

# Introduction to the Environment Policy Review

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# 2008 Environment Policy Review

■ **Forthcoming in June**

■ **covers:**

- most significant **EU environment policy developments in 2008**
- key **environmental challenges** for next years
- more detailed **analysis of environmental trends and policy performance** at EU and Member State levels



# Economic crisis and environment policy

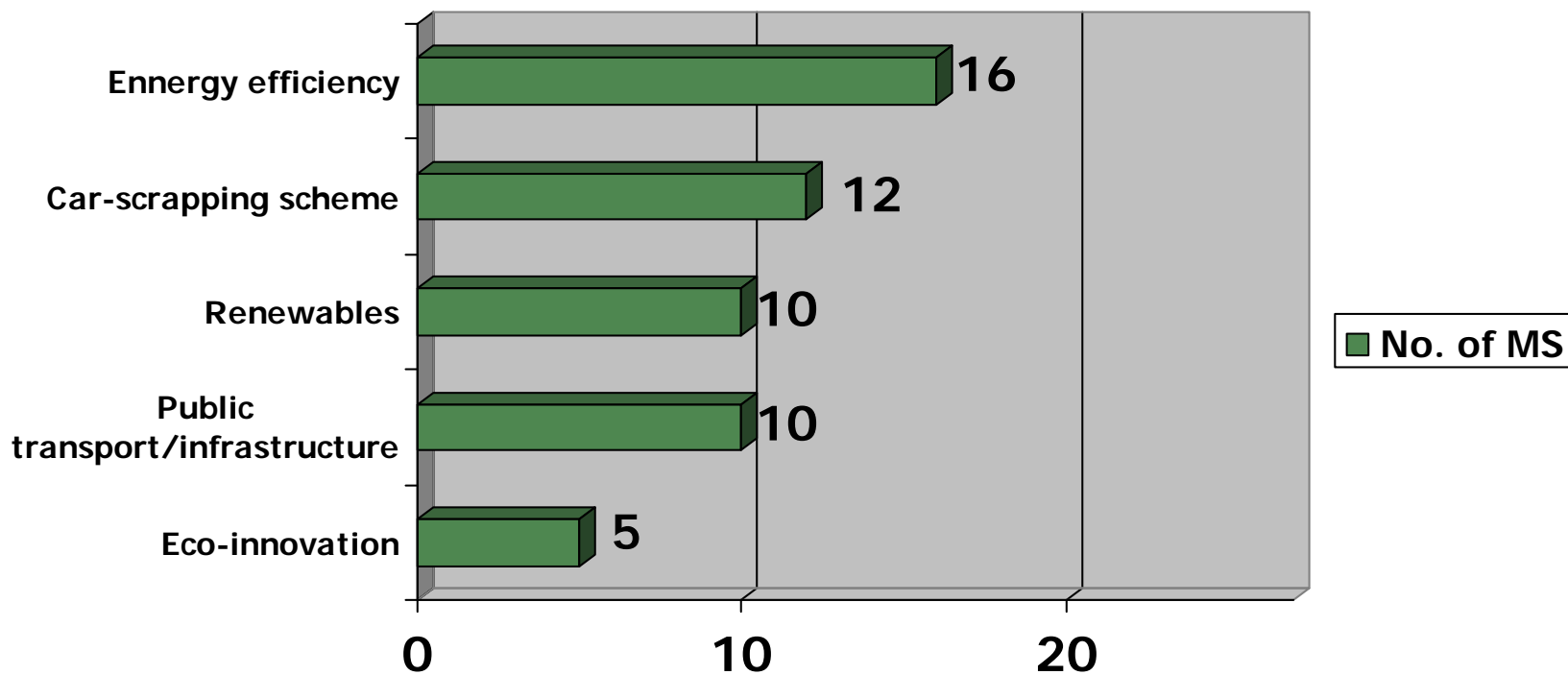
- While the crisis has had a substantial impact on our economic system it also provides a **unique opportunity** to green the economy
  - ➔ government investment should **target environmental infrastructure**, energy and resource efficiency and eco-innovation
  - ➔ strong environment policy can **help spark economic recovery**



# National recovery plans

- **Request for analysis from March Environmental Council**
- **First analysis shows:**
  - Wide variety in depth of the approaches amongst MSs
  - Share of the budget for “green” elements varies significantly
  - Types of instruments: public investment, loans, subsidies, tax deductions, etc.
  - Timing: 2009-2011

# "Green measures" in national recovery plans



# 2009 last year of current Commission and Parliament

- **Last 5 years: significant steps to progress on environmental issues**
  - EU led global fight against climate change
  - new greenhouse gas and renewables targets for 2020
  - REACH, the Air Quality Directive, expansion of NATURA 2000 network, Waste Framework Directive....
- **Good achievements but more needs to be done**
  - not least to improve the implementation of EU environment legislation



# Future challenges and priorities

- **Reaching agreement at Copenhagen** conference December 2009 + implementing and strengthening climate policies post-2012
- **Halting biodiversity loss** in EU by 2010
- Climate change **adaptation measures**
- Creating a **low-carbon and resource-efficient economy**
  - **Economic crisis presents here an historic opportunity**
- **More on priorities this afternoon**



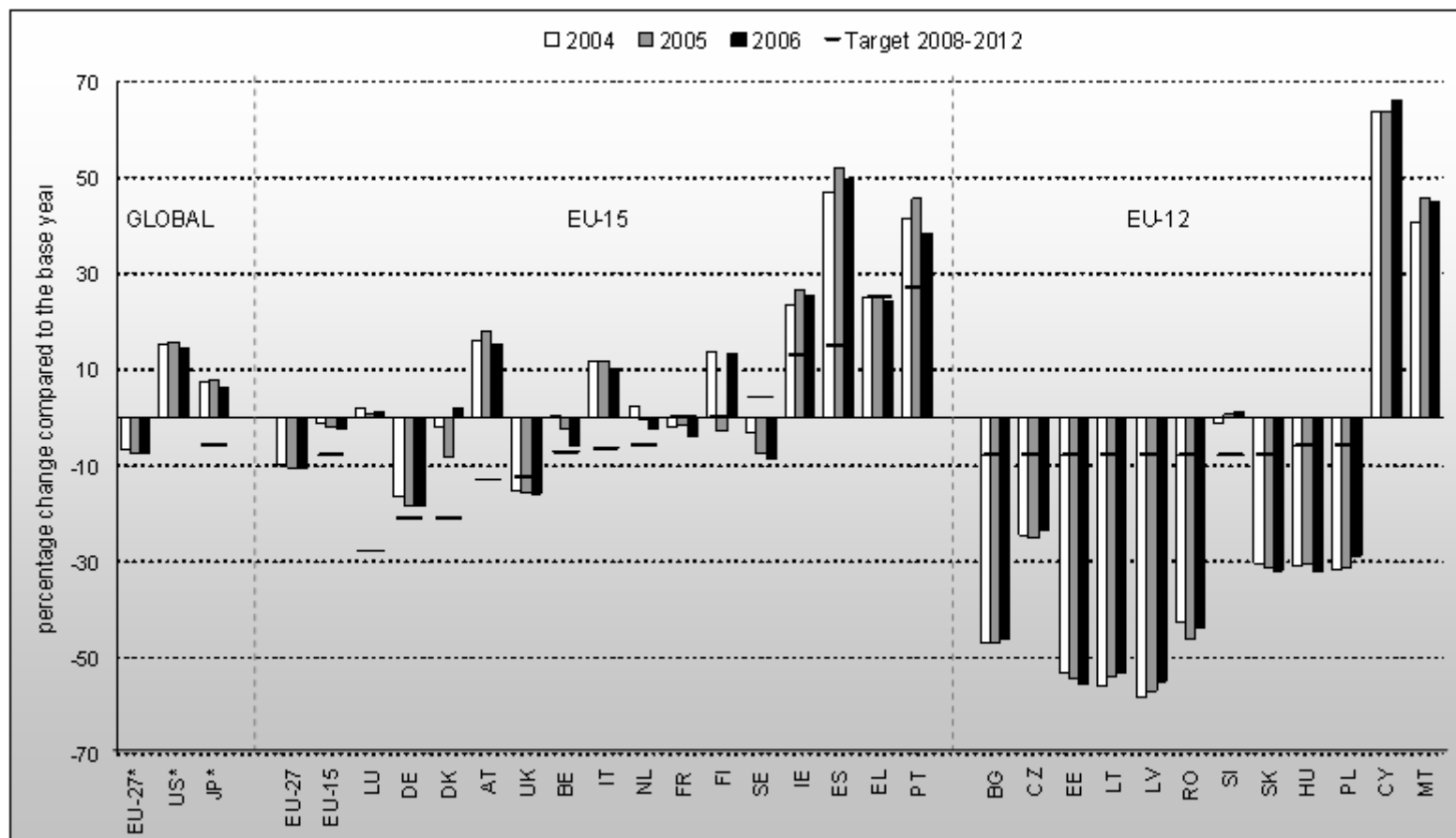
# Review of EU environmental trends and trends and policy developments in Member States

- Selection of **30 key EU indicators** relevant to the priority areas of the 6th Environment Action Programme
- Review for **each Member State** of major environment policy developments during 2008 and initiatives for near future

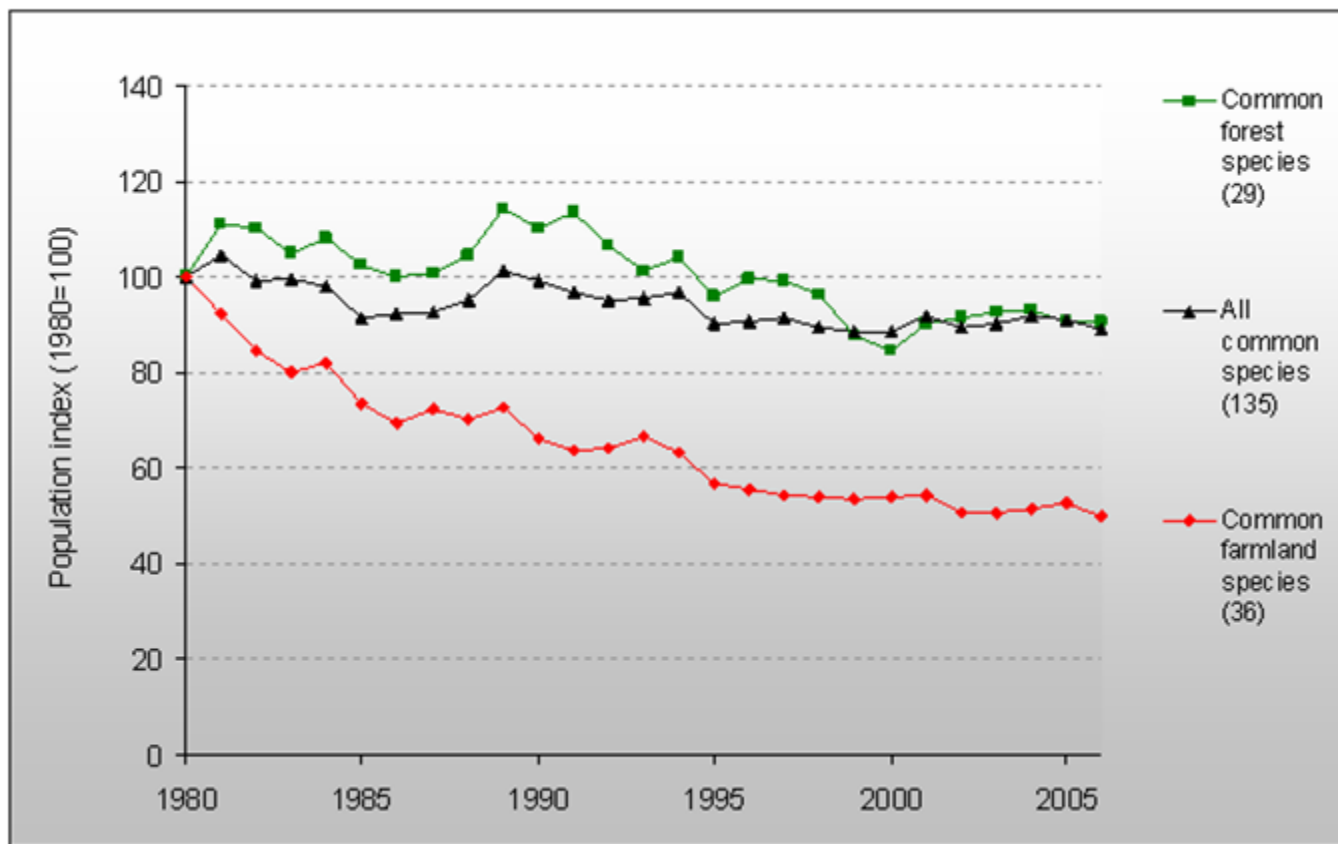


**Novelties in country annex** such as country data tables with environmental indicators

# Key EU indicators: greenhouse gas emissions and Kyoto targets



# Key EU indicators: Common birds



## Detailed tables at EU level .....

### Environment and health

	EU-27			
	2000	2005	2006	Ceiling
Urban population exposure to air pollution by particles (annual mean concentration, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	27.8	28.8	30.0	30.0
Urban population exposure to air pollution by ozone (SOMO35 level, $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 \cdot \text{day}$ )	3 087	3 919	4 417	2 698 for EU-25
Air pollutant emissions (thousand tonnes)				(by 2010)
- sulphur dioxides ( $\text{SO}_2$ )	9 928	8 227	7 946	8 300
- nitrogen oxides ( $\text{NO}_x$ )	12 581	11 406	11 199	9 000
- non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOCs)	11 166	9 596	9 391	8 800
- ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ )	4 221	4 054	4 006	4 300
Water exploitation index*				

.... and also at Member State level

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

All documents will be found at:  
DG Environment – Environment Policy Review homepage  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/policyreview.htm>

