**SCOREBOARD CRITERIA AND CLARIFCATIONS**

**Date: 16 September 2015**

The scoreboard will be organised by 7th EAP Priority Objective (PO) (NB. Only the first 3 POs will be included). Under each PO there will be one line by indicator showing the following and in the following order.

**Indicator title.** The title of the indicator as it appears on the indicator owner’s (i.e. EEA) site.

**Historic trend.** ↑: upwards change, ↓: downwards change, →: no change or not statistically significant change. Trend shown in the indicator based on the indicator’s time series. I.e. base year and most recent year differ from indicator to indicator. In cases where it is not easy to see the trend, the DEFRA ‘3% rule of thumb’ method should be used unless the responsible EEA thematic expert is already using in the EEA indicator a statistically more appropriate method for the specific thematic area - in which case this method would have to be explained/documented by the responsible EEA thematic expert. DEFRA (<https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/223992/0_SDIs_final__2_.pdf>, (pages 6-8) compares the difference between the value of the measure in the base and in the end years against the ‘3% rule of thumb’. A change of more than a 3% signifies change (↑ or ↓), a change of less than a 3 % signifies no overall change (→). In the exceptional cases where the DEFRA ‘rule of thumb’ was not used – see text just above, the → trend in the scoreboard could also mean that there is statistical inconsistency of the trend overtime (observed trend has evolved in a rather volatile way).

**Change since 2014** ↑: upwards change, ↓: downwards change, →: no change. Shows the direction of change in data from 2014 onwards, i.e. since the 7th EAP came into force. The change in 2014 is the change from 2013 to 2014. In case of data availability beyond 2014 the DEFRA ‘3% rule of thumb’ should be applied. Data are not ‘normalised’, i.e. not cleaned up by e.g. weather influence (N.B there maybe a case or two where the data that we have, have already been normalised, in which case we will have to live with some inconsistencies).

**7th EAP selected 2020 objective**. This is text (in form of an objective) from the 7th EAP Decision that corresponds to what can be addressed by the indicator. This text is found in the 7th EAP Decision under one of the first three 7th EAP Priority Objectives. More specifically it is found in paragraphs 28 (for PO1), 43 (for PO2) and 54 (for PO3) of the 7th EAP Decision. Example: Outdoor air quality significantly improved moving closer to WHO recommended levels. The EEA will indicate which text to be used for each of the indicators.

**Environmental acquis selected 2020 objective.** This shows the selected corresponding target or directional objective that relates to the indicator and originates from the environmental acquis (e.g. from EU Directives, Communications, Roadmaps, Green/White papers). Example: Increase share of renewable energies in final energy consumption to 20%. The EEA will indicate the target or directional objective to use.

**Outlook towards 2020**. Green: there is a clear expectation that the objective will be met. Yellow: It is unclear as to whether the objective will be met. Red: there is a clear expectation that the objective will not be met. The assessment should be based on (1) indicator based trends as observed over the past years; (2) distance to target assessments (where available); (3) modelled estimates of future developments (where available); alongside (4) expert consideration of the effects of EU policies currently in place and drivers of global change.

In those cases where there is not a selected corresponding target/directional objective from the environmental acquis or that it is not possible to determine the historic trend, the change since 2014 or the outlook towards 2020, the n.a. (for non applicable) symbol will be used.

The geographical scope of the scoreboard is EU-28.