

IMPLEMENTING THE 7TH ENVIRONMENT ACTION PROGRAMME STATUS, CHALLENGES & NEXT STEPS TOWARDS AN 8TH EAP

Patrick ten Brink, EU Policy Director, EEB

Julika Dittrich, Project Director, Umweltdachverband, UWD

Building on the background report – see multiple authors



EEB

European
Environmental
Bureau

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Introduction to the 7EAP, the project and the workshop - **Patrick**

Priority thematic actions 1-3: Illustrative insights

- **EU Insights: Patrick**
- **Austrian Insights: Julika**

Enabling Framework and "enabling" priority objectives

- **EU Insights: Patrick**
- **Austrian Insights: Julika**

Horizontal priority objectives

- **EU Insights: Patrick**
- **Austrian Insights: Julika**

Aim of the day & wider project ambitions - **Julika**

THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE 7EAP

The 7th Environment Action Programme (7EAP), adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union in November 2013, came into force in January 2014 and priority objectives need to be met by 2020. The 7EAP is guided by the long term vision:

In 2050, we live well, within the planet's ecological limits. Our prosperity and healthy environment stem from an innovative, circular economy where nothing is wasted and where natural resources are managed sustainably, and biodiversity is protected, valued and restored in ways that enhance our society's resilience. Our low-carbon growth has long been decoupled from resource use, setting the pace for a safe and sustainable global society.

7EAP <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/pubs/pdf/factsheets/7eap/en.pdf>

THE 7 EAP: ITS KEY OBJECTIVES, 'ENABLING' MEASURES, AND HORIZONTAL PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

Three key objectives: Thematic priorities:

- to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's **natural capital**
- to turn the Union into a **resource-efficient**, green, and competitive low-carbon **economy**
- to **safeguard** the Union's citizens from **environment-related pressures** and risks to health and wellbeing

Enabling Framework: Four "enabling" priority objectives

- better **implementation** of legislation
- better **information** by improving the knowledge base
- more and wiser **investment** for environment and climate policy
- full **integration** of environmental requirements and considerations into other policies

THE 7 EAP: ITS KEY OBJECTIVES, 'ENABLING' MEASURES, AND HORIZONTAL PRIORITY OBJECTIVES

Two horizontal priority objectives:

- to **make** the Union's **cities more sustainable**
- to help the Union **address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.**

Supporting principles:

- the **precautionary principle,**
- the **principles of preventive action and of rectification of pollution at source and**
- the **polluter-pays principle**

THE EAP: THEY HAVE EVOLVED OVER TIME

The 6th Environment Action Programme (6EAP), adopted in July 2002, was a 10-year framework for Community action on the environment,

Four focal areas

- climate change
- nature and biodiversity
- environment and health and quality of life
- and natural resources and wastes

Many similar themes as 7EAP, sometimes different form and formulation

Three horizontal and governance related approaches

- ‘strategic approaches’
- ‘international issues’
- ‘environmental policy-making’

Seven thematic strategies: air pollution; marine environment; prevention and recycling of waste; sustainable use of resources; urban environment; soil; and pesticides.

Three key objectives: Thematic priorities

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EU Insights: Patrick

Austrian Insights: Julika

EU Insights: Natural capital

What more needs to be done: 7EAP & Beyond

- Implement the **flagship nature and water legislation**
- Have a new **post-2020 biodiversity strategy** that **embeds SDG framework** & achieve a paradigm shift in **mainstreaming biodiversity**
- EU's **pesticide approval system** - clear need for further **transparency**. Public support for pesticides is dwindling.

- Implement the **Marine Directive** - to **protect biodiversity, stop pollution & end overfishing**
- **Marine litter/microplastics**: Measures are primarily needed upstream, on waste and water infrastructures and on changing consumer habits
- **Full implementation of the CFP** for all commercially exploited fish and shellfish - **safe biological limits**
- Transition towards a more **environmentally friendly agricultural production model** - take into account the **interdependence between food production, ecosystems and human wellbeing**

Priority objective 1: 'to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital'

	EU indicator past trend	Outlook of the EU meeting the selected objective by 2020
Exposure of terrestrial ecosystems to eutrophication due to air pollution	▲	●
Gross nutrient balance in agricultural land: nitrogen	▲	●
Land take	▲	●
Forest: growing stock, increment and fellings	▲	●
Status of marine fish stocks	▲	●
Abundance and distribution of selected species (common birds and grassland butterflies)	▲	●
Species of European interest	▲	●
Habitats of European interest	▲	●
Status of surface waters	N.A.	●

EU indicator past trend		Outlook for meeting the selected objective by 2020	
▲	Improving trend	●	It is likely that the objective will be met by 2020
▲	Stable or unclear trend	●	It is uncertain whether or not the objective will be met by 2020
▲	Deteriorating trend	●	It is unlikely that the objective will be met by 2020



Issues will remain important challenges beyond 2020 and hence potential priority areas for an 8EAP.

EU Insights: resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy

What more needs to be done: 7EAP & Beyond

- **CO₂ standards** for passenger cars, light commercial vehicles, trucks and buses – **promote transition beyond fossil-fuels**
- **Finalise and implement the 2030 climate and energy framework + 2050 roadmap to decarbonise the economy**
- **Energy efficiency requirements** large scale industrial industry
- **Support EU carbon price floor or national carbon price floors**
- **Knowledge for circ econ:** more systematic release of material content and performances information
- **Product Environmental Footprints (PEF)** work to (inter alia) help **fighting misleading green claims**
- Extend **Ecodesign** experience on energy related products **towards non-energy related products**, and target an overall life extension, increased reparability and sustainability of products.
- **Waste prevention** should be given more prominence when setting legally binding targets to ensure a quicker decrease of waste production per capita. **Food waste** is a priority.

Priority objective 2: 'to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy'

Resource productivity	▲	●
Waste generation in Europe	▲	●
Recycling of municipal waste	▲	●
Use of freshwater resources	▲	●
Total greenhouse gas emission trends and projections	▲	●
Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	▲	●
Progress on energy efficiency in Europe	▲	●
Energy consumption by households	▲	●
Greenhouse gas emissions from transport	▲	●
Animal product consumption (animal protein)	▲	●
Share of environmental and labour taxes in total tax revenues	▲	●
Employment and value added in the environmental goods and services sector	▲	●
Environmental protection expenditure in Europe	▲	●

EU indicator past trend

- ▲ Improving trend
- ▲ Stable or unclear trend
- ▲ Deteriorating trend

Outlook for meeting the selected objective by 2020

- It is likely that the objective will be met by 2020
- It is uncertain whether or not the objective will be met by 2020
- It is unlikely that the objective will be met by 2020

European Environment Agency 



Issues will remain important challenges beyond 2020 and hence potential priority areas for an 8EAP.

EU –level : To safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing

















What more needs to be done: 7EAP & Beyond







Air : enforce compliance with existing legislation

+ Develop long-term strategies to cut down emissions from other sectors and sources

+ Information and transparency

Priority objective 3: 'to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and well-being'

	EU indicator past trend	Outlook of the EU meeting the selected objective by 2020
Exceedance of air quality limit values in urban areas (nitrogen dioxide: NO ₂ ; coarse dust particles: PM ₁₀ ; ozone: O ₃ ; fine particulate matter: PM _{2.5})	 NO ₂ , PM ₁₀ , PM _{2.5}  O ₃	
Emissions of the main air pollutants in Europe (sulphur oxides: SO ₂ ; nitrogen oxides: NO _x ; ammonia: NH ₃ ; non-methane volatile organic compounds: NMVOCs; fine particulate matter: PM _{2.5})	 SO ₂ , NO _x , NMVOCs, PM _{2.5}  NH ₃	 SO ₂ , NO _x , NMVOCs, PM _{2.5}  NH ₃
Bathing water quality		
Number of countries that have adopted a climate change adaptation strategy and/or plan	N.A.	
Exposure to environmental noise		
Production of chemicals, by hazard class		
Total sales of pesticides		

EU indicator past trend	Outlook for meeting the selected objective by 2020
 Improving trend	 It is likely that the objective will be met by 2020
 Stable or unclear trend	 It is uncertain whether or not the objective will be met by 2020
 Deteriorating trend	 It is unlikely that the objective will be met by 2020

Chemicals: implementation + develop & apply an **ambitious non-toxic environment strategy**

+ Encourage innovation and substitution, and promote sustainable chemistry;

+ Public's right to information, improve transparency, implement "no data, no market" principle

+ Phase out the substances of concern & Promote safer chemicals and products

• **Mercury use in dentistry:** ensure its phase out sooner rather than later.



Austrian Insights : natural capital



What more needs to be done – within the 7EAP and for future attention?

- **Natura 2000:** Site designation process that followed infringement procedure initiated back in 2013 needs to be completed; increased budget for implementation of Natura 2000 and better earmarking; existence of many **management plans** to date positive development, but often lack detailed measures;
- **Implementation of EU Water Framework Directive:** unlikely that Austria will reach 2027 target (100% of water bodies in good ecological condition); currently more than 60% of Austria's surface waters of rivers not in good ecological condition, 30% of the water network is structurally impoverished. So far **no financial endowment** for the **2nd National River Basin Management Plan** period (2015-2021). Evaluation draft foresaw EUR 150 million, but was withdrawn early in 2018 – at this stage hardly any further restructuring measures to be expected; more ambition and commitment required.

Input for discussion also on: National Biodiversity Strategy Austria 2020+



Austrian Insights : resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy

What more needs to be done – within the 7EAP and for future attention?

- **Climate and Energy Targets: Climate and Energy Strategy (2018):** not legally binding, lacks precise measures and programs, timeline and budget. To align national policies with Paris Agreements, number of **legal, fiscal and informal instruments** need to be developed and put into action within the next months and years; process should include transparent **stakeholder involvement** as well as **regular evaluation and adaptation loops** while in force.
- **Waste & Circular Economy:** Move Austria from a waste management approach to a circular economy approach. **Implementation of the EU Circular Economy package** and development of a **national CE strategy** in a process that ensures transparent stakeholder involvement and engages with all relevant stakeholders to strengthen effectiveness and legitimacy of the process.

Input for discussion also on: environmental fiscal reform, CE jobs, reuse and preparation for reuse targets, CE in the construction sector, market for secondary raw materials, reduction of harmful subsidies, extension of Climate & Energy Strategy (...)

Austrian Insights: risks to health and wellbeing



What more needs to be done – within the 7EAP and for future attention?

Air pollution:

- Better enforcement of speed limits, especially in areas with poor air quality;
- Better enforcement or control of NO_x-emissions, both for cars and trucks;
- Tightening of low emission zones for trucks;
- Introduction of low emission zones for passenger cars;

Input for discussion also on: Biodiversity & Health, Noise, Chemicals, Endocrine Disruptors, Microplastics & Nanotechnology

Enabling Framework: Four "enabling" priority objectives

- better **implementation** of legislation
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“Enabling” priorities – EU Insights

Improve implementation

- Greater use of **infringement procedures** – for specific objectives (e.g. **Air quality for citizens**) and ensure that countries **respect the commitment for an EU where the rule of law is respected**.
- **Capacity building** for national and local courts as well as inspectorates
- **Aarhus Convention** –access to justice, access to information and participation - at EU and MS level.

Securing investments for climate and environment:

- **EU Budget to support climate (mitigation & adaptation), biodiversity and wider environment**
- Continued progress on **auctioning of EU-ETS** allowances and revenues to support climate measures

Integration

- **SEA and EIA** tools will need to be used more effectively
- **Policy coherence** core to better “better regulation” - **regulation that protects EU citizens**



“Enabling” priorities – Austrian Insights



What more needs to be done – within the 7EAP and for future attention?

Implementation of the Aarhus Convention:

- So far only partial fulfilment of requirement to provide access to justice for members of the public (Art 9 (3) Aarhus Convention), leading to legal protection gaps;
- Following the recent preliminary ruling of the ECJ in the *Protect Case* and subsequent court rulings by national administrative courts, the implementation of access to justice for members of the public is finally being accelerated.
- Amendments of federal sectoral environmental laws are on their way (water act, waste management act; air protection act). Amendments of nature protection laws fall within the responsibilities of the states, here way forward still unclear.

Input for discussion also on: Implementation of EU Water Framework Directive and Environmental impact Assessment Directive (EIA).

Two horizontal priority objectives:

- to **make** the Union's **cities more sustainable**
- to help the Union **address international environmental and climate challenges more effectively.**

Horizontal priorities – EU Insights

Sustainable cities

- **Clean air for citizens:** cities need to improve their mobility systems by promoting public transport and cycling – to improve air quality, congestion and help mitigate GHG emissions.
- **Promote green spaces** - to follow biodiversity principles, as well as helping with climate, health and social benefits. Aim for all citizens to have access to nature within 300m.
- **Resource efficient cities** - implement **circular economy solutions** through **green public procurement** + supporting **reuse activities**, enforcing **separate collection of waste** and sustainable waste management

International environmental challenges

- Achieve the **2030 Agenda** and ensure the **SDGs are fully integrated** into the Union's internal and external policies ensuring **policy coherence for sustainable development**.
- Ensure that the **impact of consumption** in the Union on the environment **beyond the Union's borders** is reduced. This requires an ambitious strategy and further policies – e.g. **implement the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production**.



Horizontal – Austrian Insights



What more needs to be done – within the 7EAP and for future attention?

Priority Objective 8: Sustainable Cities

SMART City Vienna

- Adaptation to continuously changing conditions (e.g. autonomous driving /changed mobility behaviour);
- Population growth - how to ensure quality of life for all citizens.

Priority Objective 9: International Environmental Challenges

- Move from business as usual to an overarching implementation plan for the SDGs (including new measures and resources);
- Participation of all relevant stakeholders;

AIM OF TODAY

Discuss - State of Environment and Challenges for the next Decade: 7th EAP progress and policy needs for 2021-2030

Explore commitments, actions, results, and ongoing needs for the thematic priorities:

- **Natural Capital**
- **Resource-Efficient, Green, and Competitive Low-Carbon Economy**
- **Environment-Related Pressures and Risks to Health and Wellbeing**
(enabling and horizontal measures inside)

Draw Conclusions on : Priorities for an 8th EAP and the way forward (90')

AFTER TODAY

Three regional expert workshops in Austria – fall 2018, building on input from background paper and policy forum

Develop an Action Plan on the “Future of Austrian and EU environmental policies after 2020” – to be published end of 2018

Contribute to 7EAP consultation process and drive for 8EAP





THANK YOU!

Patrick.tenBrink@eeb.org

www.eeb.org

Julika.Dittrich@umweltdachverband.at

www.uwd.at

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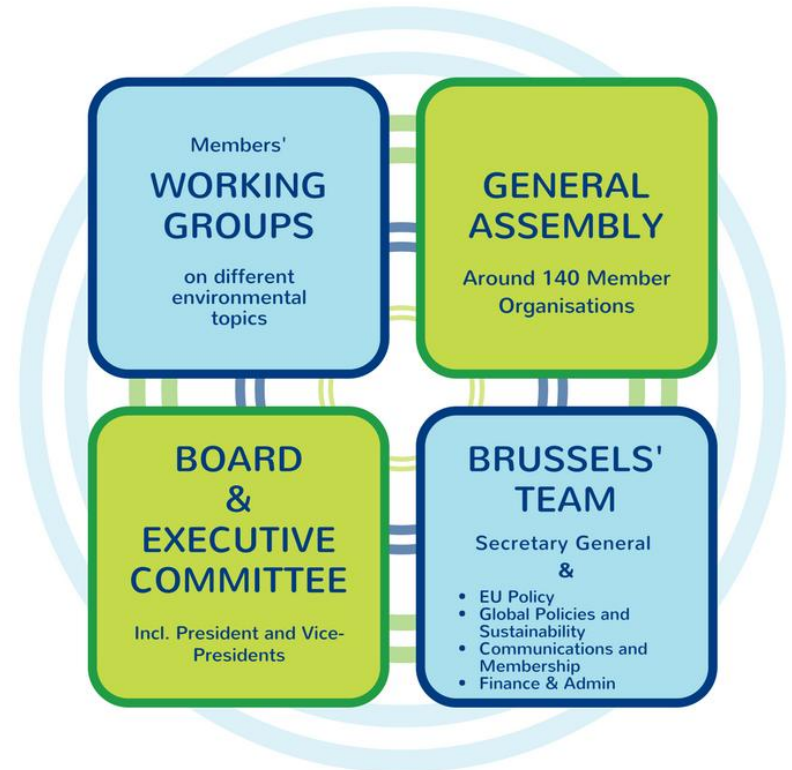


EEB: WHO WE ARE

Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations

- around **140 civil society organisations**
- ...from more than **30 European countries, inc. all 28 EU MS**
- ...representing **30m EU citizens**

Over 40 years of env. policy expertise



WHAT ISSUES DO WE (EEB) FOCUS ON?



EEB tackles **Europe's most pressing environmental problems** - by agenda setting, monitoring, advising on and influencing the way the EU deals with these issues.

We also lead on **overarching issues** as **sustainable development, good governance, participatory democracy & the rule of law** in Europe & beyond.

Thematic areas of work include:

- **Climate and Energy**
- **Nature, Water and Sustainable Agriculture**
- **Industry, Chemicals and Health**
- **Resource Efficiency**
- **Sustainability and Governance**
- **Global and Regional Policies (inc. global env justice)**