10th Anniversary of the
European Environment Agency

Before 1994

1989 – Jacques Delors put a proposal to the European Parliament about the establishment of a European Environment Agency

Statement by Commission President Jacques Delors to the European Parliament 17 January 1989):

“The Commission will propose the introduction of a European system of environmental measurement and verification which could be the precursor of a European environment agency.”

“The object...will be to....give us a network responsible for measurement, verification, certification, information and sounding the alert. “
“Our neighbours would obviously be free to join in the venture and the system could even be linked with world systems or networks in due course.”

1990- 1993 – The EEA's task force was set up and agrees…

to finalise the Dobris Assessment

to take over the Corine programme

1994

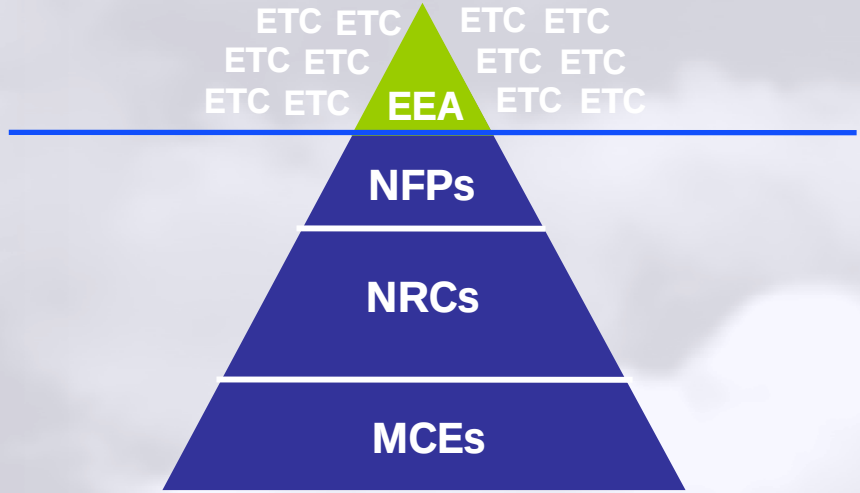
1994

The EEA moves into its premises at Kongens Nytorv 6 in Copenhagen

1994

EIONET is established

1994



EIONET ELEMENTS

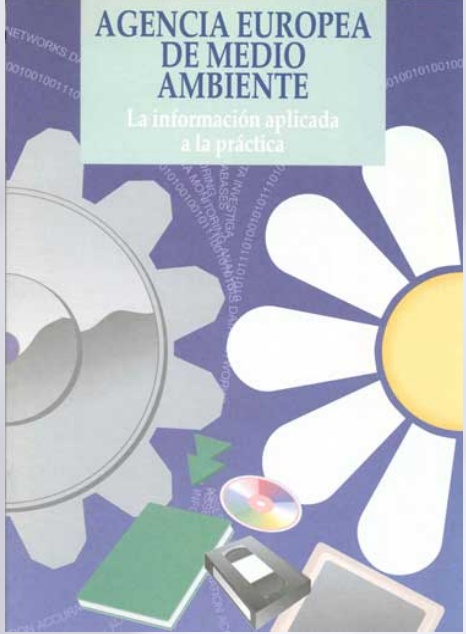
1994

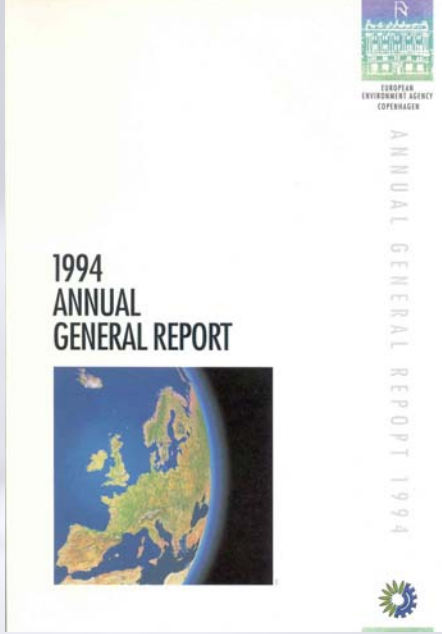
Recruitment of staff starts in earnest

1994

The first multiannual work programme spanning 1994-99 is adopted

1994


AGENCIA EUROPEA
DE MEDIO
AMBIENTE
La información aplicada
a la práctica


1994
ANNUAL
GENERAL REPORT
ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT 1994

1994

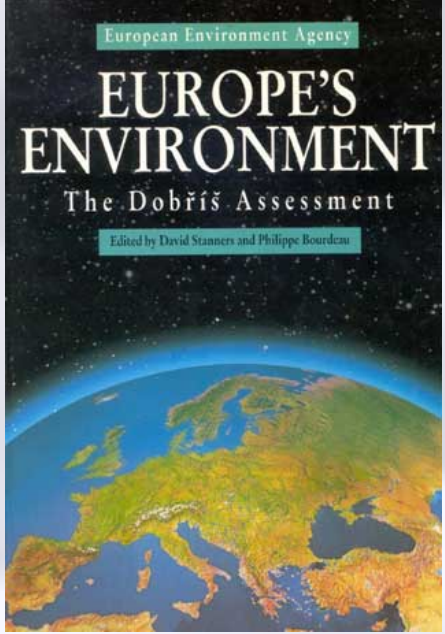
The first Scientific Committee takes place 30 June

1994

Official inauguration of the EEA (6th EEA MB meeting)

1995

1995

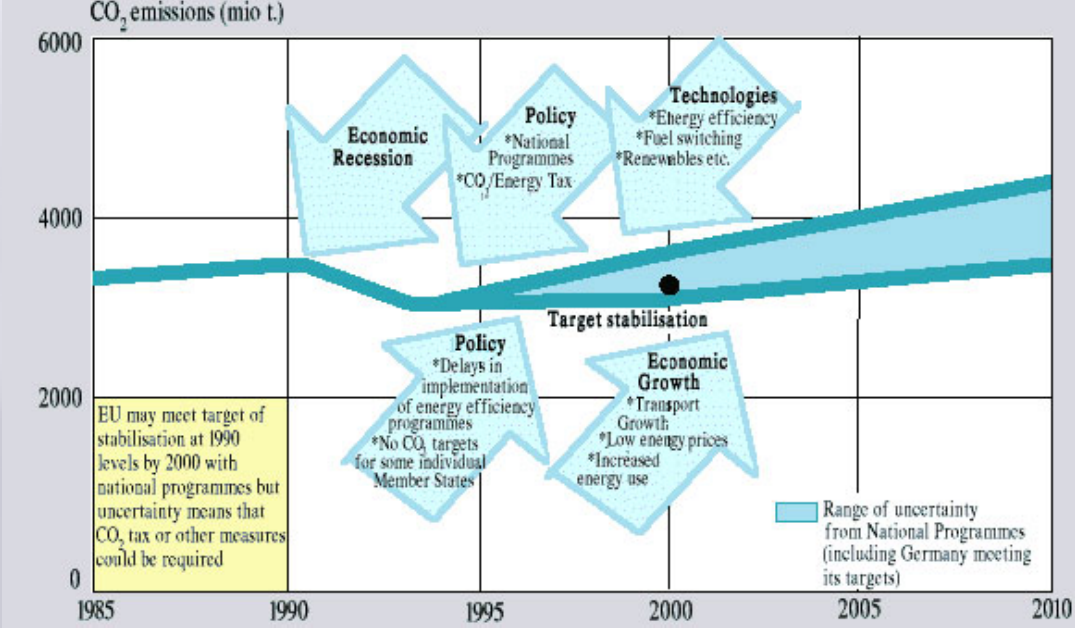


“Europe’s environment – The Dobris Assessment” a major input to the intergovernmental environment conference held in Sofia, Bulgaria by UNECE

1995

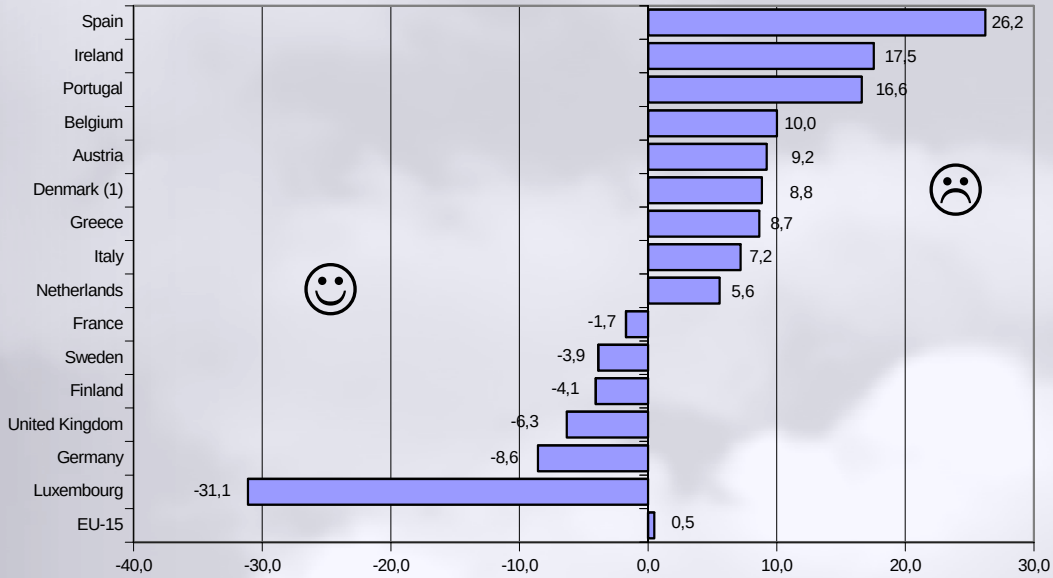
“Environment in the European Union 1995”, a contribution to the midterm evaluation of the 5th EAP is published

1995



Scenarios:
Progress Towards CO2 Stabilisation in the EU12…

1995

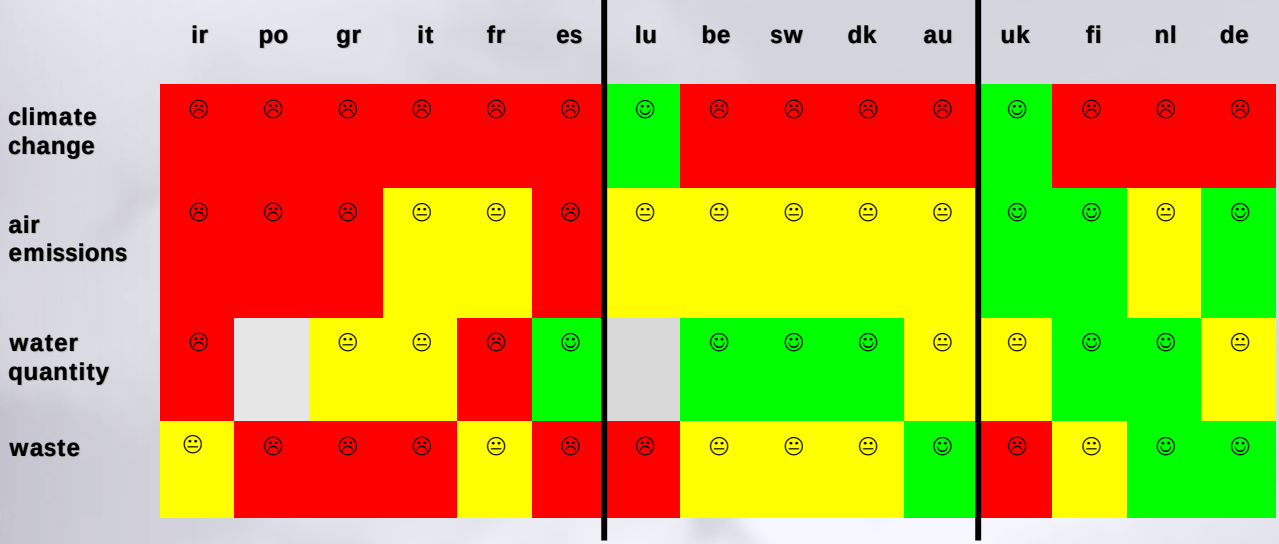


Distance-to-target for EU Member States in 2000
(Kyoto Protocol and EU burden sharing targets)

1995

Key Environmental Problem	PROGRESS policies	PROGRESS state of Environment
climate change		
stratospheric ozone depletion		
acidification		
tropospheric ozone		
chemicals		
waste		
biodiversity		
inland waters		
marine & coastal environment		
soil degradation		
urban environment		
technological hazards		

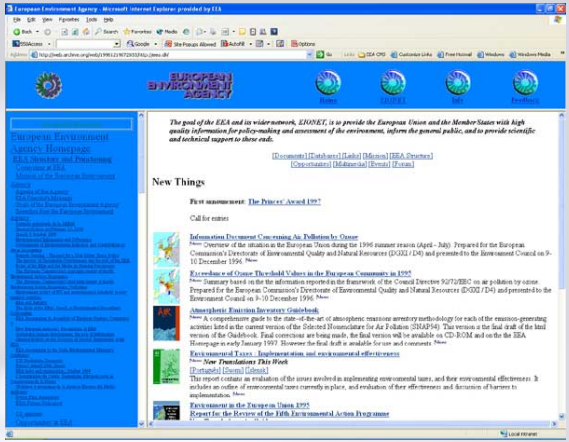
1995



The indicators used in this report give a clear signal to Ireland and the southern European countries that more needs to be done.

Country performance on selected indicators

1995



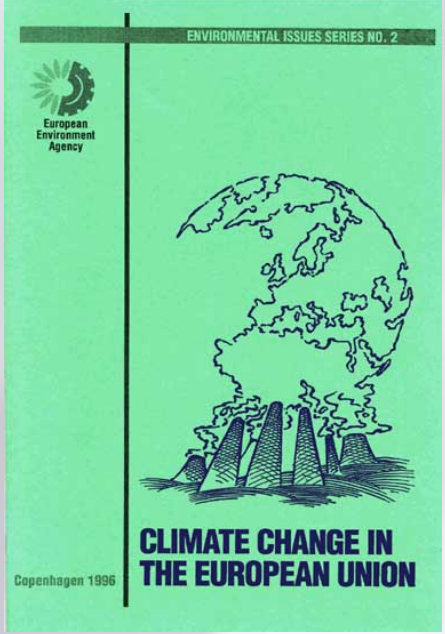
The EEA first website is launched by Commission president Jacques Santer and environment commissioner Ritt Bjerregaad

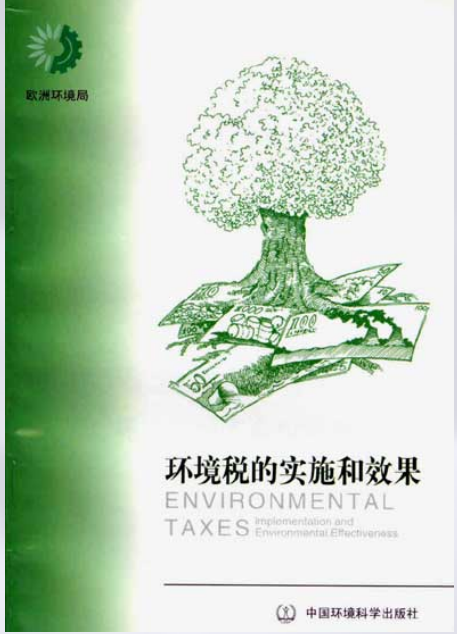
European Environment Agency

1996

European Environment Agency

1996

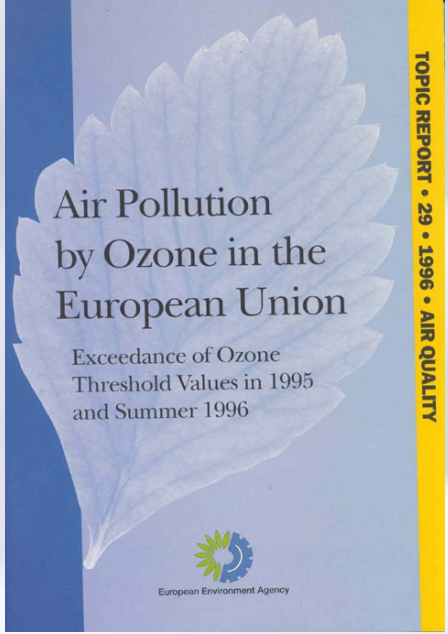




The first “Environmental issues” reports are published

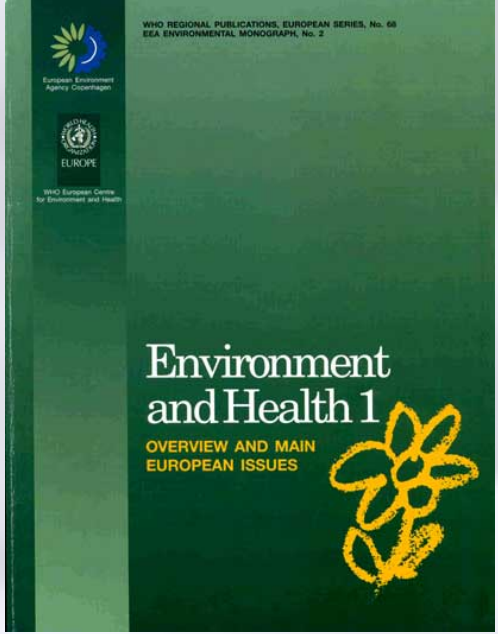
- **Climate change in the EU**
- **Environmental Taxes**

1996



The first topic report “Air pollution by ozone in the European Union”, also known as the “summer ozone report” is published

1996



The initial joint report with WHO ‘Environment and health – Overview and main European issues’ is published

1996

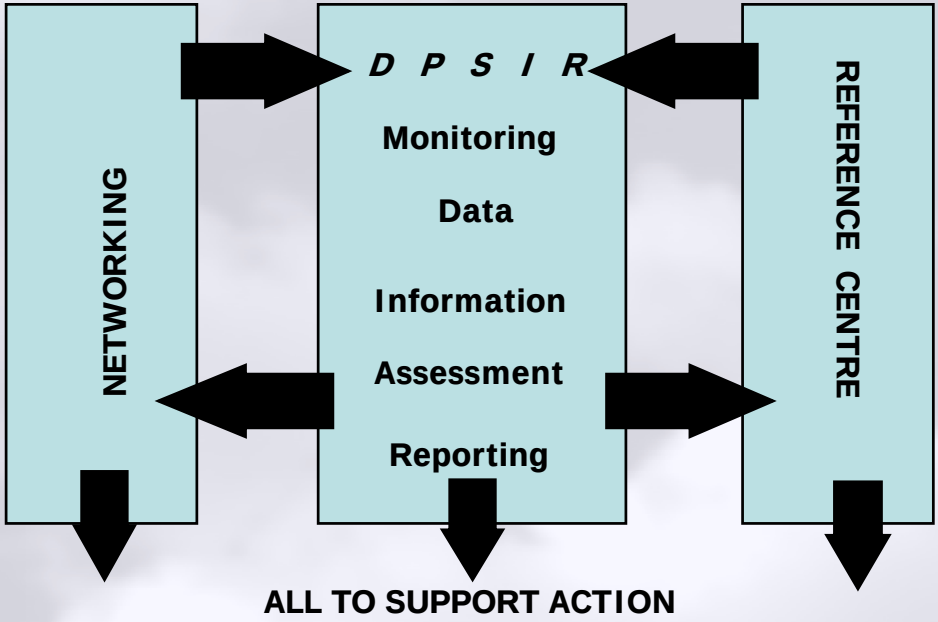
The Princes' Award Foundation
EUROPEAN AWARDS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The first Princes' Award on the best audio-visuals on Europe's Environment. The awards were given by the HRH Prince Frederik of Denmark and HRH Prince Filipe of Spain

1997

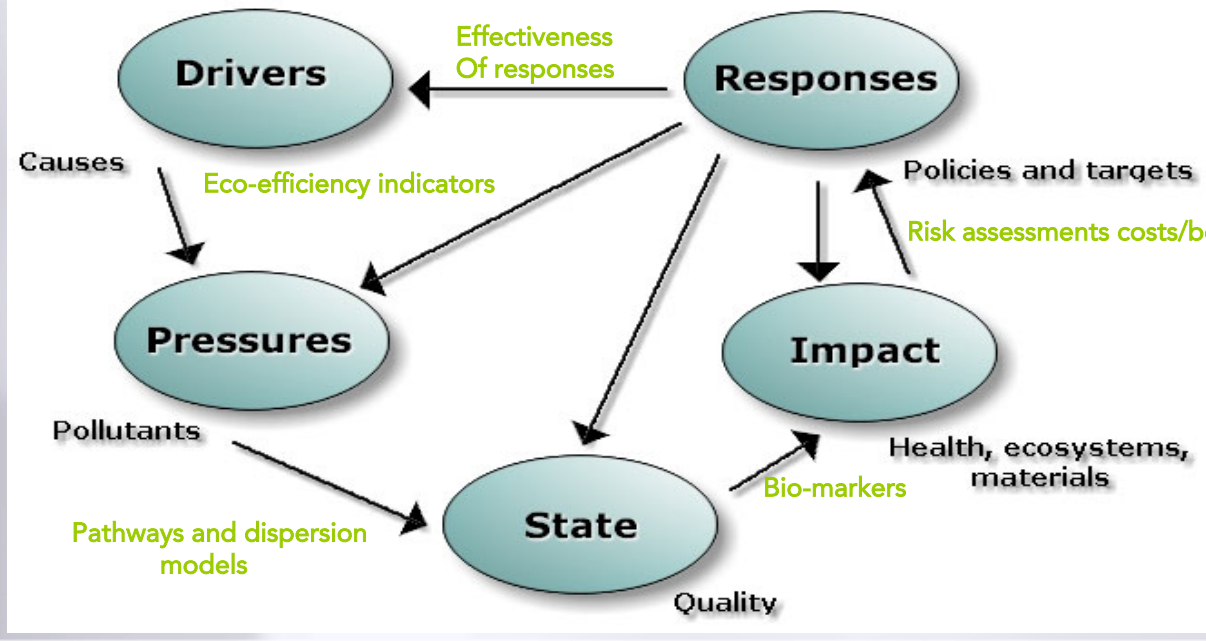
European Environment Agency

1997



Implementation of ENVISION

1997



The DPSIR model…

1997

M: Monitoring

D: Data

I: Information

A: Assessment

R: Reporting

R: Reporting

A: Assessment

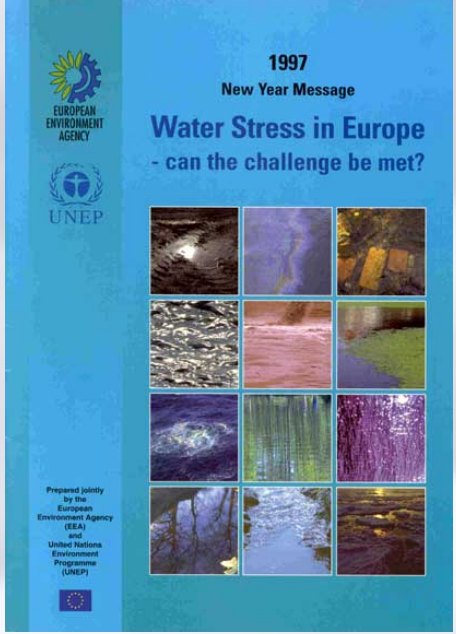
I: Information

D: Data

M: Monioring

MDIAR stands for

1997

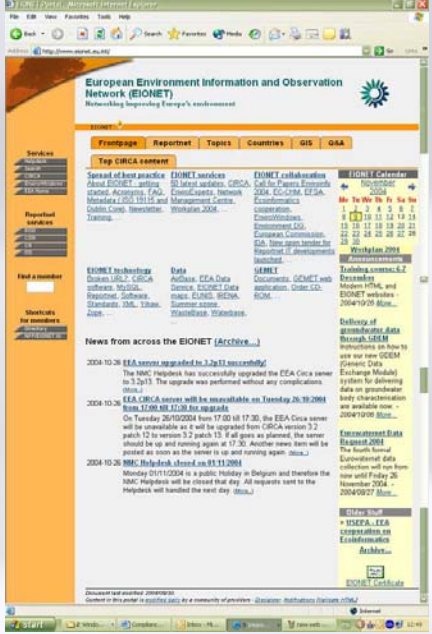


The first joint EEA/UNEP message – ‘Water stress in Europe : can the challenge be met’ – is published

1997

‘Environmental Agreements: Environmental Effectiveness’

1997



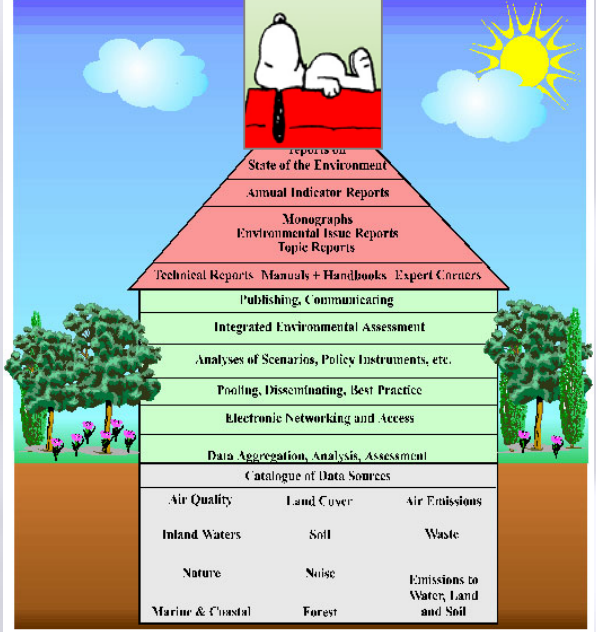
EIONET connects electronically

European Environment Agency

1998

European Environment Agency

1998

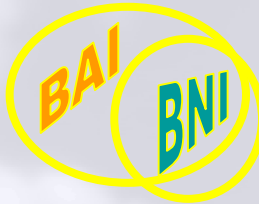


Our house, where we produce BAI, SOER, IEA, MAWP,…

1998

BAI : best available information

EEA's starting point in reporting: exploiting the wealth of information in Europe.

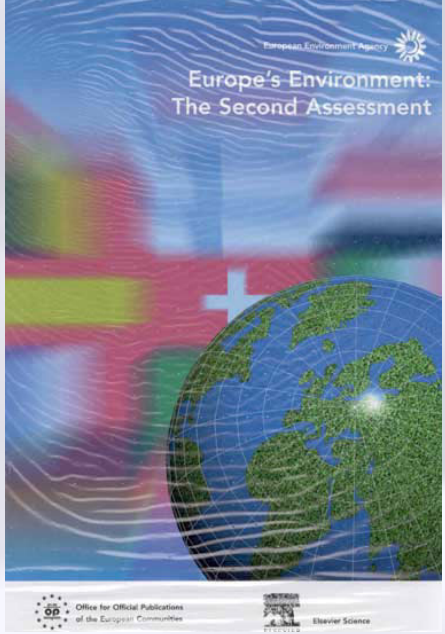


BNI : best needed information

Indicator-based reporting is a tool to limit the amount of information collected: we need to draw practical consequences now!

From BAI to BNI

1998



'Europe's Environment – The Second Assessment' a major input to the intergovernmental environment conference held in Århus, Denmark by UNECE

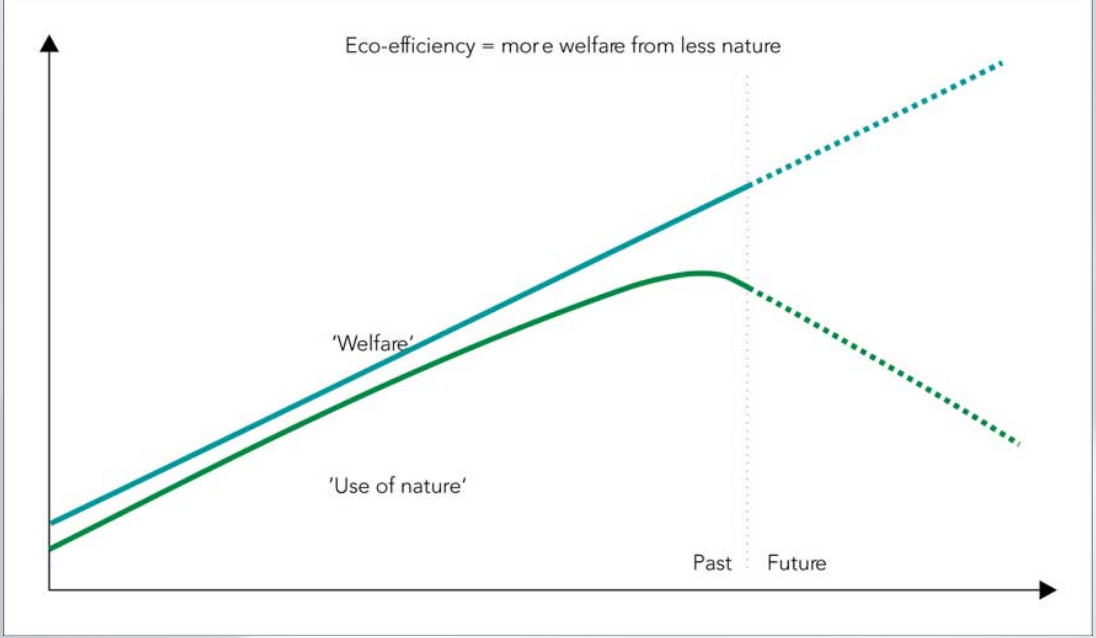
1998

EEA’s data warehouse is established and launched at the Århus Conference

1999

European Environment Agency

1999

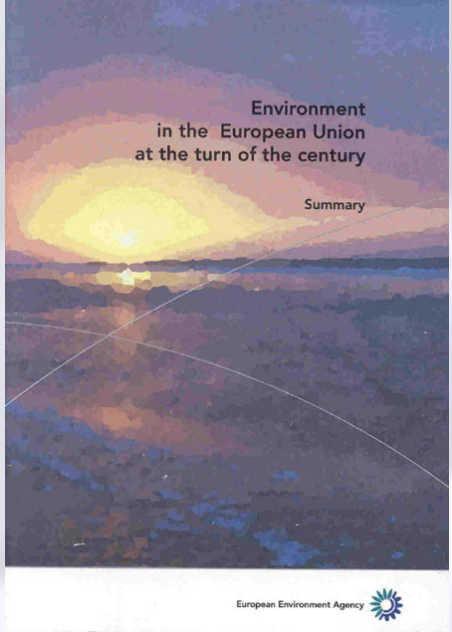


Decoupling and eco-efficiency…

1999

Looking to the future!

1999



‘Environment in the European union at the turn of the century’ is launched. The report assesses EU’s 5th environment action programme

1999

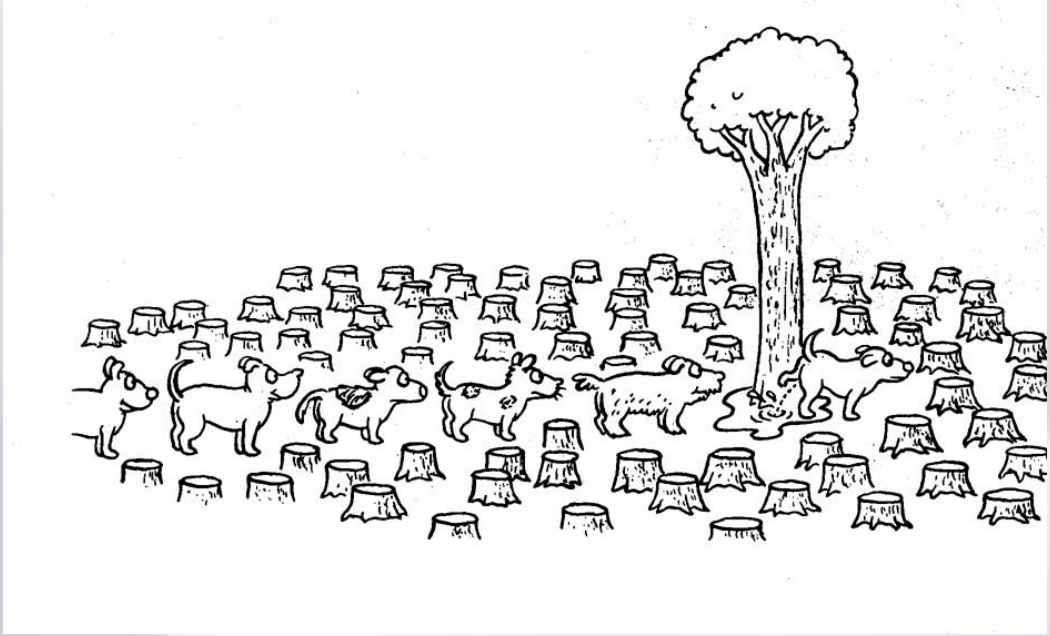
‘Chemicals in European Environment: Low Doses High Stakes’
‘Ground water quality’
‘Nutrients in European ecosystems’

European Environment Agency

2000

European Environment Agency

2000

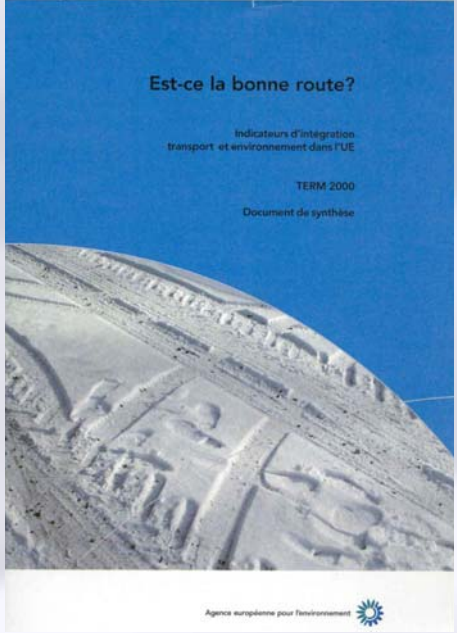


The one-stop-shop for information…

2000

The first edition of the EEA's regular indicator report 'Environmental Signals' is published

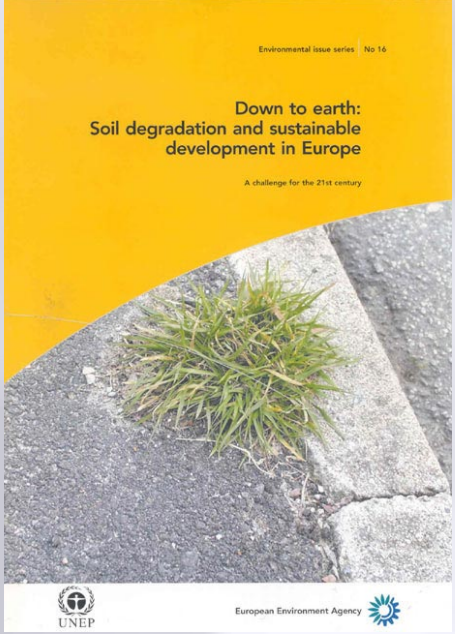
2000

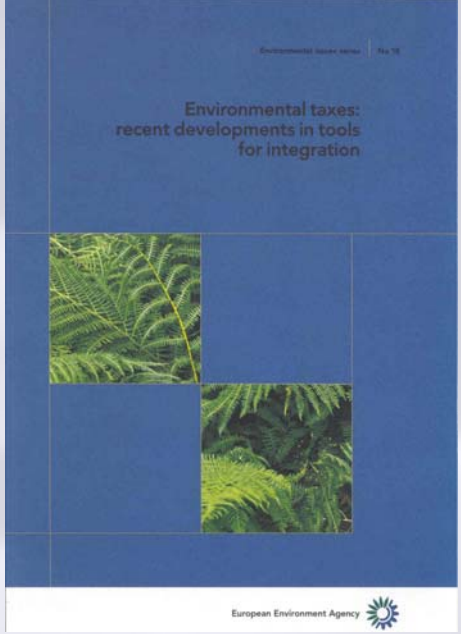


The first edition of TERM, assessing integration of environmental concerns in the transport sector, is published

European Environment Agency

2000





‘Down to earth’
‘Environmental taxes’

European Environment Agency

2000

EEA membership negotiations start with the EU accession countries

2001

European Environment Agency

2001

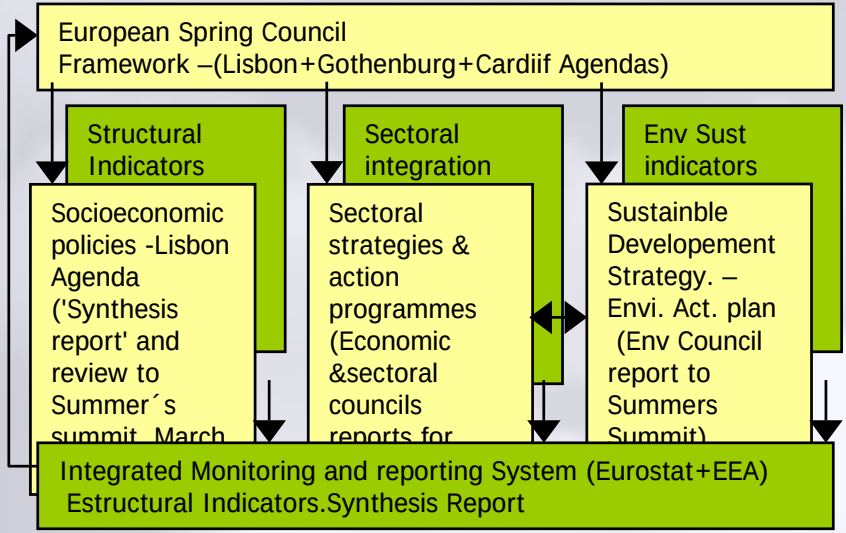
European Council (Spring Councils. First Barcelona, March 2001)

- **Strategy for Sustainable Development**
  (presented by EC and launched at Gothenburg Summit. To be brought to Rio+10 UN conference, Johannesburg, September 2002)
- **Socio-economic agenda**

Integrated (consistent) Monitoring and Reporting
Synthesis Report. Sectoral and Environmental Reports (with indicators)
(Selection of indicators at Laeken European Council)

(Why a multi-corridor approach)? It takes at least three to tango...

2001

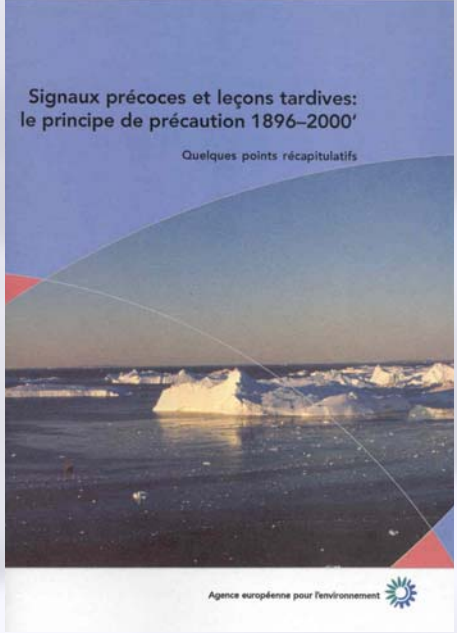


The 'three corridors model' to review progress in sustainable development

2001

Traffic on the EEA website exceeds two million hits and 80 thousand user sessions per month

2001



Late lessons from early warnings: the precautionary principle, 1896-2000

2001

Environmental signals 2001

Reporting on ‘Environmental measures – are we being effective?’

‘Renewable Energies: success stories’

European Environment Agency

2001

Michaele Fontana, an Italian expert working for the agency, dies in a plane accident in Linate Airport, Milano

2002

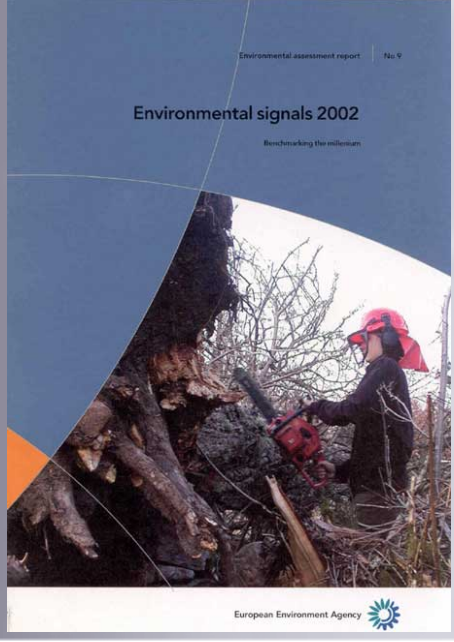
European Environment Agency

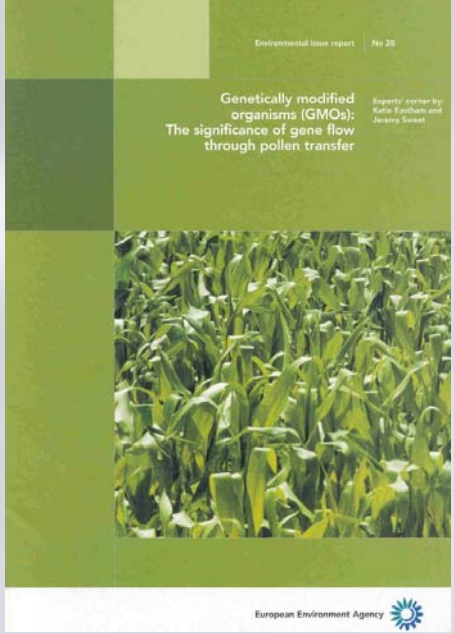
2002

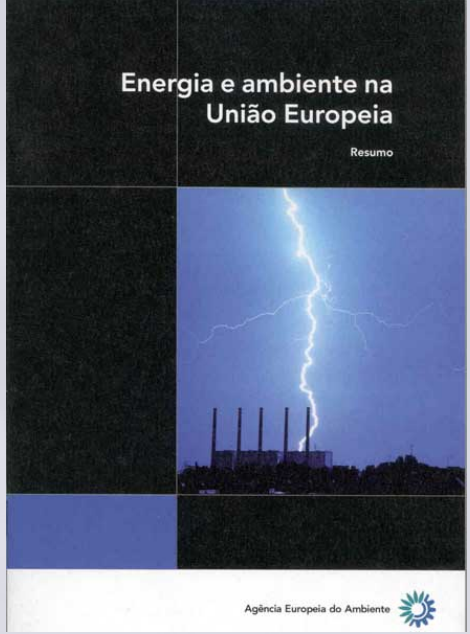
The EEA is the first institution to welcome the accession countries as members

The number of member countries rises to 31

European Environment Agency

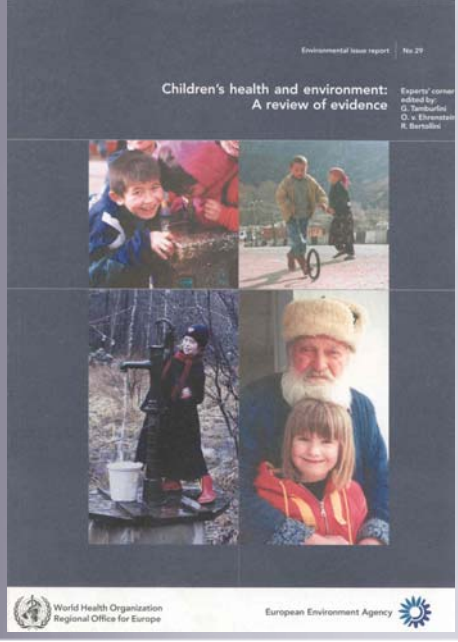


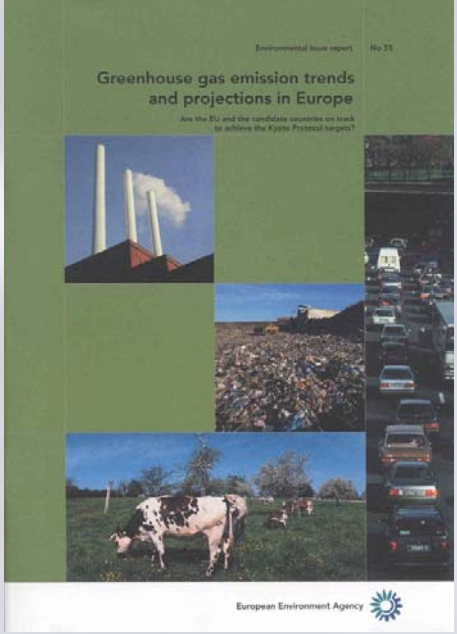


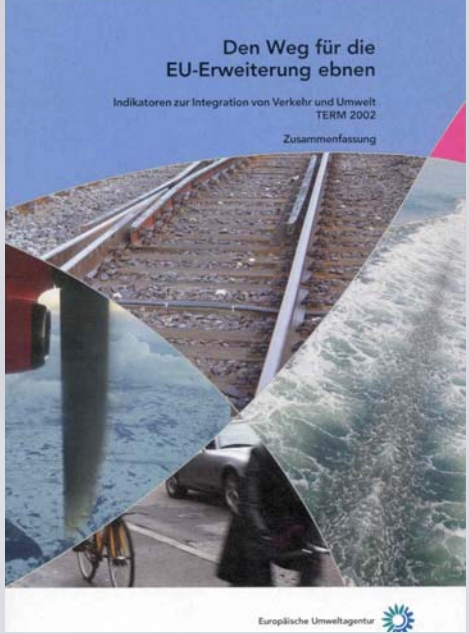


Environmental Signals 2002
GMOs
Energy and Environment in the EU

European Environment Agency







Children's health and environment
Greenhouse gas emissions trends and projections n Europe
TERM report

European Environment Agency

2002

After eight years the EEA's first executive director, Domingo Jiménez Beltrán, leaves the agency

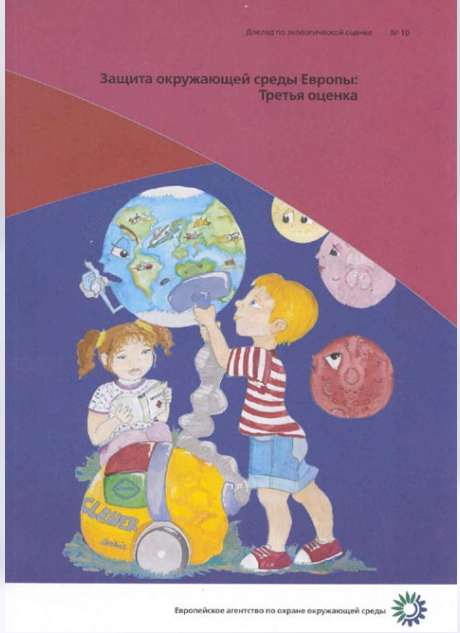
2002

Gordon McInnes takes over as Interim Executive Director

2003

European Environment Agency

2003



‘Europe’s Environment – The third Assessment’ forms a major input to the intergovernmental environmental conference held in Kiev, Ukraine by UNECE

2003

EEA briefing

No 1/2003

Status of Europe's water

Overall picture

The protection and quality of Europe's water is improving. As set out in more detail below, nearly 30 years of EU legislation together with national and international action to protect and improve the aquatic environment are bearing fruit in many areas. However there are certain issues, especially linked to agriculture, where progress is not being made. Furthermore, where progress is being achieved there can still be outstanding problems and specific geographical 'hot spots'. It must also be stressed that there are large data gaps on some issues where the conclusions reached must be treated with some caution.

Given the significant influence of agriculture, it will be important to monitor the effect of EU enlargement on the sector and on water resources in the new Member States. Economic restructuring in the 1990s generally led to reduced pressures on the aquatic environment; any widespread intensification of agriculture after enlargement is likely to reverse this trend.

Areas of progress

Ecological quality of rivers

Ecological quality reflects the effects of all chemical and physical pressures on the biological system. Information on rivers in 14 countries indicates mostly improving river quality. However, there is a lack of comparable data on the European scale. This situation will improve as implementation of the water framework directive (2000/60/EC) progresses.

Pollution by oxygen-consuming substances and phosphorus

Control of point-source pollution from urban areas and industry has led to significant improvements in the quality of many water bodies across Europe. Notable is the reduction of phosphorus and organic matter in rivers and lakes resulting from improved treatment of urban waste water, as well as through the introduction of phosphate-free detergents and a reduction in the use of phosphate fertilisers in agriculture.

There have also been associated decreases in riverine and direct discharges of nutrients to seas (particularly the North Sea and Baltic Sea), though for a variety of possible reasons (complex physical and chemical relationships, data gaps) these have not always been reflected in reductions in marine concentrations of nutrients.

Better waste water treatment has also led to an improvement in coastal and inland bathing water quality. Compliance rates with the mandatory EU standards are over 90 %.

Pollution by hazardous substances

Pollution of rivers by heavy metals and some other heavily regulated chemicals listed in the dangerous substances directive (76/464/EEC) is generally decreasing. Data availability for many other pollutants is too weak to make assessments.

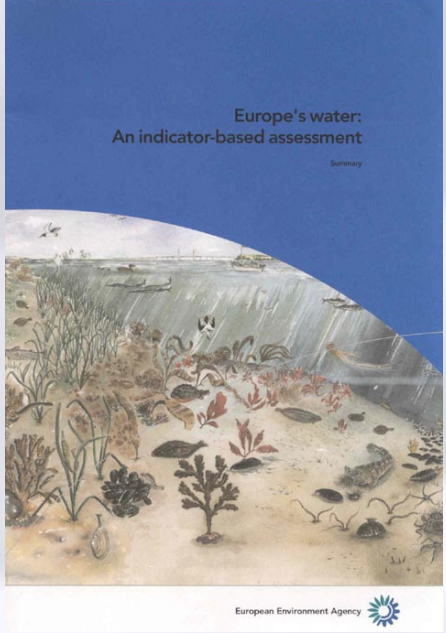
An associated reduction has occurred in the loads of heavy metals and of certain organic substances discharged to the marine environment. There is also evidence that these falls are leading to decreases in the concentrations of these substances in marine biota in Europe's seas, though concentrations above limits deemed safe for human consumption are still found in mussels and fish from estuaries of major rivers, near industrial point discharges and in harbours.

European Environment Agency

www.eea.eu.int

A new product category, 'EEA briefings' is launched. Short and focussed, EEA briefings are aimed primarily at pressed-for-time policymakers

2003



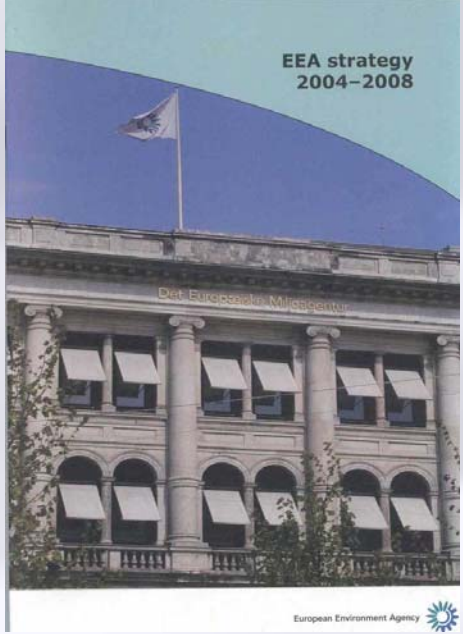
Europe’s water – An indicator-based assessment

European Environment Agency

2003

Prof. Jacqueline McGlade, Appointed by the Management Board as the EEA's new Executive Director

2003



New EEA strategy for 2004-2008 is approved

2004

European Environment Agency

2004

Environment commissioner Margot Wallström launches EPER (European Pollution Emissions Register)

EPER gives access to information on emissions from industrial facilities in the Eu15, Norway & Hungary

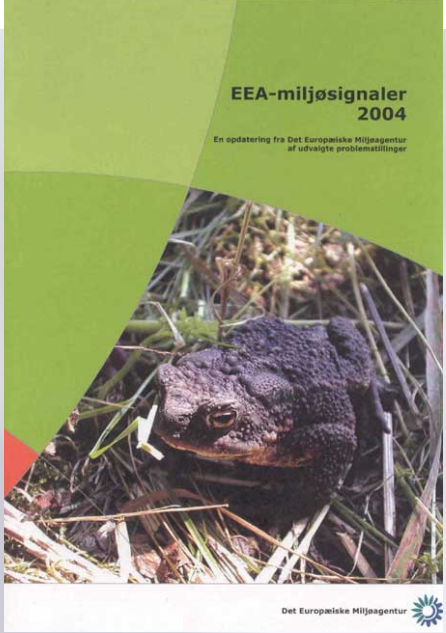
2004

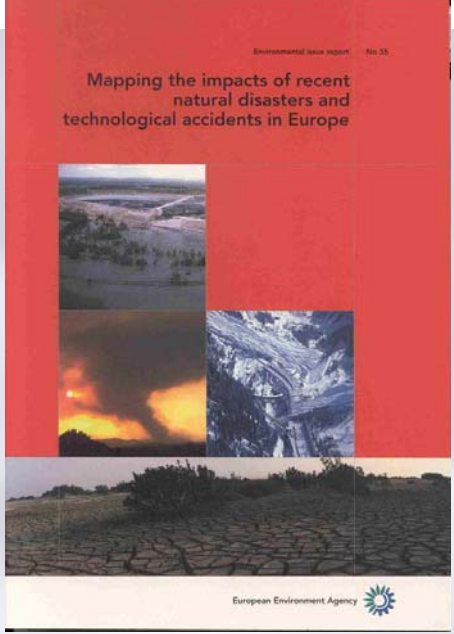
European Environment Agency

2004

Core set of 37 environmental indicators launched

2004

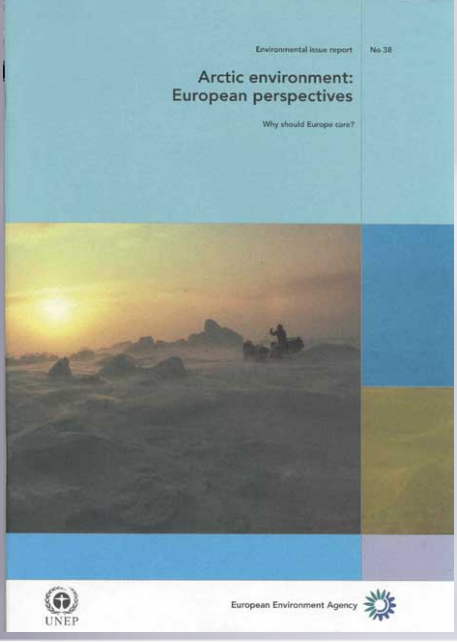


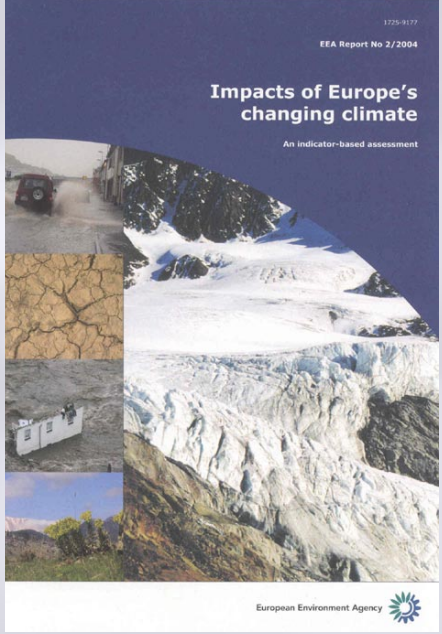


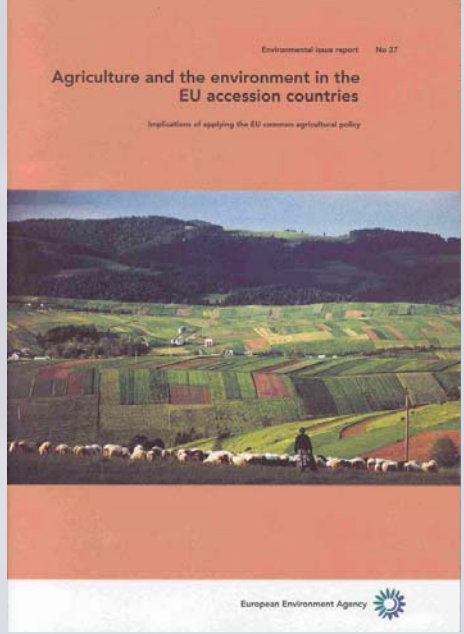
Environmental Signals

Environmental accidents

European Environment Agency







Artic environment: European perspectives

Inmpacts of Europe's changing climate

Agriculture in the EU accession countries

European Environment Agency

2004

Launch of Multilingual website

2004

Launch of Kidszone

1994

2004

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Long life to the EEA!

And thanks to the people that made it possible!

courage
to
implement
1994
2004