

# Key findings of SOER 2010 relevant to the 6EAP final assessment

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# SOER 2010: links to the 6th Environment Action Programme

## Thematic assessments

Understanding climate change

Mitigating climate change

Adapting to climate change

Biodiversity

Land use

Soil

Marine and coastal environment

Consumption and environment

Material resources and waste

Water resources: quantity & flows

Freshwater quality

Air pollution

Urban environment

The 13 thematic assessments can be clustered into four groups, in accordance with the 6EAP



Climate change



Nature & biodiversity



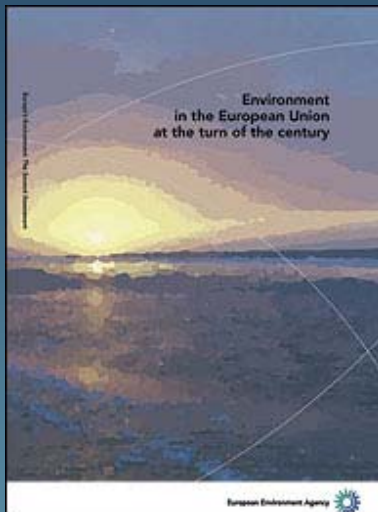
Natural resources & wastes



Environment, health & quality of life



## A familiar message: progress but not enough



‘It appears that apart from significant and positive cuts in ozone-depleting substances, progress in reducing other pressures on the state of the environment has remained **largely insufficient** – **in spite of positive trends in some areas**’ – EEA 1999

‘Over the past 30 years, **much has been done** to improve Europe's environment. But **major challenges** remain for the future.’ – SOER 2005



# Climate change



# Climate change

Environmental issue	EEA 38 - 10 yr trend?	EU 27 target / objective - which?	EU 27 - on track?
<i>Climate Change</i>			
Global mean temperature change	↗	To limit increases to below 2°C globally	☒ [D]
Greenhouse gas emissions	↘	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 % by 2020	☑ [E]
Energy efficiency	↗	To reduce primary energy use by 20 % by 2020 vs. BAU	☐ [E]
Renewable energy sources	↗	To increase energy consumption from renewables	☐ [E]

Legend			
Positive development		Negative developments	
Increasing trend	↗	Increasing trend	↗
Decreasing trend	↘	Decreasing trend	↘
EU on track	☑	EU not on track	☒
Neutral / mixed development			
Stable trend	→	Mixed progress	☐





# Nature and biodiversity



# Nature and biodiversity

Environmental issue	EEA 38 - 10 yr trend?	EU 27 target / objective - which?	EU 27 - on track?
<b><i>Nature &amp; Biodiversity</i></b>			
Pressure on ecosystems (from air pollution)	→	Not to exceed critical loads of eutrophying substances	☒
Conservation status (safeguard habitats & species)	→	To achieve favourable conservation status ...	☐
Biodiversity loss (terrestrial and marine)	↘	To reverse negative species abundance trends	☒
Soil degradation (soil erosion)	?	To prevent further soil degradation	?

## Legend

Positive development		Negative developments	
Increasing trend	↗	Increasing trend	↗
Decreasing trend	↘	Decreasing trend	↘
EU on track	☑	EU not on track	☒
Neutral / mixed development			
Stable trend	→	Mixed progress	☐



# Natural resources and waste





# Natural resources and waste

Environmental issue	EEA 38 - 10 yr trend?	EU 27 target / objective - which?	EU 27 - on track?
<b><i>Natural resources and waste</i></b>			
Decoupling (resource use from economic growth)	↗	To decouple resource use from economic growth	☐
Waste generation	↗	To substantially reduce waste generation	☒
Waste management (recycling)	↗	Several recycling targets for different specific waste streams	☑
Water stress (water exploitation)	→	To achieve good quantitative status of water bodies	☐

Legend			
Positive development		Negative developments	
Increasing trend	↗	Increasing trend	↗
Decreasing trend	↘	Decreasing trend	↘
EU on track	☑	EU not on track	☒
Neutral / mixed development			
Stable trend	→	Mixed progress	☐



# Environment, health and quality of life



# Environment, health and quality of life

Environmental issue	EEA 38 - 10 yr trend?	EU 27 target / objective - which?	EU 27 - on track?
<b>Environment and health</b>			
Water quality (ecological and chemical status)	→	To achieve good ecological and chemical status of water bodies	□
Water pollution (point sources, bathing water quality)	↘	To comply with bathing water quality, urban waste water treatment	☑
Transboundary air pollution (NO <sub>x</sub> , NMVOC, SO <sub>2</sub> , NH <sub>3</sub> , primary particles)	↘	To limit emissions of acidifying, eutrophying and ozone precursor poll.	□
Air quality in urban areas (particulate matter and ozone)	→	To attain levels of air quality that do not give rise to neg health impacts	☒

## Legend

Positive development		Negative developments	
Increasing trend	↗	Increasing trend	↗
Decreasing trend	↘	Decreasing trend	↘
EU on track	☑	EU not on track	☒
Neutral / mixed development			
Stable trend	→	Mixed progress	□



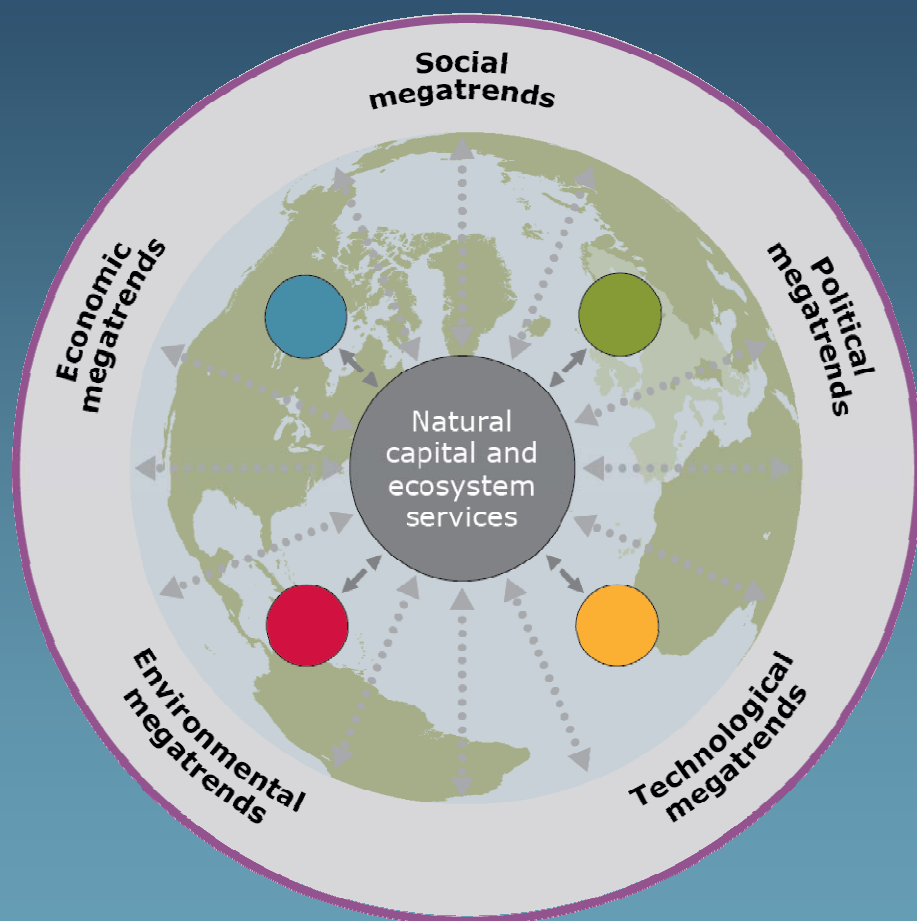


# We face complex interlinked challenges





# We face complex interlinked challenges



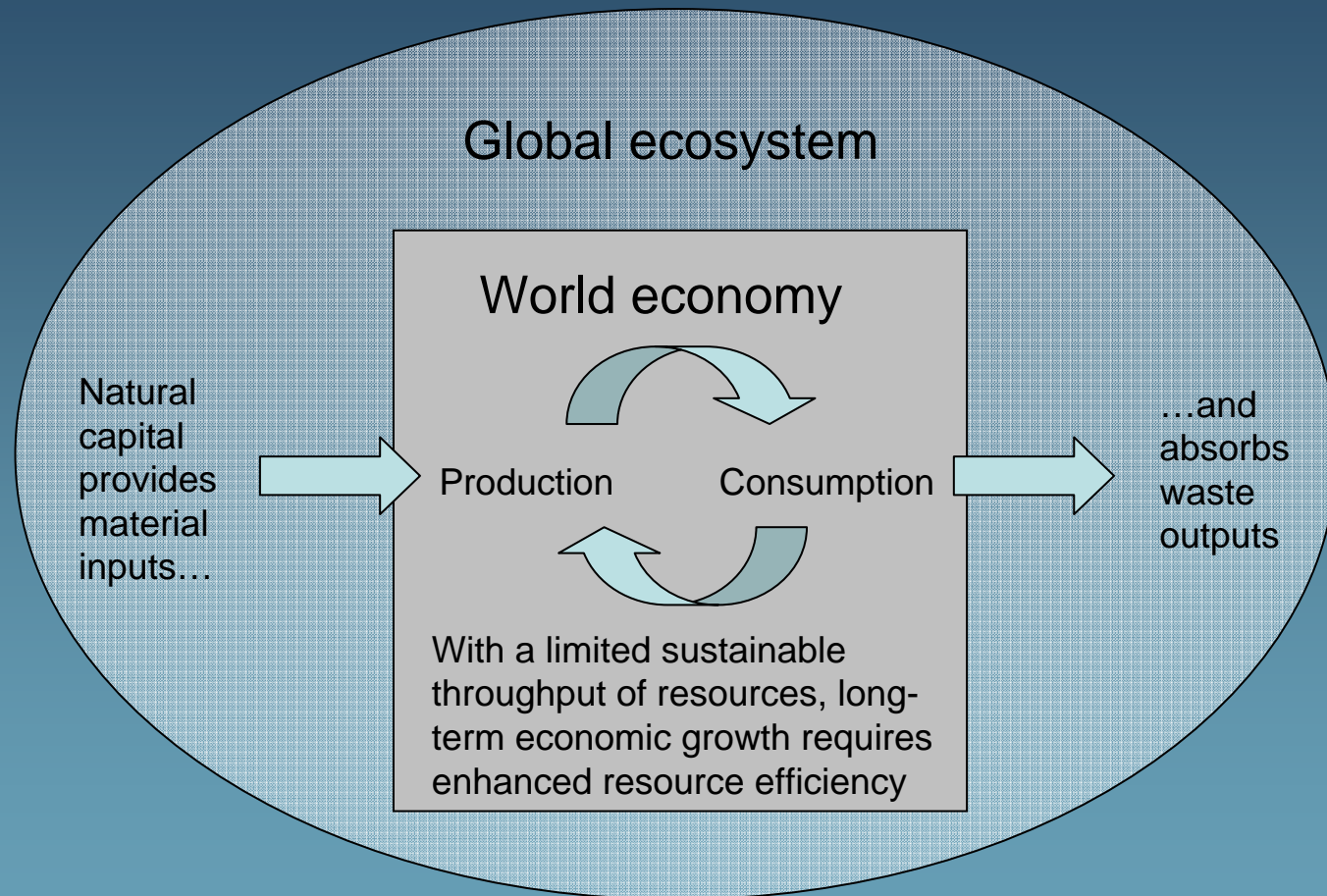
These links highlight the necessity of an integrated response, ensuring coherent management of natural capital across sectors and policy domains.

## Environment policy priority areas

- Climate change
- Nature and biodiversity
- Natural resources and waste
- Environment, health and quality of life



# 'Resource efficiency' and 'resilience': key elements in a narrative to guide policymaking



# The green economy – a working definition

*An economy in which policies and innovations enable society to generate more of value each year while preserving the natural systems that sustain us*



# A long-term vision to guide policymaking

*What sort of environmental outcomes are we targeting in 2050?*





## SOER 2010 in summary

A comprehensive body of assessments of the European environment, offering coherence across themes and across scales, illustrating the complex systemic links between issues, including the impacts of global megatrends.



# Thank you

## THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT

STATE AND OUTLOOK 2010  
SYNTHESIS

European Environment Agency 

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