EU4 Environment Water Resources and Environmental Data programme

20th session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, 16-17 October 2023

Funded by
the European Union

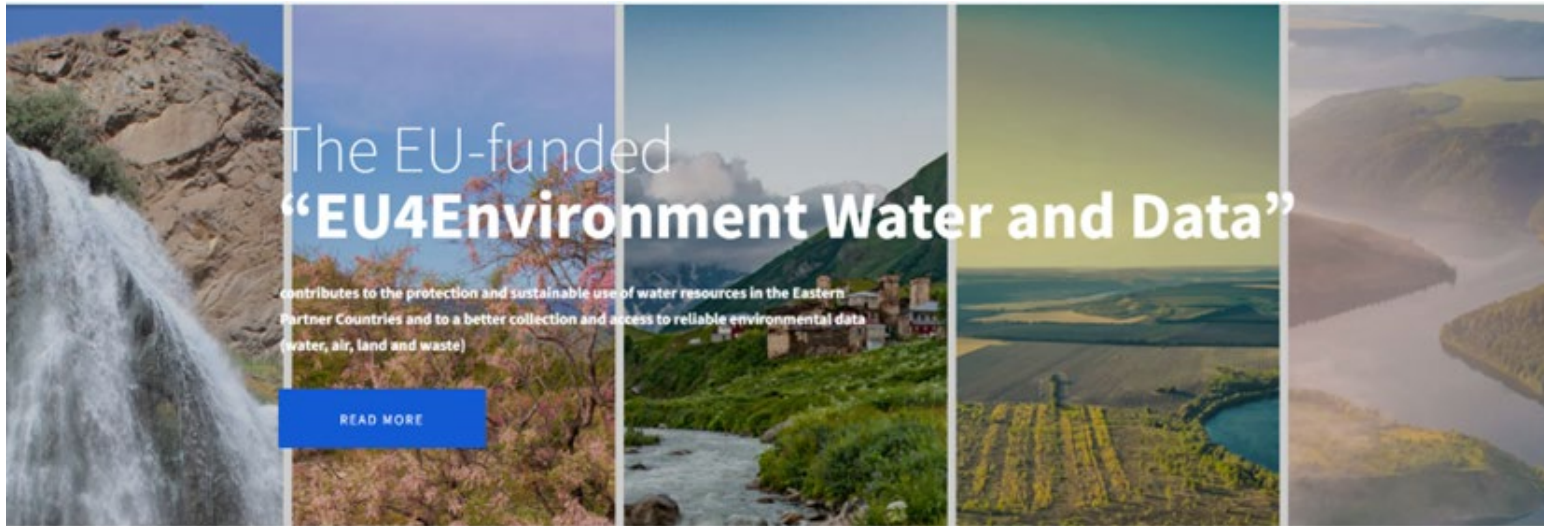EU4Environment

EU4Environment
Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries

EU4Environment – Water and Data (2021-2024)

Two pillars:
- Water resources: support a more sustainable use of freshwater resources
- **Environmental data: extend and improve the use of sound environmental statistics**

Implementing partners

umweltbundesamt
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AUSTRIA

Austrian Development Agency

OiEau
International Office for Water

OECD
BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

UNECE

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Environmental Data action areas

- Water monitoring (output 1.4 – Lead is UBA *Environment Agency Austria*)

- Water accounts (2.1 – OiEau *Office international de l'Eau*, UBA)

- Land monitoring (2.2 – UBA)

- Air and waste management data (2.3 – UBA)

- Open data and data access (2.4 – OiEau)

- International sharing of data and networking (2.5 – UNECE, UBA, OECD)

Environmental Data action areas

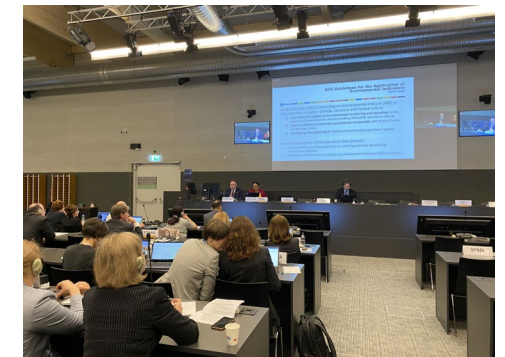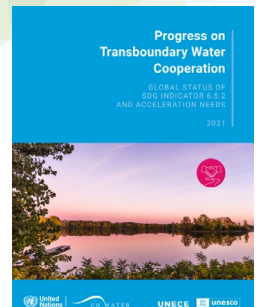| Output 2.5	International sharing of data and networking (UNECE, UBA, OECD)
Activity 2.5.1	Reviewing status and gaps of international reporting obligations (UNECE / UBA)
Activity 2.5.2	Enhance co-operation of EEA/Eionet and UNECE with EaP countries on environmental monitoring and assessment (UBA / UNECE)
Activity 2.5.3	Support SEIS implementation and SDG monitoring in the EaP countries (UNECE / UBA)

Environmental Data action areas

Activity 2.5.1	Reviewing status and gaps of international reporting obligations (UNECE / UBA)

- Overview on international reporting obligations and gaps prepared:

  - Gaps exist in reports under various MEAs (Air Convention, Water Convention, etc.) and for all EaP countries

  - Guidance on reporting provided under:

    - 25th session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (2-3 May 2023, Guidance on the template for the third reporting exercise under SDG indicator 6.5.2, Overview of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, its monitoring framework and national and global reporting mechanisms)

    - Regional training on air quality and emissions to air statistics and indicators (4-5 May 2023) included a session on reporting under the Air Convention

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Environmental Data action areas

Activity 2.5.1	Reviewing status and gaps of international reporting obligations (UNECE / UBA)

- Upcoming: Regional workshop on monitoring and assessment in transboundary basins (including reporting under SDG 6.5.2) on 19 October 2023, Geneva and online

Activity 2.5.3	Support SEIS implementation and SDG monitoring in the EaP countries (UNECE / UBA)

- Support target countries in applying UNECE revised Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators in support of:

  - comparable and harmonized data and indicators across the pan-European region

  - better informing global policies (such as 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework for Disaster-risk Reduction)

  - improving data availability for regular pan-European assessments and reporting

Environmental Data action areas

Activity 2.5.3	Support SEIS implementation and SDG monitoring in the EaP countries (UNECE / UBA)

- Support target countries in addressing gaps in implementing all pillars and principles of a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS)

- Upcoming activities and events:

  - Review of the environmental theme air in 2023 by using the SEIS assessment framework while employing the revised UNECE environmental Indicators - ongoing

  - **Planned regional training workshop on revised UNECE waste indicators and selected circular economy indicators in early 2024 to support reporting on SEIS**

  - 26th session of the UNECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment on 18-19 April 2024

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Water and Data in Eastern Partner Countries

Environmental Data action areas

Activity 2.5.2	Establish operational co-operation with the European Environment Agency (EEA)

- Longer-term objective (2024 +):

  Develop/negotiate for interested Eastern EU Accession and

  Partner Countries a **co-operating countries programme**

  with the European Environment Agency at the model of the

  EEA programme for Western Balkan countries
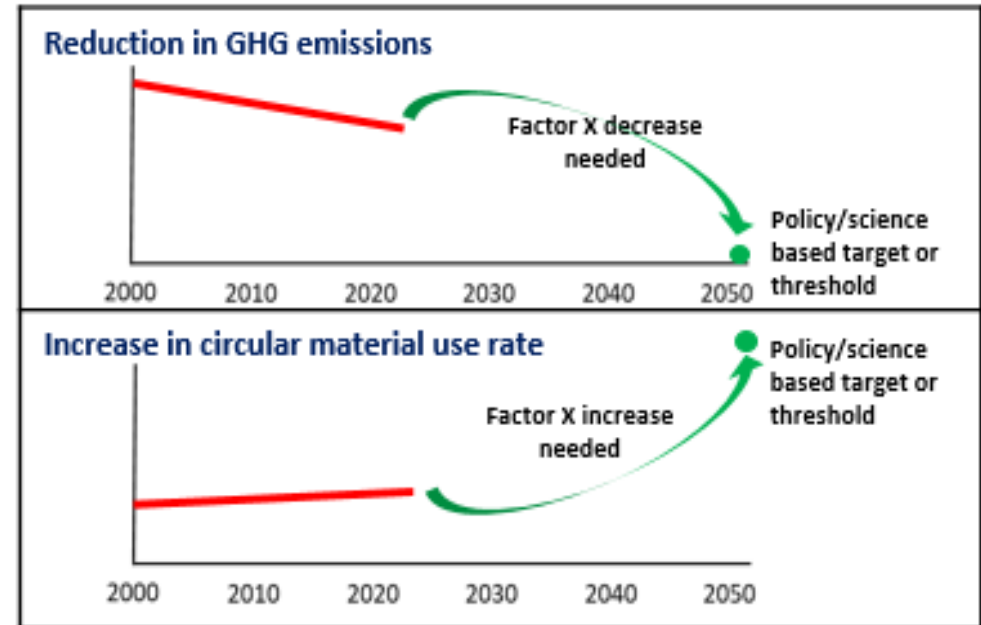

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Environmental Data action areas

Activity 2.5.2	Establish operational co-operation with the European Environment Agency (EEA)

- Short-term pilot action (until mid 2024): Associate Eastern EU Accession and Partner Countries to the "country space" development process of the European State of the Environment Report (SoER) 2025

- Mini assessment by each country on its transition towards sustainability, developed in 2024 based on interpretation of selected transition status and socio-economic change indicators

- SOER 2025 transition status indicators relate a time series until 2020 in relation to a policy/science based target for 2050 or threshold for selected indicators

Implementing partners

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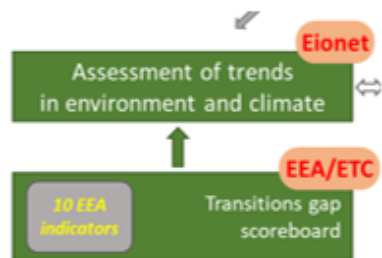| Indicator	Policy target and/or science-based threshold	Source
EEA work area 1 – biodiversity and ecosystems		
Area under organic farming	At least 25% of the EU agricultural area under organic farming by 2030	NEW EEA indicator
Designated terrestrial protected areas	Legally protect 30% of the EU's land and sea area by 2030	Existing EEA indicator (a) terrestrial, b) marine
Net land take	No net land take by 2050	Existing EEA indicator (+ EEA land take viewer)
EEA work area 2 – climate change mitigation and adaptation		
LULUCF emissions	Increase net GHG removals by carbon sinks from the LULUCF sector to - 310 million tons CO_2 equivalent by 2030	NEW EEA indicator
GHG emissions	Reduce net GHG emissions by at least -55% by 2030 from 1990 levels	Existing EEA indicator (+ EEA GHG data viewer)
Share of renewable energy in energy consumption	At least [45%] of energy from renewable sources in gross final energy consumption by 2030	Existing EEA indicator
Share of buses and trains in total passenger transport	Increase the share of collective transport modes (buses, coaches and trains)	NEW EEA indicator
EEA work area 3 – human health and the environment		
Health impacts of exposure to fine particulate matter in Europe	Reduce premature deaths from air pollution by 55% (from 2005 levels) by 2030	NEW EEA indicator
EEA work area 4 – Resource use and circular economy		
Total waste generation	Significantly reduce the total amount of waste generated by 2030	Existing EEA indicator
Circular material use rate	Double the ratio of circular material use by 2030 compared to 2020	Existing EEA indicator

Transitions gap scoreboard: indicators chosen

Biodiversity and ecosystems
- Area under organic farming
- Terrestrial protected areas

Climate change
- LULUCF emissions
- GHG emissions
- Climate-related economic losses

Clean energy transition
- Share of renewable energy in energy consumption
- Energy consumption

Resource use and circular economy
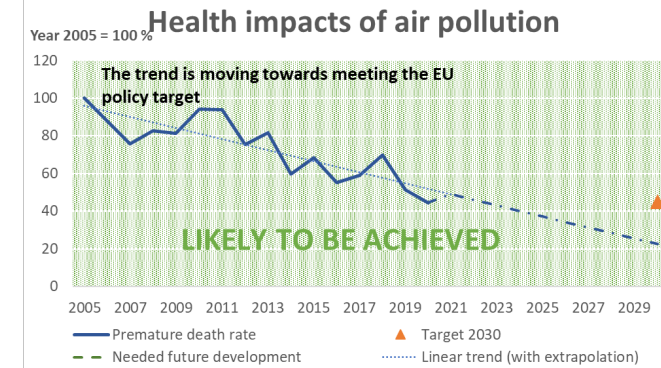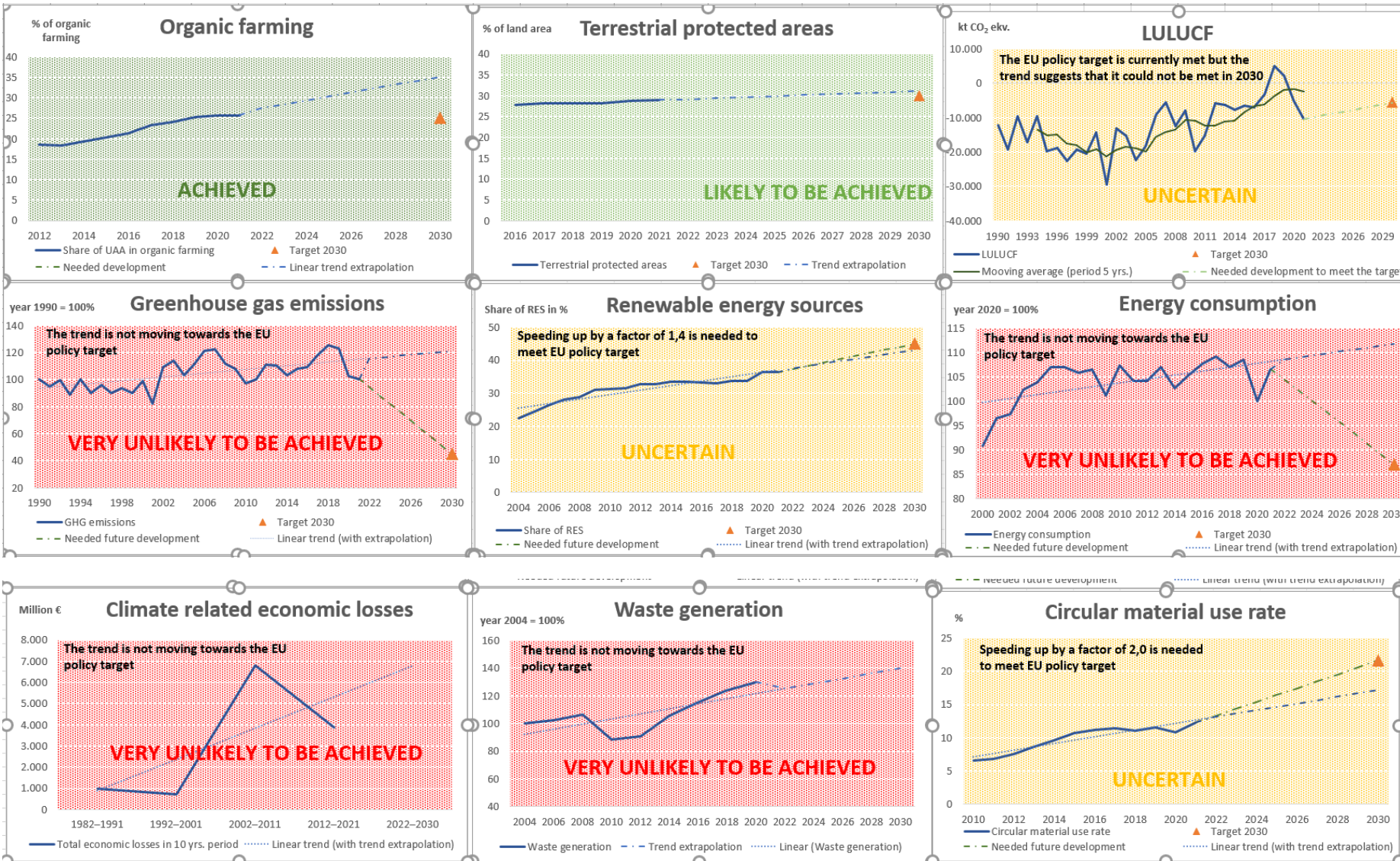- Total waste generation
- Circular material use rate

Environment and human health
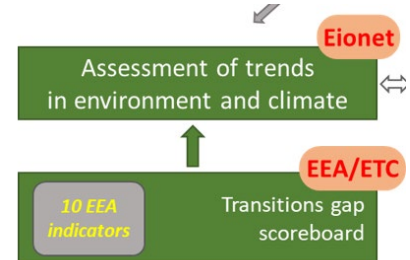- Health impacts of exposure to fine particulate matter in Europe

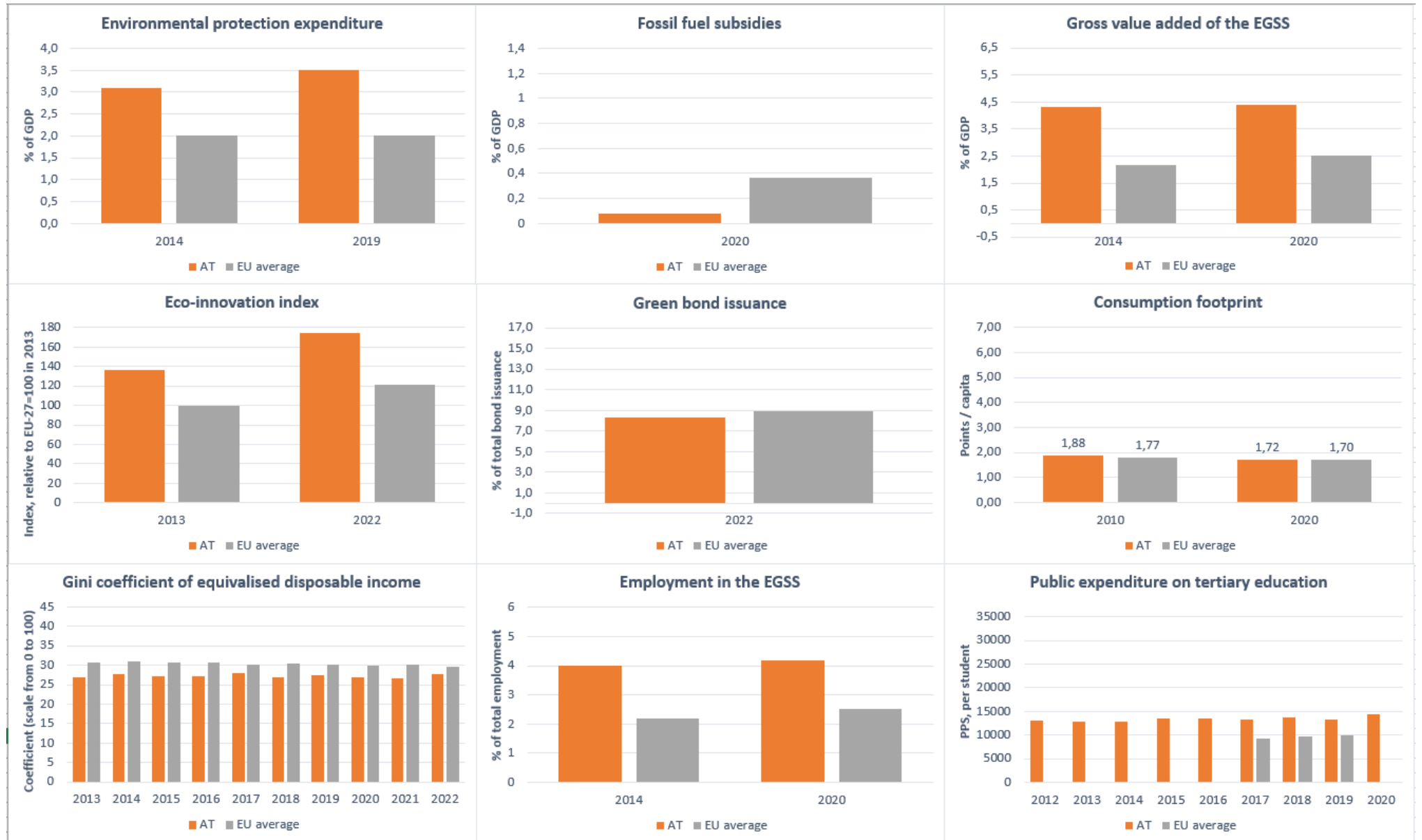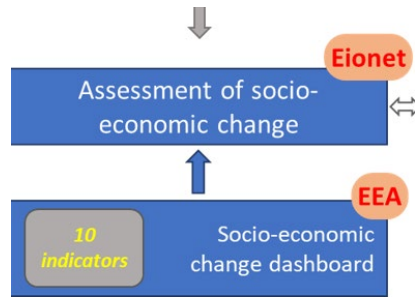(Almost) not changed after initial presentation to Eionet on 12 June

work in progress - current dashboard of transitions gaps for Austria

Organic farming — ACHIEVED

Terrestrial protected areas — LIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED

LULUCF — The EU policy target is currently met but the trend suggests that it could not be met in 2030 — UNCERTAIN

Health impacts of air pollution — The trend is moving towards meeting the EU policy target — LIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED

Greenhouse gas emissions — The trend is not moving towards the EU policy target — VERY UNLIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED

Renewable energy sources — Speeding up by a factor of 1,4 is needed to meet EU policy target — UNCERTAIN

Energy consumption — The trend is not moving towards the EU policy target — VERY UNLIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED

Climate related economic losses — The trend is not moving towards the EU policy target — VERY UNLIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED

Waste generation — The trend is not moving towards the EU policy target — VERY UNLIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED

Circular material use rate — Speeding up by a factor of 2,0 is needed to meet EU policy target — UNCERTAIN

Legend:

- **Achieved** (target is already met with stable trend)
- **Likely to be achieved** (trend is heading towards the target)
- **Uncertain** (strongly fluctuating trend or factor change of up to 2 needed)
- **Unlikely to be achieved** (speeding up by a factor 2-5 will be needed)
- **Very unlikely to be achieved** (trend is heading in the opposite direction or factor change of > 5 needed)

Assessment of trends in environment and climate — Eionet — EEA/ETC — 10 EEA indicators — Transitions gap scoreboard

work in progress – test dashboard of socio-economic change for Austria

Environmental Data action areas

- Comments esp. from by Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine related to ongoing and proposed co-operation

- Comments from all on indicators and SOER in SEIS context

- Discussion

EU4Environment

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