



Main lessons learnt from monitoring sustainable development in Europe

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What is our experience?

Monitoring of the **EU Sustainable Development Strategy**



Statistical support to **Europe 2020**,
the EU's overall strategy for smart,
sustainable and inclusive growth



SDI theme	Headline indicator	Evaluation of change in the EU-27
Socioeconomic development	Real GDP per capita	
Sustainable consumption and production	Resource productivity	
Social inclusion	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion (*)	
Demographic changes	Employment rate of older workers (?)	
Public health	Life expectancy at birth (**)	
Climate change and energy	Greenhouse gas emissions	
	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (**)	
	Primary energy consumption	
Sustainable transport	Energy consumption of transport relative to GDP	
Natural resources	Common bird index	
	Fish catches from stocks outside safe biological limits	
Global partnership	Official development assistance (**)	
Good governance	[No headline indicator]	:

EU Sustainable Development Strategy

→ 10 main themes

→ 12 headline indicators

→ 100+ total indicators

(*) From 2008 (**) From 2004



European
Commission

Europe 2020 Strategy

→ 5 main themes

→ 8 headline indicators

→ 80+ descriptive indicators

Topic	Headline indicator	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Target
Employment	Employment rate age group 20–64, total (% of population)	68.0	69.0	69.9	70.3	69.0	68.5	68.6	68.5	75.0
	Employment rate age group 20–64, females (% of population)	60.0	61.1	62.1	62.8	62.3	62.1	62.3	62.4	:
	Employment rate age group 20–64, males (% of population)	76.0	76.9	77.8	77.9	75.8	75.1	75.0	74.6	:
R&D	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D ^(*) (% of GDP)	1.82	1.84	1.84	1.92	2.01	2.00	2.03	:	3.00
Climate change and energy	Greenhouse gas emissions ^(*) (Index 1990 = 100)	93.2	93.1	92.2	90.3	83.7	85.7	83.0	:	80.0
	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	8.5	9.0	9.7	10.4	11.6	12.5	13.0	:	20.0
	Primary energy consumption (Million tonnes of oil equivalent)	1 703	1 706	1 684	1 682	1 592	1 645	1 583	:	1 474
Education	Early leavers from education and training, total ^(*) (% of population aged 18–24)	15.8	15.5	15.0	14.8	14.3	14.0	13.5	12.8	< 10.0
	Early leavers from education and training, females ^(*) (% of population aged 18–24)	13.8	13.4	12.9	12.8	12.4	12.1	11.6	11.0	:
	Early leavers from education and training, males ^(*) (% of population aged 18–24)	17.8	17.5	17.0	16.8	16.2	15.9	15.3	14.5	:
	Tertiary educational attainment, total (% of population aged 30–34)	28.0	28.9	30.0	31.0	32.2	33.5	34.6	35.8	≥ 40.0
	Tertiary educational attainment, females (% of population aged 30–34)	30.0	31.5	32.8	34.2	35.6	37.1	38.5	40.0	:
	Tertiary educational attainment, males (% of population aged 30–34)	26.0	26.3	27.2	27.9	28.8	29.9	30.8	31.6	:
Poverty and social exclusion	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion ^(*) ([€]) (million people)	123.9	122.7	119.3	115.7	113.8	116.2	119.8	:	95.7 ([€])
	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion ^(*) ([€]) (% of population)	25.6	25.2	24.4	23.6	23.1	23.5	24.2	:	:
	People living in households with very low work intensity ^(*) (% of population)	10.3	10.5	9.6	9.0	9.0	10.0	10.2	:	:
	People at risk of poverty after social transfers ^(*) (% of population)	16.4	16.5	16.5	16.4	16.3	16.4	16.9	:	:
	Severely materially deprived people ^(*) (% of population)	10.7	9.8	9.1	8.4	8.1	8.3	8.8	:	:

What do we do?



Message 1: An independent and transparent monitoring

*The EU Sustainable Development Strategy gave Eurostat the **mandate** to prepare, every two years, a monitoring report on SD in the EU.*

*This ensured an **independent** monitoring process, grounded on sound statistical practices and a **transparent** assessment methodology.*

Message 2: Communicating with indicators

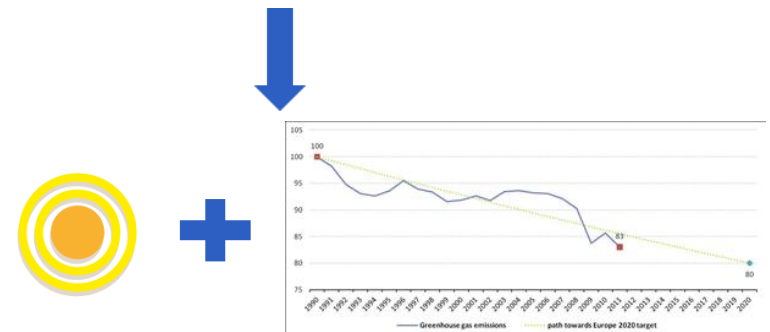
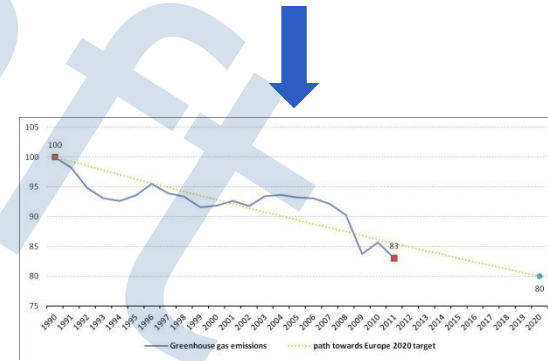
Monitoring is more than just disseminating data

Easy-to-interpret assessment symbols help communicate the main message carried by indicators

Greenhouse gas emissions

Index base year = 1990
This table shows trends in total greenhouse emissions of the "EU28" (EU27 + EU2) in 2008.

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
EU (28 countries)	81.26	80.15	82.22	86.55	85.78	84.74	83.87	83.00
EU (27 countries)	81.22	80.11	82.18	86.28	85.74	84.72	83.85	82.98
EU (25 countries)	80.95	80.03	81.5	86.53	85.83	84.88	83.97	83.10
Belgium	106.42	87.28	94.16	86.41	87.82	82.87	85.12	85.12
Denmark	50.34	58.98	62.82	91.3	82.85	81.2	80.46	80.46
Czech Republic	74.43	75.34	75.87	72.82	65.46	75.43	68.42	68.42
Denmark	50.41	106.56	89.15	84.25	86.45	80.34	83.38	83.38
Germany	81.8	81.18	79.52	79.27	74.17	76.7	74.48	74.48
Estonia	45.82	44.35	52.18	48.47	48.25	48.45	51.81	51.81
Ireland	127.78	127.79	128.82	128.12	115.78	110.32	105.82	105.82
Greece	128.28	128.36	128.1	128.61	117.85	110.52	105.61	105.61
Spain	104.22	101.46	104.4	142.95	138.36	126.35	128.43	128.43
France	101.88	88.61	87.85	87.1	82.72	83.86	85.9	85.9
Croatia	86.9	87.28	102.52	88.28	81.86	80.21	88.12	88.12
Italy	111.95	108.83	108.16	103.36	95.53	87.45	85.3	85.3
Cyprus	148.82	153.85	159.7	161.42	155.61	160.58	147.47	147.47
Lithuania	42.49	44.44	46.44	44.89	42.18	46.7	44.87	44.87



Message 3: Translating global targets into country targets

The Europe 2020 headline indicators provide a unique example of how overall targets can be translated into national targets:

- **EU aggregate target only (SDIs)**
- **EU aggregate target + Individual country targets**
- **EU aggregate target + Individual country targets based on tailor-made indicators**

Message 4: Engaging the statistical community early on

Policy-makers

(Endorse targets and indicators)

Statistical community

*Example 1: **EU SDIs Task Force***

*Example 2: **Europe 2020 Indicator sub-groups***

(Bring together policy departments and statistical experts to discuss and propose potential indicators or target breakdowns)