State and Outlook for Europe's Environment Report 2020 (aka. SOER 2020)

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4th EIONET workshop on Industrial Pollution l 12/13 June 2018

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Mandate for SOER in the EEA Regulation

'The task of the Agency shall be […] to publish a report on the state of, trends in, and prospects for the environment every five years supplemented by indicator reports focusing upon specific issues.'

Article 2(h)

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SOER has a long history at the EEA

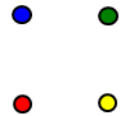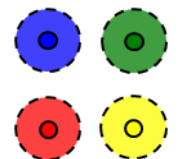|	
1995	**SOER 1995** - report (151 pp) + summary - addresses 5 EAP targets - focus on sectoral integration
1996	
1997	
1998	
1999	**SOER 1999** - big report (446 pp) + summary - addresses environmental trends - focus on DPSIR, link between issues
2000	
2001	
2002	
2003	
2004	
2005	**SOER 2005** - bigger report (569 pp, Parts A, B & C) - addresses air, water, land - focus on DPSIR, core set of indicators
2006	
2007	
2008	
2009	
2010	**SOER 2010** - several reports (Parts A, B, C + Synthesis) - addresses 6EAP priority areas - focus on systemic challenges
2011	
2012	
2013	
2014	
2015	**SOER 2015** - several reports (A, B, C + Synthesis), largely web-based - addresses 7EAP priority areas - focus on the need for systemic transitions
2016	
2017	
2018	
2019	**SOER 2020** - integrated environmental assessment report (2019) stakeholder process (2019/2020) and Synthesis (2020) - focus on 7EAP priority areas, sustainability prospects
2020	

Book covers:
- ENVIRONMENT IN THE EUROPEAN UNION 1995
- Environment in the European Union at the turn of the century
- THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT STATE AND OUTLOOK 2005
- THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT STATE AND OUTLOOK 2010 SYNTHESIS
- THE EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT STATE AND OUTLOOK 2015 SYNTHESIS REPORT
- SOER 2020

Characteristics of integrated environmental assessments

In striving to be **credible**, **salient** and **legitimate**, integrated environmental assessments aim for the following characteristics:

(1) provide an assessment **across thematic issues**

(2) assess issues **across geographical scales**

(3) address the **past, present and future**

(4) include **stakeholder perspectives**

(5) be **multidisciplinary** in their analytical approaches

(6) be for the benefit **for decision-making**

(7) be **transparent** (re: values, assumptions and uncertainties)

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Evolving understanding of challenges and responses

Characterisation of key challenges		Key features	In the spotlight in	Policy approaches (examples)	Assessment approaches and tools (examples)
Specific		linear cause-effect large (point) sources often local	1970s / 1980s (continuing today)	targeted policies and single-issue instruments	datasets, indicators
Diffuse		cumulative causes multiple sources often regional	1980s / 1990s (continuing today)	policy integration and raising public awareness	DPSIR data sets, indicators, environmental accounts, outlooks
Systemic		systemic causes interlinked sources often global	1990s / 2000s (continuing today)	policy coherence and systemic approaches (e.g. green economy)	DPSIR, STEEP indicators and accounts, systems analysis, foresight, stakeholder participation

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SOER 2020 overall project structure

SOER 2020

Integrated Assessment (2019)

- State of Europe's environment in the context of drivers and policy responses

- Sustainability prospects from the globalised production-consumption systems perspective and transitions to long-term policy goals

- 300 pages (incl. summaries), English

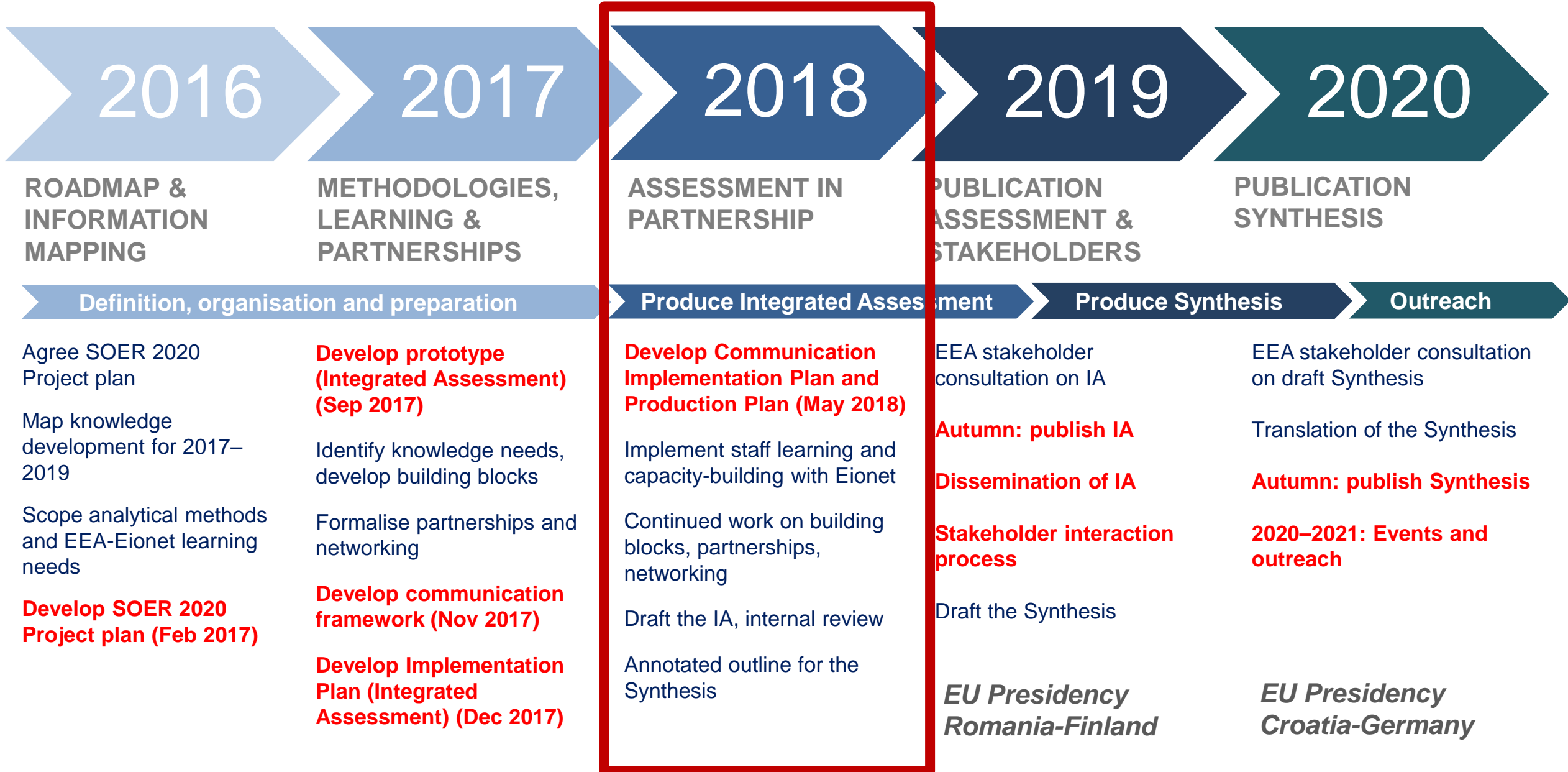### Synthesis stakeholder interactions

(2019-2020)

Synthesis (2020)

- Key findings of the Integrated Assessment

- Outcomes of the stakeholder interactions

- 50 pages, English + EU languages

Stakeholder contributions, consultations

Stakeholder consultations

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SOER 2020 time line and milestones

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
ROADMAP & INFORMATION MAPPING	**METHODOLOGIES, LEARNING & PARTNERSHIPS**	**ASSESSMENT IN PARTNERSHIP**	**PUBLICATION ASSESSMENT & STAKEHOLDERS**	**PUBLICATION SYNTHESIS**

Definition, organisation and preparation		Produce Integrated Assessment	Produce Synthesis	Outreach
Agree SOER 2020 Project plan	Develop prototype (Integrated Assessment) (Sep 2017)	Develop Communication Implementation Plan and Production Plan (May 2018)	EEA stakeholder consultation on IA	EEA stakeholder consultation on draft Synthesis
Map knowledge development for 2017–2019	Identify knowledge needs, develop building blocks	Implement staff learning and capacity-building with Eionet	Autumn: publish IA	Translation of the Synthesis
Scope analytical methods and EEA-Eionet learning needs	Formalise partnerships and networking	Continued work on building blocks, partnerships, networking	Dissemination of IA	Autumn: publish Synthesis
Develop SOER 2020 Project plan (Feb 2017)	Develop communication framework (Nov 2017)	Draft the IA, internal review	Stakeholder interaction process	2020–2021: Events and outreach
	Develop Implementation Plan (Integrated Assessment) (Dec 2017)	Annotated outline for the Synthesis	Draft the Synthesis	
			EU Presidency Romania-Finland	*EU Presidency Croatia-Germany*

Integrated assessment (300 pages)

Part 1 Setting the scene (30 p)	Part 2 Environmental + climate trends (180 p)	Part 3 Sustainability prospects (80 p)	Part 4 Conclusions (10 p)

Development principles

1. Matching **structure and evidence**

2. **Integrated assessment** across all sections

3. **Summary assessments** developed where feasible

4. Three overarching **integration foci**:

- **Environment**: natural capital

- **Economy**: resource efficient, low‑carbon, circular & bio- economy

- **People**: health, well-being, cities

5. Integration of **country information** (data, case studies)

6. Visibility of **EEA-Eionet work** in synergy with other **EU work (e.g. JRC) and some international organisations**

Part 1: overview of foreseen contents (30 p)

- **Objective**: Presenting Europe's relevant policy frameworks and long-term sustainability goals as well as the European-global context and trends

Chapter 1: **Europe's policy framework**
- 2020–2030–2050 (environmental acquis, Biodiversity Strategy, 7th EAP, Paris Agreement, SDGs)
- Focus on recent developments (after 2015)

Chapter 2: The **global-European context**
- Europe is embedded in global setting
- The 'great acceleration', Planetray boundaries
- Global megatrends (synthesis, implications for Europe)
- Resilience and systemic risks

Set-up and 'prepare' subsequent assessments:

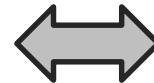Part 2: focus around established policies, European territory

Part 3: focus on global dimension, systemic challenges, consumption, responses

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Part 2: overview of foreseen contents (180 p)

- **Objective**: Assessing progress to established EU environmental and climate policy goals in the 2020–2030 timeframe (2050 for climate and biodiversity)

Ten thematic assessments
Chapter 3: Biodiversity and nature
Chapter 4: Freshwater
Chapter 5: Land and soil
Chapter 6: Marine environment
Chapter 7: Climate change (mitigation, adaptation)
Chapter 8: Air pollution
Chapter 9: Waste and resources
Chapter 10: Chemical pollution
Chapter 11: Noise pollution
Chapter 12: Industrial pollution

Sectors assessments
Chapter 13: Environmental pressures from sectors   • Energy   • Transport   • Industry   • Agriculture   • Forestry   • Fisheries / aquaculture
Chapter 14: Sectors and the green economy   • Macro-economic assessment   • Benefits for sectors for society (jobs, GVA)   • Role of sectoral policies in driving eco-innovation

Chapter 15: **Summary assessment and outlook** (incl. 'piano table')
- 7th EAP objectives , reflections on progress to (environmental) SDGs

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Part 2: structure of thematic assessments (15 pages)

Thematic summary assessment	Key messages, visualisation and explanatory text	1 p.
Scope of the theme	Why is it important?	½ p.
Policy context	Description of policy strategies, objectives, targets	1 p.
Key trends in Europe and European countries (DPSI)	• Driving forces, pressures, state and impacts - trends and outlooks • At least one country comparison – quantitative + enriched with qualitative information incl. selected case studies	9 ½ pp.
Responses and prospects	• Progress to targets analysis • Prospects for meeting targets and longer-term sustainability objectives • Links to other policy areas	3 pp.

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Part 2: thematic summary assessments

Key messages

Visualisation of past trends, outlook to 2030 and progress towards selected policy objectives/targets

Assessment of the quality of evidence

Mock-up for a visualisation of the thematic summary assessment

	Past trends	Outlooks 2020 / 2030 (2050 when relevant)	Prospects to meet policy objectives / targets 2020 / 2030 (2050 when relevant)	Quality of evidence	
Waste and resources	🟧	🟧	🟧		
Material resource efficiency	🟩	🟧	no targets		('economy' focus)
Material use	🟧	🟧	no targets		
Waste prevention	🟥	🟧	no targets/no data		('environment' focus)
Waste management	🟩	🟩	partly on track		('environment' focus)

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Part 2: country level information

Why?	What?	How?

• **No separate country assessments** in SOER 2020	• At least one **quantitative country comparison** per thematic assessment
	
	• Complemented with **qualitative information** or case studies (country cases)
		• **Criteria for choices**:
		  • country coverage
		  • timeliness
		  • fit into the narrative
		  • policy relevance
		  • availability of underpinning explanatory analysis
		
		• **Eionet involvement**

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Part 3: overview of foreseen contents (80 p)

- **Objective:** Assessing progress towards Europe's sustainability goals through a globalised production-consumption systems perspective, and exploring future challenges (2030 – 2050) and opportunities for systemic change

Chapter 16: **INTRODUCTION**	• Need for a systems perspective: SDGs, LT policies, global
Chapter 17: **UNDERSTANDING SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES**	• Snapshot / footprint of production and consumption • Key systems description (energy, mobility, food), system change • Barriers to systemic change (lock-ins, rebound, etc.) • Interlinkages between systems (resource nexus, urban) • Links to fiscal and financial systems • Drivers of change (e.g. global trends, emerging issues)
Chapter 18: **RESPONDING TO SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES**	• Systemic governance challenges, EU frameworks • Transitions theory and implications for policy • Steering and coordinating transitions • Knowledge, structures, skills • Maintaining resilience (ecosystems, social)

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Part 4: overview of foreseen contents

- Key findings in a nutshell

- Overall summary assessment: past, present (2020 targets), future

- Reflections on key policy frameworks: CE/LCE/BE; SDGs; 8th EAP

- Knowledge: Monitoring and Reporting; Copernicus; EKC; FP9

- MFF 2021 – 2028 incl. CAP, Regional Development, Cities, FP9

SOER 2020 Integrated Assessment: next steps

- Finalisation of annotated outlines (Parts 1, 2, 3): June/July

- Finalisation of support contracts (evidence base to underpin the assessment, in particular Part 3): June-September

- Main drafting phase: July – September

- Cross-reading within and across Parts 1, 2 and 3: October

- EEA-internal review (EEA Advisory Group, SMT): November

- Revision and Preparation for external Eionet review: December-mid-January 2019

- Developing first draft conclusions (Part 4): December-mid-January 2019

- **External Eionet review: mid-January-end-February 2019**

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Thank you