



Zero Pollution – The Green Deal in cities



Member States Steering Group on Zero Pollution

Brussels, 15 March 2023

European Commission | DG ENV. C3 - Clean air and urban policy





European Green Capital & Leaf Awards

- Recognise cities that are frontrunners in tackling pollution & climate change
- Longstanding brand:
 - Green Capital since 2010
 - Green Leaf since 1015
- **Applications for the 2025 titles are open until 30 April 2023**

Green City Accord

- Commitments to significant improvements:
- **air & water** quality,
 - waste management,
 - **noise** reduction,
 - Increase nature & biodiversity and
 - advance circular economy



An initiative of the
European Commission



Winning cities





Winning cities



Technical Assessment



Green Capital and Leaf

7 environmental indicator areas:

1. *Air quality*
2. *Water quality / management*
3. *Biodiversity, green areas, sustainable land use*
4. *Waste and circular economy*
5. *Noise*
6. **Climate change mitigation**
7. **Climate change adaptation**

Award criteria

Technical assessment of environmental performance (7 indicators)

Strategy, vision & commitment to sustainability and related implementation planning, incl. via Green City Accord commitments

Communication strategy and events planning during title year in case city wins

Air Quality:

A. Present Situation

- Data and maps of PM_{2.5} , PM₁₀ , NO₂
- Air quality plan
- Informing, raising awareness and engaging citizens

B. Past Performance

- Trends of last 10 years on PM_{2.5} , PM₁₀ , NO₂
- Actions and measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

Water:

A. Present Situation

- Data on drinking water, waste water and surface & ground water bodies
- EU Drinking Water Directive, EU Urban waste water Treatment Directive, Water Framework Directive

B. Past Performance

- Trends in water consumption, leakage management & network rehabilitation
- Trends in connections to wastewater collection system, storm water management and waste water treatment
- Trends in river restoration
- Actions and measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

Biodiversity, Green Areas & Sustainable Land Use

Waste & Circular Economy

A. Present Situation

- Data on amount of waste, collection systems and treatment of waste (recycling, incineration, landfill)
- Application of 'polluter pays' principle
- Green public procurement

B. Past Performance

- Trends in amount of waste, collection systems and treatment of waste (recycling, incineration, landfill)
- Actions and measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach (plastics and prevention of food waste)
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

A. Present Situation

- Data on land use and nature
- Maps with information on protected areas, habitats, land use, green and blue areas etc.
- Species and habitat monitoring programmes

B. Past Performance

- Trends in protected areas for nature & biodiversity, presence of habitat & species and total green area
- **Maps of regenerated brownfields**
- Actions and measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

Noise

A. Present Situation

- Data on population exposed to noise values (L_{den} , L_n)
- Noise maps
- Quiet areas and sound improved areas

B. Past Performance

- Trends in terms of noise in the city over the past 10 years
- Actions and measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach for quality of acoustic environment
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

Climate Change Adaptation

A. Present Situation

- Identified climate risks and what is done to adapt the city to these threats
- Organisation of the responsibility for adaptation in the administration
- Monitoring of progress
- Involvement of stakeholders

B. Past Performance

- Development of the actual vulnerability and risks to the different aspects of climate change
- Actions and measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach: climate adaptation strategy/ action plan
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

Climate Change Mitigation

A. Present Situation

- Data on energy consumption and CO₂ emissions per sector
- Monitoring system of CO₂ emissions and organisational structure in charge of energy performances
- Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP)
- Modal share of transport

B. Past Performance

- Trends in energy performance and CO₂ emissions and actions & measures taken

C. Future Plans

- Objectives (2030 & 2050) and proposed approach for further emissions reduction and shaping a sustainable energy system
- Political commitments, budget allocations, and monitoring & performance evaluation schemes

Why do it?



■ Benefits of winning

- ✓ Enhanced international visibility, networking and new alliances - International media coverage, invitations to EU related events
- ✓ Join a network of likeminded frontrunner cities – best practice exchange and access to funding opportunities - events
- ✓ Attract public funding support – more emphasis on environmental projects
- ✓ Boosts local pride – momentum to continue improving environmental sustainability – better resilience and quality of life in the city
- ✓ New jobs – award winners are more attractive to investors
- ✓ Increased tourism – green cities are better travel destinations

What is the Green City Accord?

The Green City Accord is a movement of European cities committed to safeguarding the environment.

In signing the Green City Accord, city leaders agree to take further action to make their cities greener, cleaner and healthier places.

The Green City Accord will support the delivery of the European Green Deal and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

5 key reporting areas:

1. **Air Quality**
2. **Water Use**
3. **Noise Pollution**
4. **Nature & Biodiversity**
5. **Circular Waste Economy**



Commitments towards 2030

- improving air and water quality
- enhancing biodiversity protection
- tackling noise pollution
- moving towards a more sustainable, circular economy



Mandatory indicators (1/2)



- Air**
- PM_{2.5} concentration levels [highest annual mean observed at (sub) urban background stations]
 - PM₁₀ daily concentration levels [highest number of days exceeding the WHO recommendation of 45 µg/m³ per year, observed at any (sub) urban background or traffic station]
 - NO₂ concentration levels (highest annual mean observed at traffic stations)



- Water**
- Household water consumption (litres/capita/day)
 - Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI)
 - Percentage of urban wastewater meeting the requirements of the UWWTD (regarding collection and secondary treatment)

Mandatory indicators (2/2)



Nature & Biodiversity

- Percentage of protected natural areas, restored and naturalised areas on public land in municipality
- Percentage of tree canopy cover within the city
- Change in number of species of birds in urban area/built-up areas in the city



Waste & Circular Economy

- Municipal waste generated per capita (tons)
- Recycling rate of municipal waste (%)
- Percentage of municipal waste landfilled



Noise

- Percentage of the population exposed to average day-evening-night noise levels (L_{den}) ≥ 55 dB
- Percentage of the population exposed to night-time noise (L_{night}) ≥ 50 dB
- Percentage of (adult) population with High Sleep Disturbance



Green City Accord

Clean and Healthy Cities for Europe

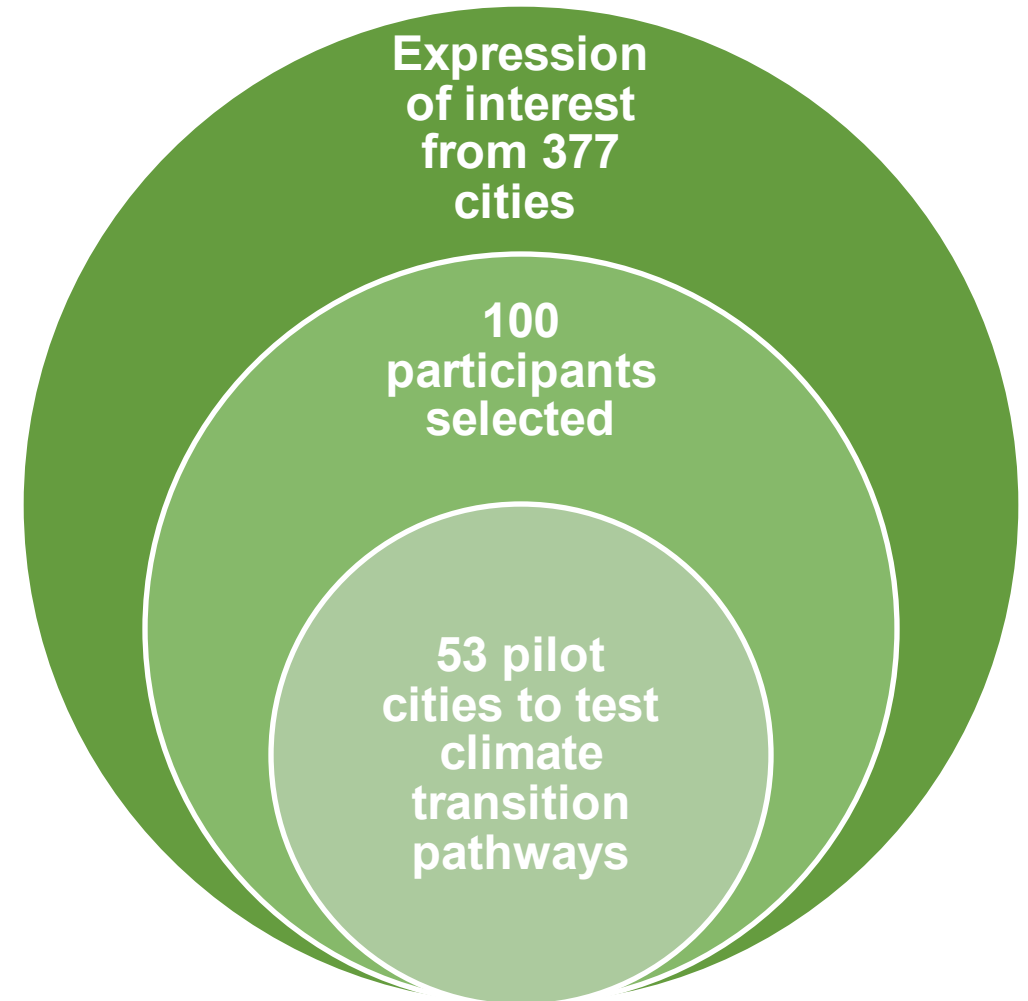
Why should cities join?

- ✓ Acquire **Europe-wide visibility** in recognition of your city's environmental actions and achievements.
- ✓ Become part of a community of like-minded cities **driving the transition** towards a clean and healthy Europe.
- ✓ Increase your **transparency, accountability and credibility** vis-à-vis the local community.
- ✓ Gain **access to information concerning EU funding** opportunities.
- ✓ Participate in **networking events**, avail of capacity-building opportunities.
- ✓ Receive **tailored guidance and support** via a dedicated helpdesk.
- ✓ **Benchmark** your city achievements against progress in other cities



EU Mission: Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities

- Focus on climate-neutrality and smart cities
- cities act as experimentation and innovation hubs
- cross-sectoral and demand-led approach, creating synergies between existing initiatives
- Pilot Cities: rapid decarbonisation in 2 years – funding between €0.5 million and €1.5 million per city





European
Commission

Other initiatives and synergies

Circular
Economy Action
Plan

Biodiversity/
Urban Greening
Platform

Zero Pollution
Action Plan

Urban Mobility
CIVITAS

New European
Bauhaus

CLIMA Climate
Pact

RTD Innovation
Capitals

GROW
Intelligent Cities

Covenant of
Mayors

Non exhaustive list...



***Cross-border, transboundary
pollution***

Member State feedback after last meeting

2 Member States provided additional feedback, including views on

- **clarity of EU law**, on which views differ between finding overall satisfactory coherence and room for improvement regarding specific definitions and governance in individual pieces of legislation
- **effectiveness of existing communication and early warning systems**, seen as functioning for most areas described, but not all
- **preparedness for emerging, climate change-induced challenges**, where prevention and early detection of forest fires and deterioration of water quality (due to droughts or extreme rainfall) may require improvement, in addition to continuously updating climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies
- **mechanisms to pool existing analytical and emergency reaction capacities**, which may benefit from more funding in the future
- the need for **an ad hoc resolution mechanism** and a potential **role for the European Commission** in key cross-border cases, on which the positive role of EU legislation applying to all Member States, and the importance of equal enforcement across Member States are pointed out



“EU analysis of the ecological disaster in the Oder River of 2022”: Recommendations

- improve **knowledge and near real-time monitoring**
- foster a **promptly and complete communication** in emergency pollution events across international river basin districts (mandatory?)
- develop **emergency response and risk management strategies** to prevent a future occurrence of a substantial toxic algal bloom
- undertake a **complete joint investigation of discharges** in the catchment to explain the increase in salt load that played a key role in bloom development
- review and implement **control of licensed and illegal discharges (improve regulation)**
- review the role of **hydro-morphological modifications under climate change scenarios** in slowing the flow allowing time for blooms to develop
- undertake a joint **inventory of ecological damage** (with impacts on protected habitats & species) and a **restoration plan**



Proposed specific amendments in the Water Framework Directive: Transboundary cooperation

- **Article 3** on administrative coordination within river basin districts is amended to **introduce an obligation**, in case of exceptional circumstances of natural origin or force majeure, in particular extreme floods, prolonged droughts, or **significant pollution incidents**, for competent authorities of all possibly affected water bodies including in downstream Member States, **to alert each other and cooperate** to minimize damage and address consequences.
- **Article 12** on issues that cannot be dealt with by one Member State is modified to **strengthen and formalise the procedure for cooperation** between Member States.



Proposed provisions in UWWTD and IED

Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (UWWTD)

- Art. 15 on **update of the authorisations** (permits) for discharges at least every 6 years (compared to the current "regular updates")
- Art. 12 on **transboundary cooperation** – obligation of immediate notification in case of incidental pollution

Industrial Emissions Directive (IED)

- Art. 7 (new) on **incidents and accidents** – obligation of immediate notification between MS' authorities **for transboundary incidents** & multidisciplinary cooperation
- Art. 16 (no change) **monitoring requirements** according to BAT conclusions, set at site-specific level by MS authorities, taking into account Env. Quality Standards
- Art. 26 (modified) **transboundary effects** – reciprocal consultation of public concerned in all MS affected prior to permit granting (where the MS in which the installation is sited is aware that significant transboundary environmental effects may occur)

[Proposal for a revised Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive](#)

[Proposal for a revision of the Industrial Emissions Directive](#)



Turów Mine case: key lessons

- **coordinate assessments** under the Environmental Impact Assessment, Habitats and Water Framework Directives
- **improve access to information – increase transparency and exchange of data** between neighbouring countries
- **improve monitoring** as an important element to **build up evidence** by Member States **to stand up for water management issues**
- identify and **coordinate monitoring** in transboundary water bodies
- improve cooperation between Member States to identify **suitable mitigation measures** to avoid transboundary impacts – burden sharing

[Interim measures \(cessation of activities of Turow mine\) by the Court of Justice
Court orders PL to pay fine for non compliance with interim measures](#)



Contact us:

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Thank you





Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook 2022

Meeting of the Zero Pollution
Steering Group of the Member
States

15 March 2023



ZERO POLLUTION
MONITORING AND
OUTLOOK

1st Zero Pollution Monitoring & Outlook

Commission Report (COM(2022) 674)



The [zero pollution action plan](#) sets the zero pollution targets for 2030

EEA Monitoring Assessment 2022



The [zero pollution monitoring assessment 2022](#) assesses the past trends and the latest monitoring data available

JRC Outlook 2022



The [Zero Pollution Outlook 2022](#) provides modelling and foresight, assessing the expected pollution-reduction benefits of EU policies

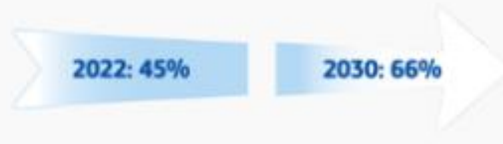
https://environment.ec.europa.eu/strategy/zero-pollution-action-plan/zero-pollution-targets_en



Zero Pollution Monitoring & Outlook - targets

Zero pollution targets for 2030

1. Reduce by more than 55 % the health impacts (premature deaths) of air pollution



Downward trend
Reduced by 48% between 2005 and 2020

Outlook: on track
Likely reduction of 66% by 2030 (based on a number of proposed measures)

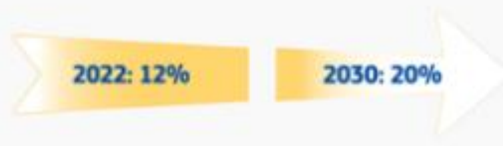
2. Reduce by 30 % the share of people chronically disturbed by transport noise



Stable: levels remained unchanged between 2012 and 2017

Outlook: not on track
Likely maximum reduction of 19% between 2017 and 2030 (based on agreed measures)

3. Reduce by 25 % the EU ecosystems where air pollution threatens biodiversity



Downward trend
Reduced by 12% between 2005 and 2020

Outlook: partly on track
Likely reduction by 20% between 2005 and 2030 (based on a number of proposed measures)

4a. Reduce nutrient losses by 50 %



Stable: no evidence of any significant change in the last decade

Outlook: not on track
Expected reduction but insufficient (based on a number of proposed measures)

4b. Reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50 %



Downward trend
Reduced by 34% between 2017 and 2020

Outlook: on track
(No quantitative assessment carried out. Based on extrapolation of past trends and expert judgement)

4c. Reduce the use of the more hazardous chemical pesticides by 50 %



Downward trend
Reduced by 36% between 2017 and 2020

Outlook: on track
(No quantitative assessment carried out. Based on extrapolation of past trends and expert judgement)

4d. Reduce the sale of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by 50 %



Downward trend
Reduced by 18% between 2018 and 2021

Outlook: on track
(No quantitative assessment carried out. Based on extrapolation of past trends and expert judgement)

5a. Reduce plastic litter at sea by 50 %



Downward trend
Provisional trend analysis between 2018 and 2020 (assessment available in 2023)

Outlook: not on track - 14% to 20% reduction
(Quantitative assessment carried out for Mediterranean. See only based on a number of measures)

5b. Reduce by 30 % microplastics released into the environment

No assessment is available yet

6a. Reduce significantly total waste generation



Downward trend
Reduced by 4% between 2010 and 2020

Outlook: not on track
(No quantitative assessment carried out. Based on extrapolation of past trends and expert judgement)

6b. Reduce residual municipal waste by 50 %



Stable: levels remained unchanged between 2014 and 2020

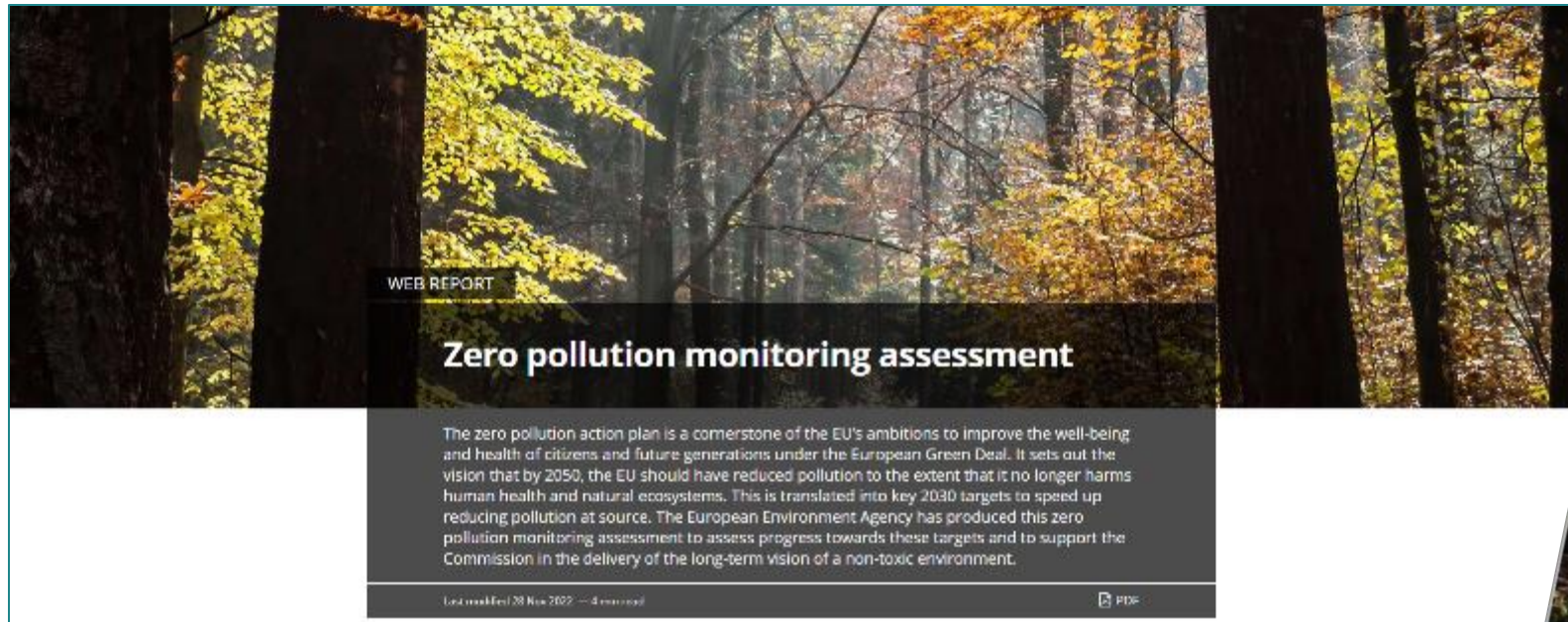
Outlook: not on track
No expected reduction (no quantitative assessment carried out. Based on extrapolation of past trends and expert judgement). See [EPA findings on residual municipal waste](#)

Zero Pollution Monitoring Assessment 2022



Overview of the EEA Zero Pollution Monitoring Assessment

Web report: <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/zero-pollution>



Summary
For policymakers - PDF

Structure of the report

Chapters of the zero pollution monitoring assessment 2022:


- Production and consumption chapter and associated signals
- Ecosystems chapter and associated signals
- Health chapter and associated signals
- Zero pollution cross-cutting stories



2030 targets and monitoring

TARGET 1 Reduce the health impacts (premature deaths) of air pollution by 55%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-45% reduction**




-55%

Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2005

[Link to air and health section](#)

TARGET 2 Reduce the share of people chronically disturbed by transport noise by 30%

Current position/trend (2017 data): baseline data available for 2017 only
Trend from 2012 to 2017 is stable




-30%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: 2017

[Link to noise and health section](#)

TARGET 3 Reduce EU ecosystem area where air pollution threatens biodiversity by 25%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-12% reduction**




-25%

Distance to target: **partly on track**
Baseline year: 2005

[Link to air and ecosystems section](#)

TARGET 4 Reduce nutrient losses by 50%

Current position/trend: **stable trend**




-50%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: 2012-2015

[Link to analysis of nutrient losses](#)

TARGET 4 Reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-14% reduction**



-50%


Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2015-2017

[Link to analysis in production section](#)

4 x on track

TARGET 4 Reduce the use of more hazardous chemical pesticides by 50%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-26% reduction**




-50%

Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2015-2017

[Link to analysis in production section](#)

TARGET 4 Reduce the sale of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by 50%

Current position/trend analysis (2021 data): **-18.3% reduction**




-50%

Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2018

[Link to chemicals and health section](#)

TARGET 5 Reduce plastic litter at sea by 50% and microplastics released into the environment by 30%

Current position/trend: **reducing trend for plastic litter at sea**
No data for microplastic releases




-30%
-50%

Distance to target: **uncertain**
Baseline year: 2016

[Link to analysis on plastic pollution](#)

TARGET 6 Significantly reduce total waste generation

Current position/trend: **-4% decrease between 2010 and 2020**



-50%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: **not defined**

[Link to waste section](#)

TARGET 6 Reduce residual municipal waste by 50%

Current position/trend: **no significant change in residual municipal waste generation since 2016**



-50%


Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: **not defined**

[Link to waste section](#)

2030 targets and monitoring

TARGET 1 Reduce the health impacts (premature deaths) of air pollution by 55%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-45% reduction**




-55%

Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2005

[Link to air and health section](#)

TARGET 2 Reduce the share of people chronically disturbed by transport noise by 30%

Current position/trend (2017 data): baseline data available for 2017 only
Trend from 2012 to 2017 is stable




-30%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: 2017

[Link to noise and health section](#)

TARGET 3 Reduce EU ecosystem area where air pollution threatens biodiversity by 25%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-12% reduction**




-25%

Distance to target: **partly on track**
Baseline year: 2005

[Link to air and ecosystems section](#)

TARGET 4 Reduce nutrient losses by 50%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **stable trend**




-50%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: 2012-2015

[Link to analysis of nutrient losses](#)

TARGET 4 Reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-14% reduction**



-50%


Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2015-2017

[Link to analysis in production section](#)

6 x not/partly on track

TARGET 4 Reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50%

Current position/trend (2020 data): **-26% reduction**




-50%

Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2015-2017

[Link to analysis in production section](#)

TARGET 4 Reduce the use and risk of chemical pesticides by 50%

Current position/trend (2021 data): **-18.3% reduction**




-50%

Distance to target: **on track**
Baseline year: 2018

[Link to chemicals and health section](#)

TARGET 5 Reduce plastic litter at sea by 50% and microplastics released into the environment by 30%

Current position/trend: **reducing trend for plastic litter at sea**
No data for microplastic releases




-30%
-50%

Distance to target: **uncertain**
Baseline year: 2016

[Link to analysis on plastic pollution](#)

TARGET 6 Significantly reduce total waste generation

Current position/trend: **-4% decrease between 2010 and 2020**



-50%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: **not defined**

[Link to waste section](#)

TARGET 6 Reduce residual municipal waste by 50%

Current position/trend: **no significant change in residual municipal waste generation since 2016**



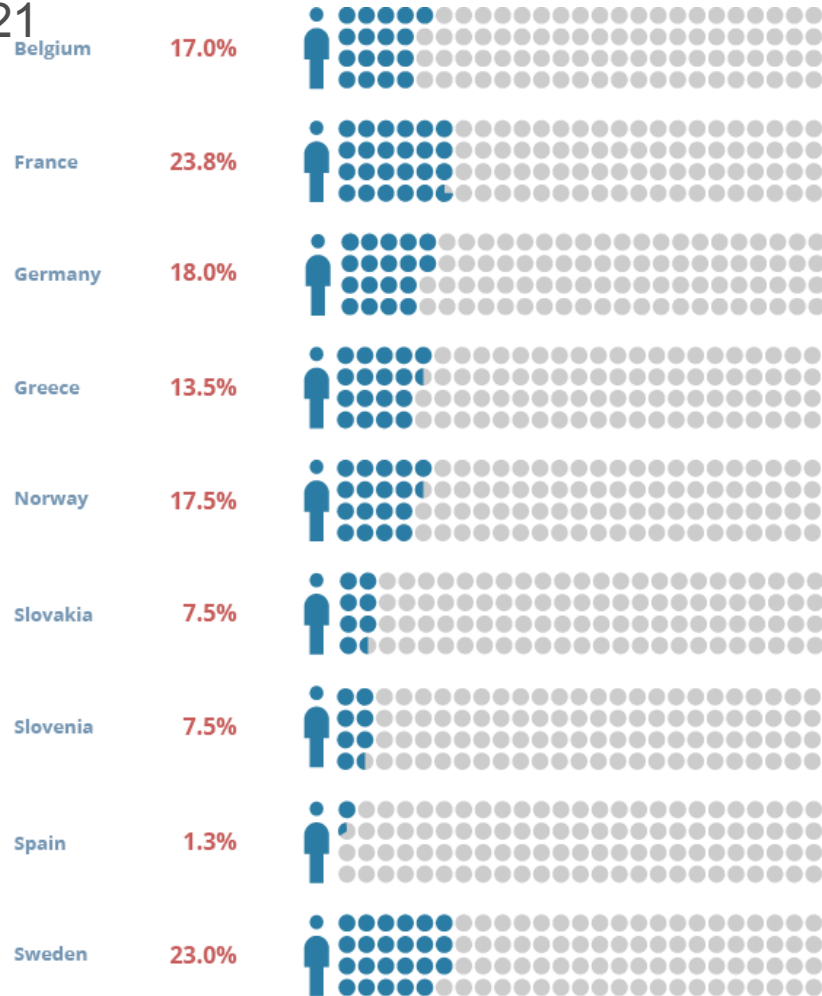
-50%

Distance to target: **not on track**
Baseline year: **not defined**

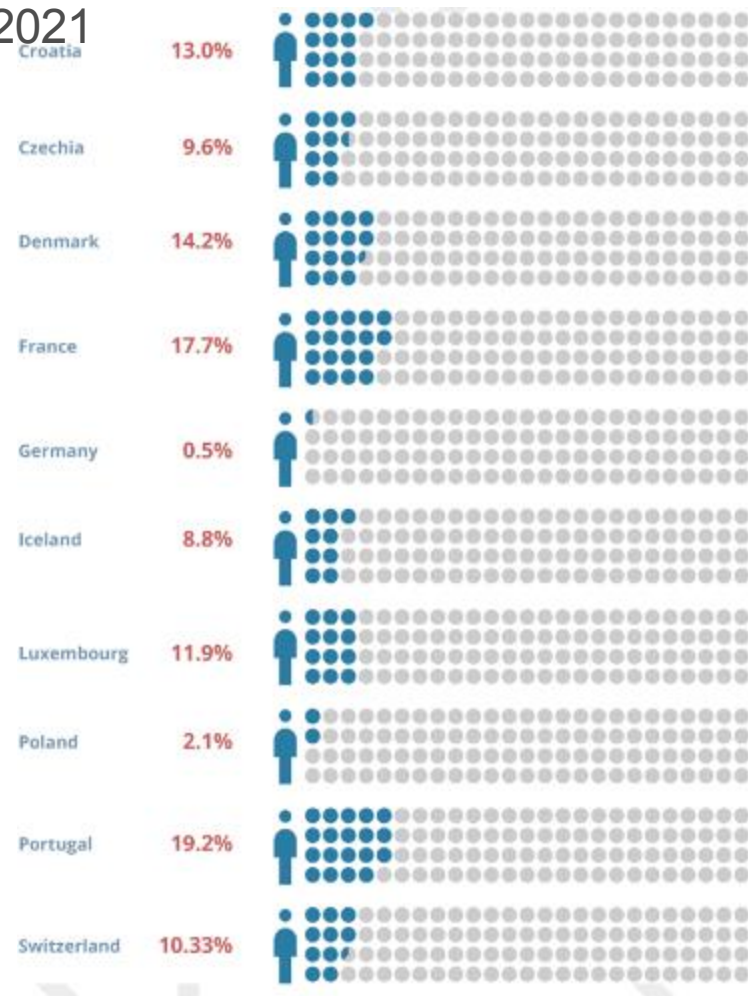
[Link to waste section](#)

Chemicals – human biomonitoring results

PFAS - % of teenagers above guideline value, 2014 - 2021

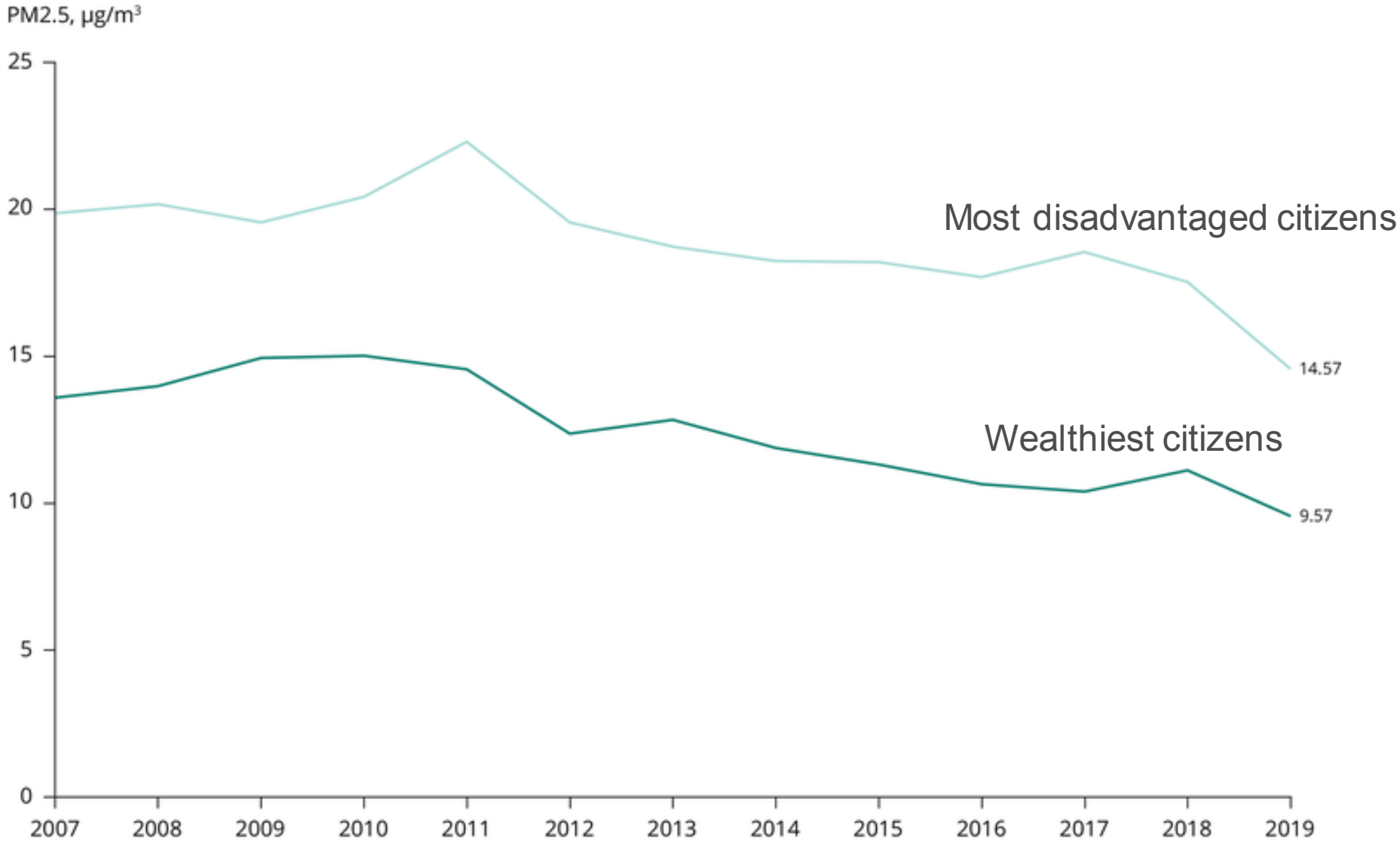


Bisphenol S - % of adults above guideline value, 2014 - 2021

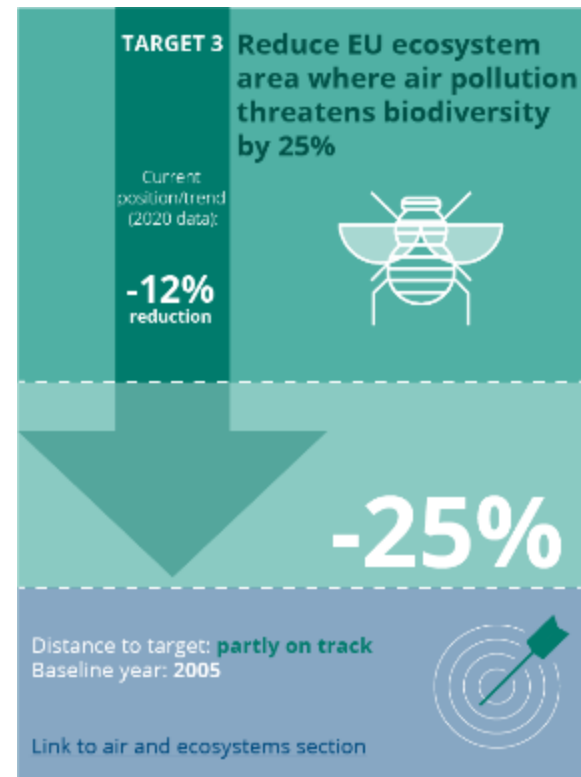
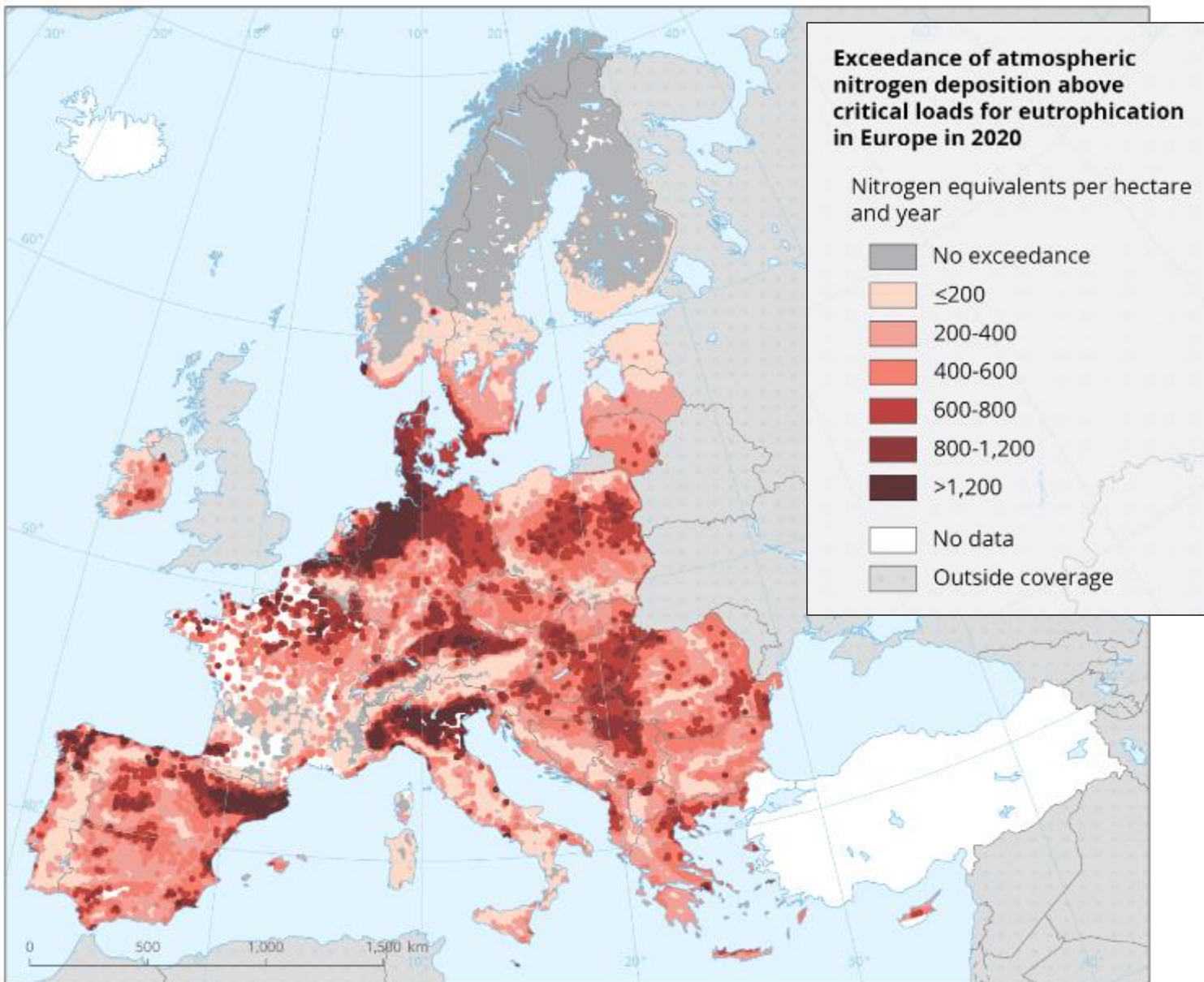


Phthalates - 17% of European children and adolescents are at risk from combined exposure to mixtures of phthalates

Zero Pollution – air and health – Inequality in exposure



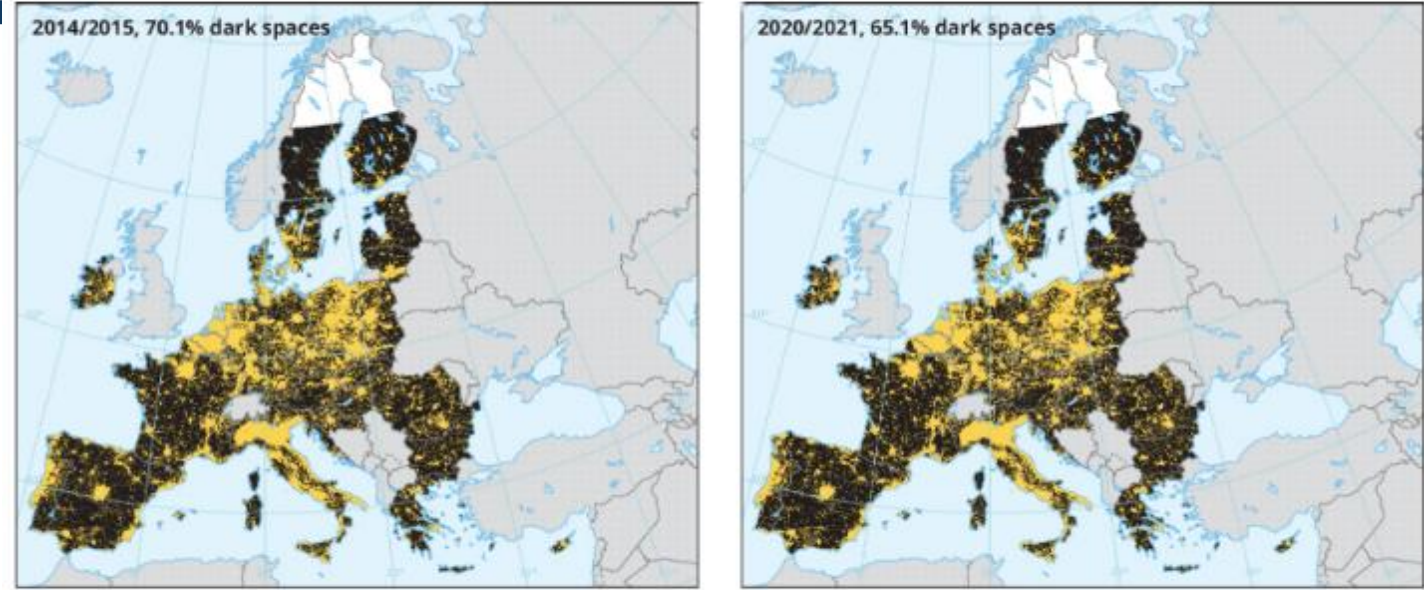
75% of ecosystems remain at risk from air pollution



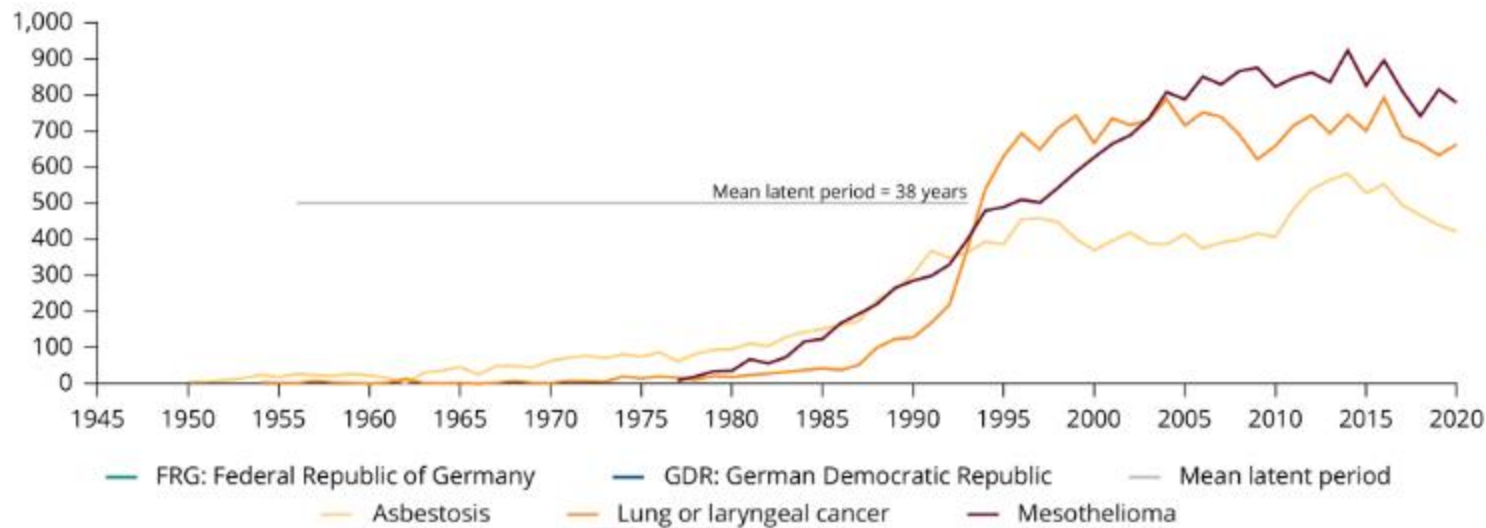
EMEP (2022), data on critical loads from the Coordination Centre for Effects (CCE, forthcoming).

Examples of Signals

Map 1. Changes in 'truly dark' spaces in the EU-27 between 2014-2015 and 2020-2021



Legacy risk from asbestos exposure



U-27 between 2014-2015 and 2020-2021

No data Outside coverage

0 500 1,000 1,500 km

Zero pollution outlook 2022



The Zero pollution outlook 2022: Scope



- Focus on air, water and soil.
- Addressing a selection of objectives and targets with sufficient data and information.
- Also:
 - Nutrients,
 - Consumption footprint,
 - Transport noise
 - EU Environment Foresight System.

The big three: Pollution – Climate Change - Biodiversity



the Oder river disaster (2022)

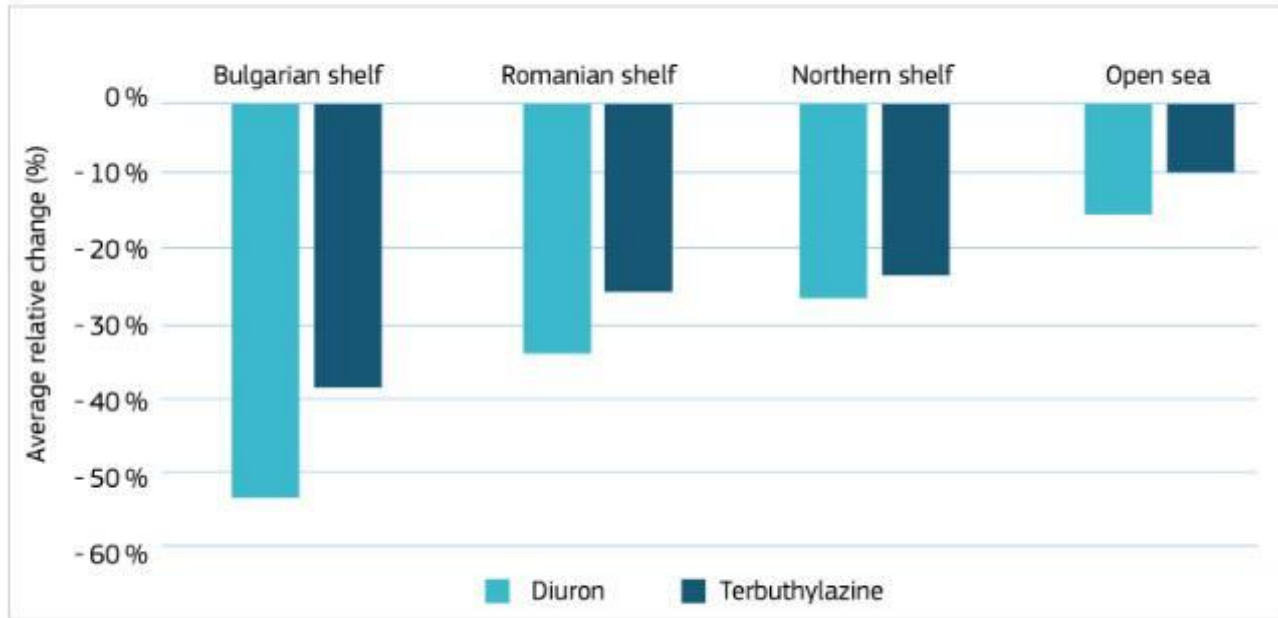
Pesticides: marine impacts



4. Reduce **nutrient losses**, the use and risk of **chemical pesticides**, the use of more hazardous ones, and the sale of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by **50%**.



Pesticides: marine impacts

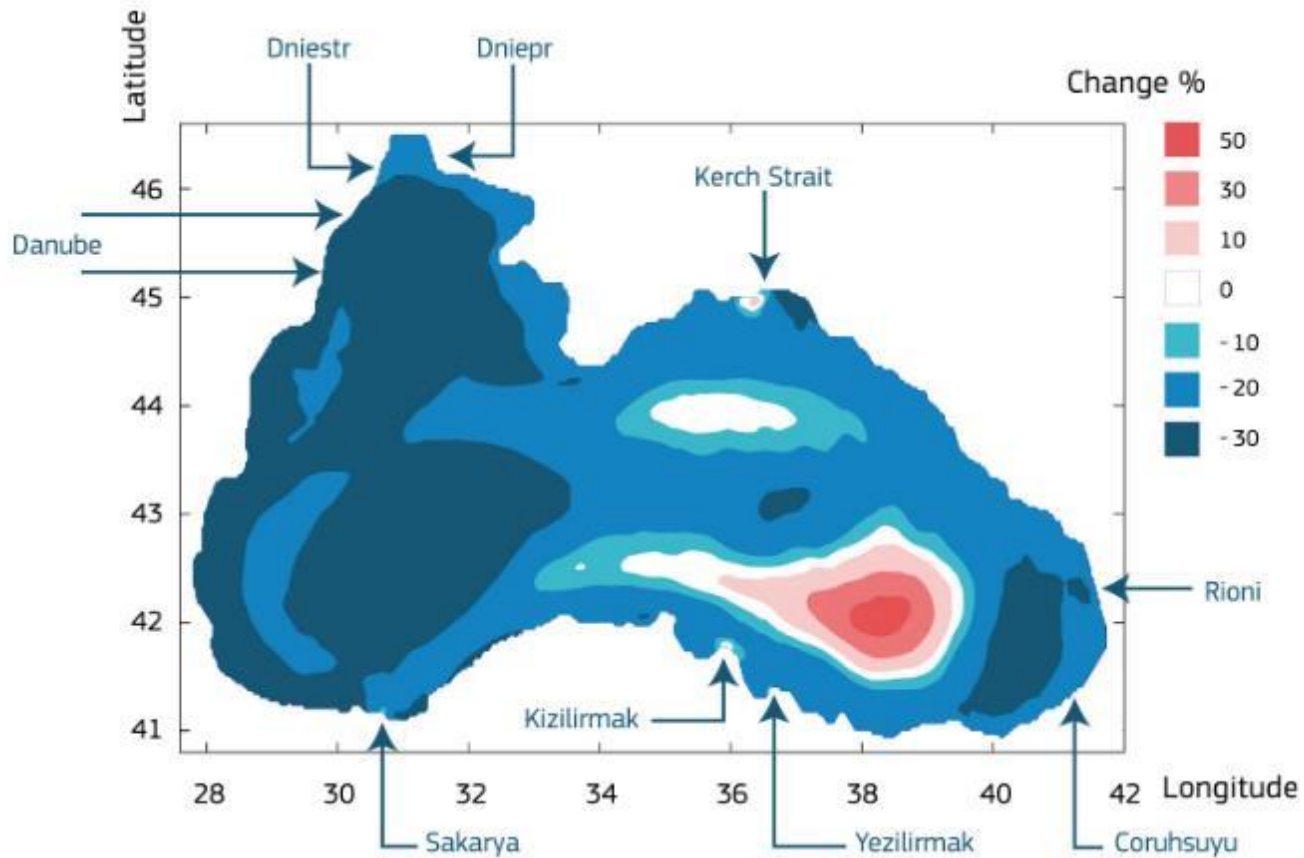


- Stopping chemical pollution improves the marine environmental situation.
- Larger improvement in coastal regions than in open sea.
- Magnitude of improvement depends on chemical's persistence.

Pesticides: marine impacts

[Difference: presence to 2030]

Terbuthylazine



- General improvement in the whole basin
- Deterioration in specific regions
 - Linked to changes in circulation due to climate change



ZERO POLLUTION STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE

14 DECEMBER
2022

BERLAYMONT
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

#ZeroPollution

- The Conference was co-organised with the Committee of the Regions, the EEA and the JRC and had some 100 participants and some 400 livestream connections throughout the day.
- Morning plenary session and three parallel ‘deep dive’ sessions in the afternoon, one on ‘Zero Pollution & Health’, one on ‘Zero Pollution & Biodiversity’ and one on ‘Zero Pollution and Circular Economy’.
- More information: [Zero Pollution Stakeholder Conference](#)



Key conference messages

- **A solid basis for the policy agenda:** stakeholders generally welcomed the reports presenting a solid evidence base for ambitious action. They show that progress has been made, but also that more has to be done and can be done. Evidence is also important to support implementation.
- **A need for further research:** the reports provide sufficient evidence to act, but there is still need for further research. There are significant knowledge gaps (e.g. soil or foresight scenarios that include systemic challenges) that must be addressed.
- **A call that work must be done on all governance levels** to deliver on the zero pollution targets.
- **And support from stakeholders for a systemic perspective to tackle pollution** and the **importance of ensuring policy integration and coherence** targeting the pollution at source.
- Frequently mentioned, were also the **inequalities surrounding exposure to dangerous pollution levels**, the **need for citizen science in identifying the right solutions** and the **underrepresentation of certain issues such as noise and light pollution**.



Questions for discussion

- *What are the **strengths** and what are the **weaknesses** of the first Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook 2022 from a Member State perspective?*
- *How can we further improve its **policy relevance**, what are the opportunities for the next edition in the light of the wider Green Deal and Zero Pollution agenda?*
- *How can this assessment best feed into the target 7 monitoring and reporting for the Kunming-Montreal **Global Biodiversity Framework agreement**?*
- *What **elements and issues** are currently missing which should be addressed until the next edition of the Zero Pollution Monitoring and Outlook in **2024**?*



Next steps

- **30 June 2023: Deadline for written feedback from Member States**
- **End 2023/early 2024: consultative process for the preparation of the 2024 report**
- **Q2/Q3 2024: Publication of report**





Thank you!

More information:

- [Zero Pollution Action Plan](#)
- [Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform](#)
- [Zero Pollution Monitoring & Outlook 2022](#)

Contact: ENV-ZERO-POLLUTION@ec.europa.eu

Your input is welcome!



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Making Zero Pollution integration across Policies work

Workshop 14/03/2023

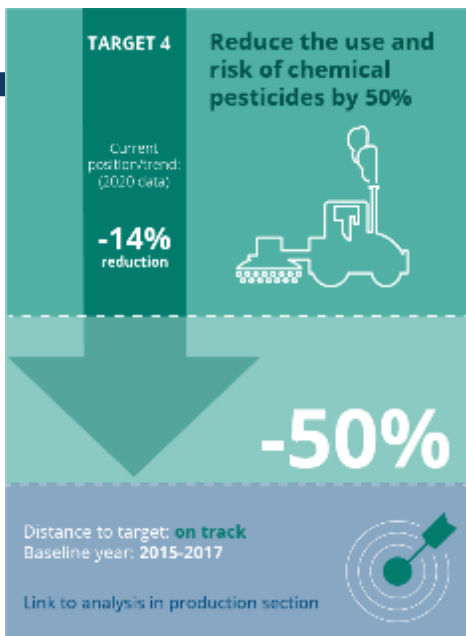
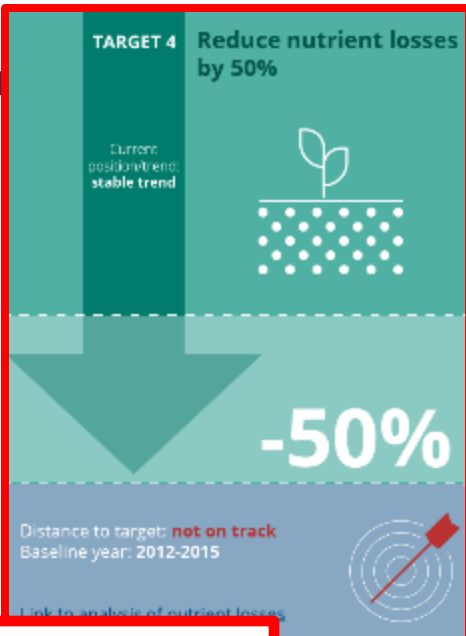
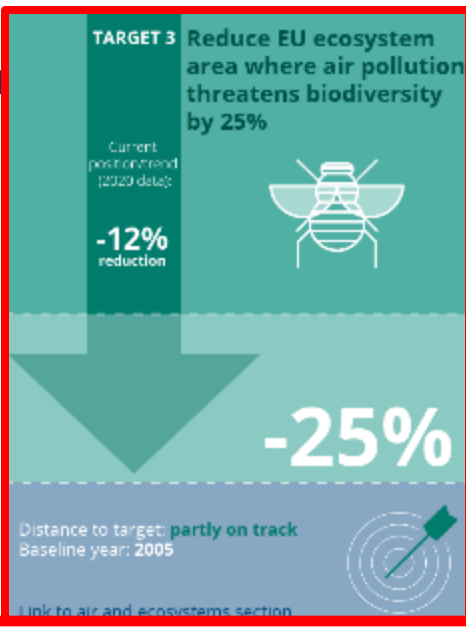
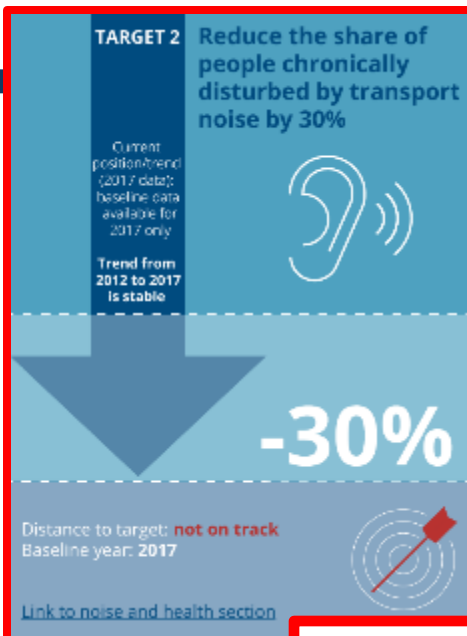
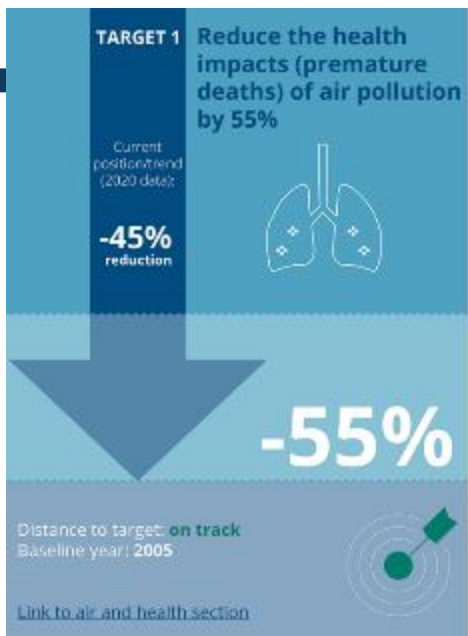


| Workshop set up

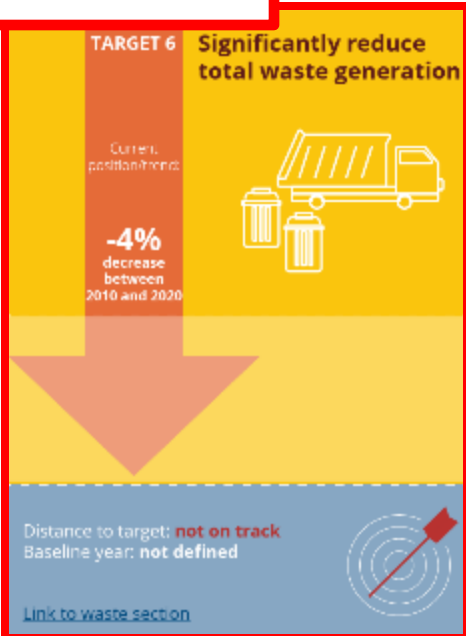
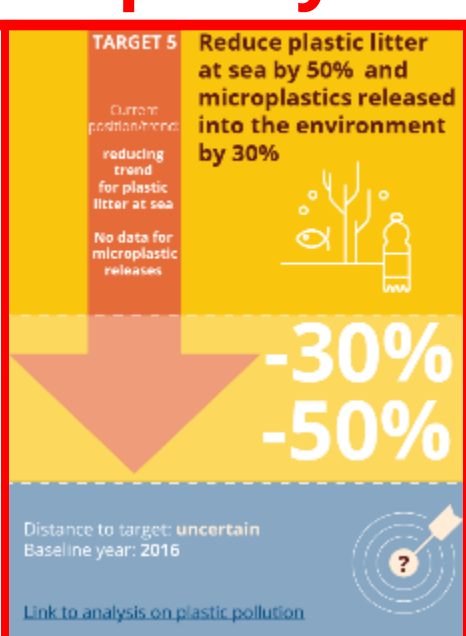
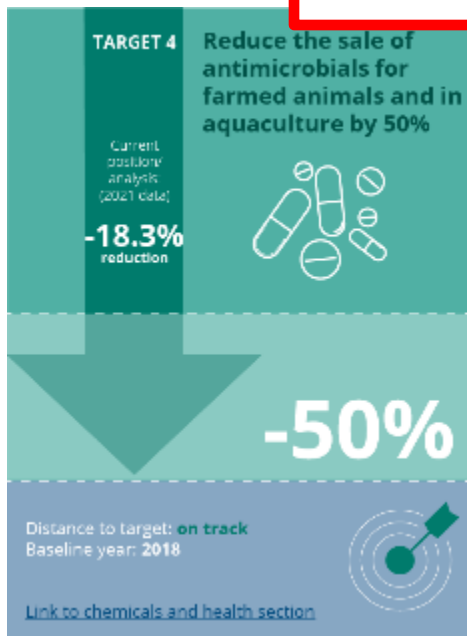
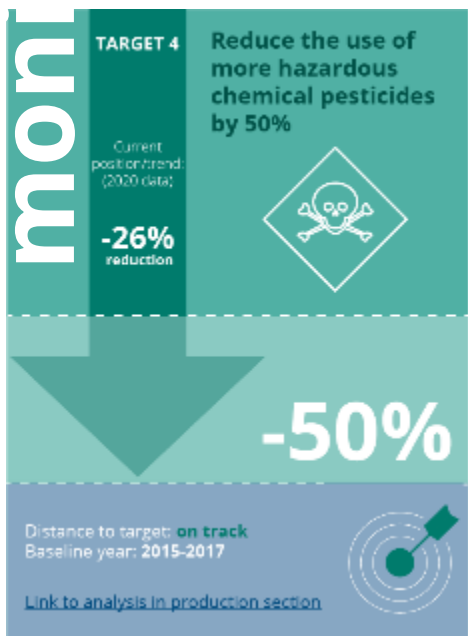
- Bringing together 40 participants from various national administrations and some stakeholders from the Zero Pollution Stakeholder Platform
- Discussion on cross-cutting and integrated approaches on tackling pollution – identifying opportunities and challenges
- Sharing experiences and identifying priorities for further work
- Inspiration for daily work



2030 targets and



6 x not/partly on track



Why mainstreaming?

Although we might achieve all 2030 targets without mainstreaming, the **zero pollution vision for 2050:**

Air, water and soil pollution is reduced to levels no longer considered harmful to health and natural ecosystems and that respect the boundaries our planet can cope with, thus creating a toxic-free environment

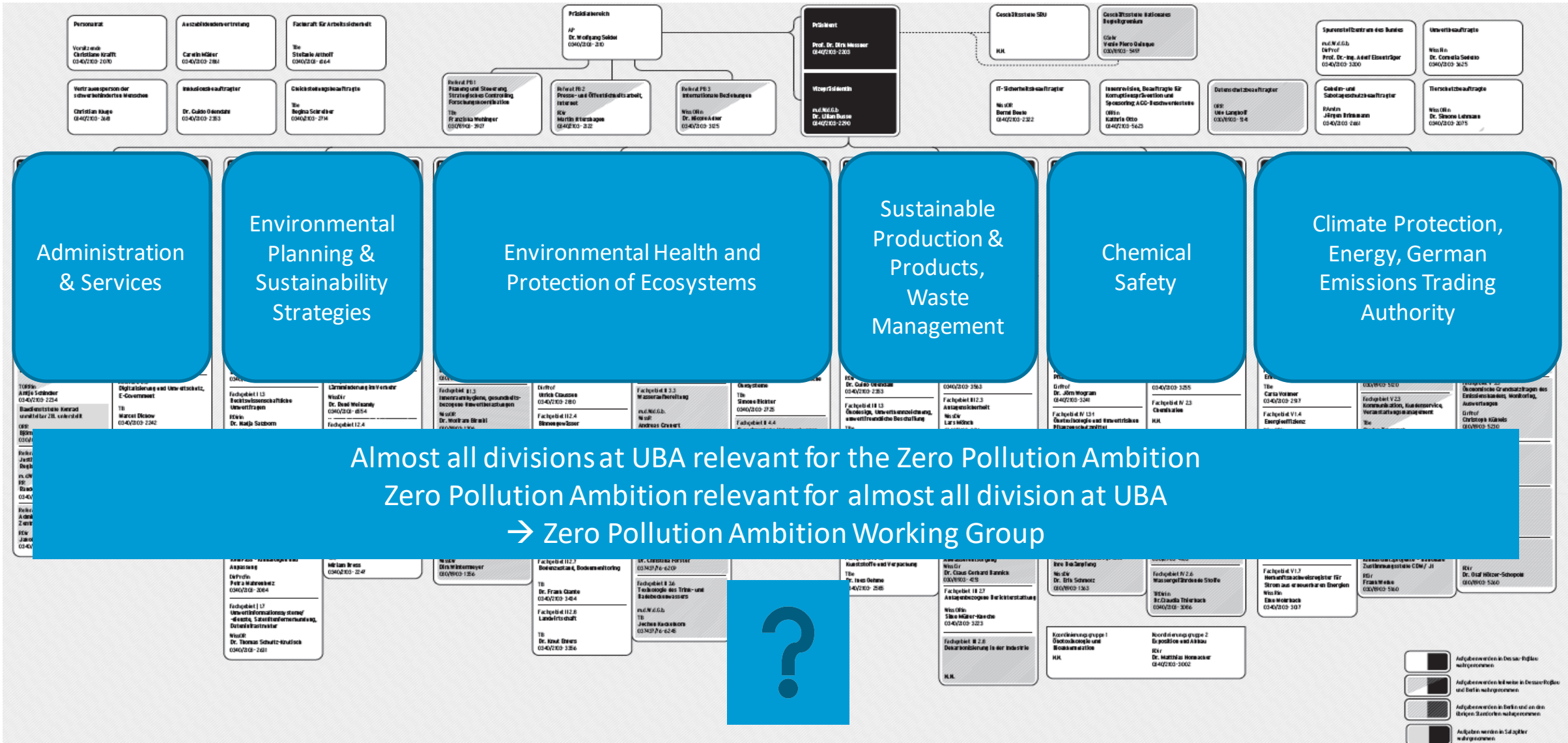
seems unreachable without an **overarching and integrative view** on several aspects of our way of life.

Mainstreaming goes **beyond sectors and regulatory silos** associated to the 2030 zero pollution targets.

“We do not only have to do more, we also have to do things differently.”

Hans Bruyninckx, EEA Executive Director

Institutional Challenges of the Zero Pollution Ambition



| Breakout groups

Topic 1: Integrated assessment including 'one substance, one assessment'

Topic 2: Implementation, compliance and enforcement of zero pollution laws

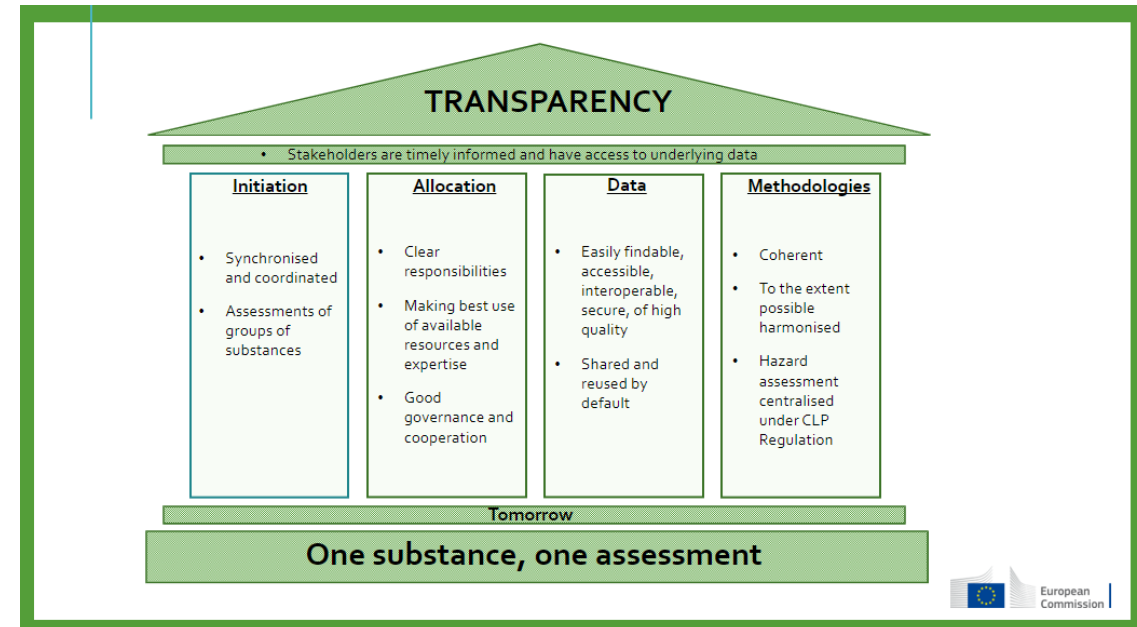
Topic 3: Mainstreaming the zero pollution ambition



Integrated Assessment Challenges

Trifluoroacetate (TFA) as a case study

- **Many regulatory acts and levels affected**
 - Different regulatory levels: EU -> Member States (MS) -> sub-national level
- **Multi-stakeholder process/situation, because of multiple sources of pollution**
- **Data and knowledge exchange are complicated**
- **No standard analytical method**
- **Regulatory inertia**
- **Situation in Member States may vary**



| Key conclusions – integrated assessment

- Integrated assessments needed and help breakdown silos
- Data availability and integration: better analysis, streamlining, third party analysis, risks of chemical mixtures, push towards innovation (e.g. safe and sustainable by design)
- Factor in import and export of pollution
- Contribute towards global strategies and objectives linked to triple crises
- How to factor in prevention in the assessment?
- Need to avoid paralysis by analysis. When do we know enough?



Ensuring stricter implementation and enforcement

Flagship 5. Enforcing zero pollution together



Key actions

1. promote **enhanced collaboration** between national authorities and develop new joint actions across the compliance chain
2. bring together environmental and other enforcement authorities to **exchange best practices** and devise cross-sectorial compliance actions
3. **improve the horizontal legal framework by strengthening the Environmental Crime Directive**
4. **evaluate Environmental Liability Directive**
5. **consider developing standardised provisions on compliance assurance for new legislative proposals**
6. **monitor the proportionate and dissuasive application of penalty clauses in force**
7. encourage the **application of existing inspections** and other compliance **checks** and penalty clauses
8. promote the use of cutting-edge **technologies** to boost national capacities for monitoring and compliance verification.

“Civil society has an important role as a compliance watchdog.”





Build strategic relationships



Across compliance chain ↔

across national, regional and local level ↔ across thematic areas

4 Networks (IMPEL/EnviCrimeNet/ENPE/EUFJE)

- ✓ MoU – Systematic cooperation and foster cooperation also at national level
- ✓ Events to highlight case studies of good cooperation and best practice between permittees / inspectors, prosecutors, judges and police officers and lessons learnt
- ✓ Participation in project working groups



European Commission and other EU institutions

- ✓ Framework Partnership Agreement with European Commission
- ✓ Participation in ECA Forum and meetings to discuss implementation topics
- ✓ Contribution with practitioners' views and feedback loop

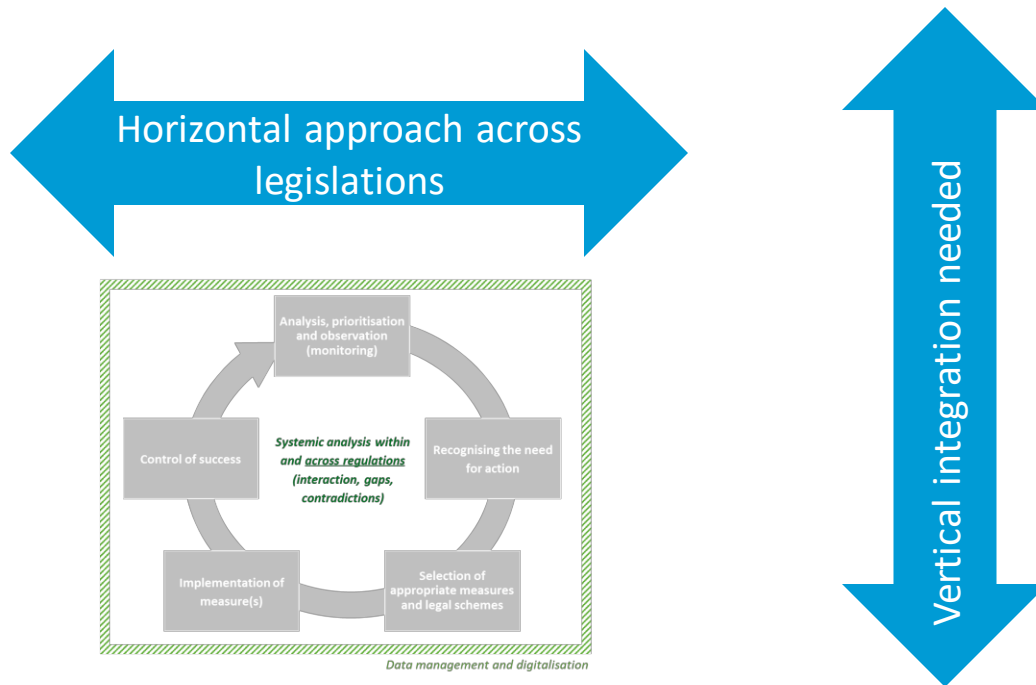


| Key conclusions – implementation

- Data availability and integration: compliance database to enable better collaboration on cross-cutting and cross border issues
- Changing organisational structures vs. changing ways of working withing existing structure
- Develop 'protocols' / agreements between enforcement authorities of different sectors
- Identify training, skills and competences needs of environmental authorities (factoring in new skill sets, e.g. data analysts)
- Cross-cutting legislation helps with more integrated implementation



The Zero Pollution Ambition Cycle



For example noise pollution

- European level
e.g. source related regulations, funding programmes
- National level
e.g. legal framework, regulation for new infrastructure
- Local/Regional level
e.g. sustainable urban mobility plan, noise action plan

Framework for today's discussion: Voting

The zero pollution targets for 2030	At least 50 % of Europeans regularly work from home by 2050.			EU meat consumption is reduced by at least 50 % by 2050.		
	pos.	neutral	neg.	pos.	neutral	neg.
1. by more than 55 % the health impacts (attributable, premature deaths) of air pollution						
2. by 30 % the share of people chronically disturbed by transport noise						
3. by 25 % the EU ecosystems where air pollution threatens biodiversity						
4. by 50 % nutrient losses , the use and risk of chemical pesticides , the use of the more hazardous ones, and the sale of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture						
5. by 50 % plastic litter at sea and by 30 % microplastics released into the environment						
6. significantly total waste generation and by 50 % residual municipal waste						

Please place your **stickers** into the appropriate cell; for each **target** and **approach** you can place **one neutral** or up to **two positive** or **negative** stickers, respectively.

Key conclusions – mainstreaming

- Analysis of scenarios across zero pollution targets brought out more positive than negative – but discussion often focusses on negative aspects
- Exchanging ideas across disciplines beneficial – often brought out relationship between environment & social fairness
- Behaviour change vs. system change – political leadership needed – social consequences, nudging
- Holistic approach beyond environment, factor in social, health, gender
- Mainstreaming / thinking outside the box / broadening the view can solve pollution problems



| Key conclusions – wrap up

- Triple crisis – no competition – common endeavour
- Participants with diverse background and expertise but overall consensus about the long-term direction
- Everybody share desire to contribute to the green transition, but making real change on the ground is challenging – how to get to effective implementation and enforcement?
- Many tools and instruments (data, AI, compliance database) but we don't yet make best use of them
- Pollution work is mostly about analysing and remediating existing problems - how to focus more on prevention as the solution?



| Key conclusions - wrap up

- Institutional challenges within / across institutions: We need to engage with colleagues outside environmental domain rather than spending only time on discussing amongst 'ourselves'
- Doing things differently means working outside of our usual circles / 'silos'
- Real change needs a holistic view and joint up efforts across EU, national and regional level
- Potential for joining forces with health and social agenda
- It will help if zero pollution as part of the solutions for the triple crises stays high up in the agenda



Thank you!

Please visit:

- [Zero Pollution webpage](#)

Contact: ENV-ZERO-POLLUTION@ec.europa.eu



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