GROWING TOGETHER: enlargement helps improve quality of life

COUNTRIES THAT WISH TO JOIN THE EU MUST ADAPT TO EU STANDARDS IN AREAS SUCH AS ENERGY, TRANSPORT, THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, FOOD SAFETY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Cleaner environment
Pollution does not respect national borders! Thanks to enlargement, high environmental standards are now applied across the 28 EU countries.

Greenhouse gas emissions in the EU28 are significantly lower now than they were in 1990. In Latvia and Lithuania for example, emissions are now less than 50% of their 1990 levels.

Better connections
Good quality transport links are being built to improve connections across Europe, in particular reconnecting the West and East.

Safer transport
The number of fatalities on roads in the 10 member states that joined in 2004 has halved since their accession. Across the whole of the EU-28, there has been a 46% reduction in the number of fatalities on the road.

Safer food and better protection for more consumers
The adherence of new countries to the EU’s food safety policy and control systems means that even more consumers enjoy access to a much wider variety of quality food.

Bathing water quality
To see how bathing water quality improved, check out the interactive map: