	Group leader — Resource officer
COLLIANDER GOLDING Charlotta	Secretary
DALL'OZZO Cesarina	Secretary
ISLEV Charlotte	Secretary
PETERSSON Dorte	Secretary
BÄCKMAN Anna	Spatial analyst — Urban/noise issues
CROUZET Philippe	Regular crosscutting assessment
DAFFNER Franz	Spatial analyst
DIGE Gorm	Environmental policy analyst
GÜL Ali	Spatial analyst
MEINER Andrus	Environmental accounting analyst
ROMANOWICZ Agnieszka	Reporting support
UHEL Ronan	Group leader
WEBER Jean-Louis	Environmental accounting analyst
FEEHAN Jane	Environmental policy analyst
HOOGEVEEN Ybele	Nature protection and biodiversity
LARSSON Tor-Björn	Forest and biodiversity
SPYROPOULOU Stavroula	Nature protection and biodiversity
VOS Johannes	Environment and economic integration
ISOARD Stéphane	Outlooks and modelling
MAUTONE Orsola	Environment economics
PIRC VELKAVRH Anita	Environmental scenarios analyst
RIBEIRO Teresa	Group leader
VOLKERY Axel	Environmental policy analyst
Corporate affairs (CAF)	
NEALE Linda	Programme secretary
NIELSEN-HANNERUP Maria	Programme manager
BLAGOEV Stoyan	Eionet support
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HRISTOVA Galina Georgieva	Management Board and Scientific Committee secretariat
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MARCALETTI Lorena	NFP/Eionet group secretariat
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GRUNDY Mark	Project officer, Editor — Communications
KILLEEN Brendan	Project officer, Editor — Communications
OLSEN Teresa	Group leader
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BJERG Mai	Information Centre assistant
BRUUN Malene	Group leader
STANHARDT Iben	Information Centre assistant

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HUNTINGTON Jeffrey	Programme manager
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ERIKSEN Bitten	Secretary
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KARLSSON Jan	Climate change
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GOOSSENS Eva	Waste integration
HAIGH Timothy	Information resources
HUCKESTEIN Burkhard	Transport and environment
JENSEN Peder	Transport and environment
MOURELATOU Aphrodite	Group leader
CHYSKÁ Pavla	Water data and indicators
JENSEN Stefan	Reporting tools and processes
NYMAND Sys	Secretary
PETERSEN Jan-Erik	Agriculture and environment
PRAZAN Jaroslav	Project coordinator
THYSSEN Niels	Project manager — Water and aquatic biodiversity
WERNER Beate	Indicators and reporting
Information and data services (IDS)	
BJARNASON Sigfús	Programme manager
JANDRUP Linda	Group leader — Resource officer
NILSSON PEDERSEN Henriette	Secretary — Publications and production
PEHRSON Marilou	Secretary
SCHMIDT Pia	Secretary — Publications and translations
CRYAN Sheila	EIONET data flow
PEIFER Hermann	Group leader
SIMOENS David	Data operator
BLIKI Jan	GIS and data service
LUND Mette	Reporting support (GIS)
SOUSA Ana	Project manager — Spatial data
STEENMANS Christiaan	Group leader
DE MARINIS Antonio	Technical web development
DIDIER Emilie	Project officer — Multimedia productions
JANSEN Albertus	Group leader
KUCHLING Rolf	Graphical design and multimedia productions
HAUERSLEV Thomas	Technical assistant
LE Thanh	System administration and IT helpdesk
LINDBERG Örjan	Group leader
ROUG Søren	Linux systems and ReportNet developments
RØRUP Lars	System administration

Strategic knowledge and innovation (SKI)

CLARK Barbara	Non-member country and international cooperation
MAENCHEN Svetlana	Programme secretary — Resource officer
NIELSEN Birte	Secretary
STANNERS David Andrew	Programme manager
GHEORGHE Adriana	Coordination with EECCA countries supporting EU neighbourhood policy
JAROSINSKA Dorota	Environment and health
KAZMIERCZYK Pawel	Material flows
MORTENSEN Lars	Environmental policy analyst
SCHÖNING Gabriele	Chemicals, environment and health
ZAMBRZYCKI Bartosz	Waste
ANDERSSON Ingvar	Research links and cooperation
DAMMANN Sven	Emerging issues and research support
GEE David	Emerging issues and scientific liaison
MEOZZI Paolo	Knowledge development support services
RICKARD Louise	Tools for integrated assessment

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