



SOER 2010 Part C guidance for contributors in Eionet

Maintained and regularly updated
by Barbara Clark and Milan Chrenko, EEA

Revision 6 (04 November 2009)

Version history

Version	Date	Main revisions
6	04 November 2009	<p>Summary of actions for the countries (page 2): Several deadlines added</p> <p>Section 4.3 (from page 24 onwards): Further guidance provided for the flexibility contributions</p>
5	15 September 2009	<p>Summary of actions for the countries (page 2): Deadline for 2nd draft diversity added</p> <p>Section 4.1 (from page 17 onwards): Keywords and proposed indicators provided for waste and climate change mitigation under the commonality part</p>
4	30 June 2009	<p>Content table added</p> <p>Section 4.1 (from page 10 onwards): Keywords and proposed indicators provided for land and nature protection and biodiversity under the commonality part</p> <p>Section 5 New section on Part C web approach</p>
3	19 June 2009	<p>Section 1: Phases 2 and 3 adjusted</p> <p>Section 2: Further clarification of relationship between Parts B and C</p> <p>Section 4.1: Further clarifications regarding commonality part (CSI relationship, timeline, length, future phases)</p> <p>Section 4.3: Elaboration of flexibility part</p>
2	15 May 2009	<p>Section 4: Reduced number of themes from eight to six in the commonality part;</p> <p>Section 7: Further clarification of the process</p>

Summary of actions for the countries:

- First draft Diversity by 30.06.09
- First draft Commonality – Air Pollution and Freshwater – by 30.06.09
- Identification of issues for Flexibility by 31.08.09
- First draft Commonality – Land and Nature Protection and Biodiversity – by 30.09.09
- First draft Commonality – Waste and Climate Change Mitigation – by 31.10.09
- Second draft Diversity by 30.11.09
- Second draft Commonality – Freshwater – by 30.11.09
- Second draft Commonality – Air Pollution – by 15.12.09
- First draft Flexibility by 31.01.09

CONTENT

- 1. Purpose and background.....3
- 2. Vision4
- 3. Objectives4
- 4. Content – Commonality, Diversity and Flexibility6
 - 4.1 Commonality6
 - 4.2 Diversity21
 - 4.3 Flexibility22
- 5. Part C web approach25
- 6. Benefits25
- 7. Resources.....26
- 8. Process27
- 9. Annexes28

1. Purpose and background

This document's purpose is to provide countries with guidance on implementing Part C of the SOER 2010.

The Part C project started in March 2009 and is being developed through a phased, iterative learning process as the project progresses. This guidance document should be regarded as a living document which will be developed further as appropriate. It will be revisited at the end of each phase as the process becomes more mature and possibilities become clearer.

We foresee four phases, so that we can effectively manage the available resources of the Eionet and EEA and facilitate space for learning:

- Phase 1 - March-June 2009
- Phase 2 - June-September 2009
- Phase 3 - September 2009-February 2010
- Phase 4 - February 2010-June 2010.

These are in line with the main phases for Part B (see guidance document for Part B¹).

The overlap of phases is deliberate. Learning will be continuous via the SOER web portal at <http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/> and future NFP/Eionet and NRC SOE/Part C coordinators meetings.

The following guidance is based on the outcome of the country consultation in April 2008² and general approach towards the SOER 2010 report as agreed by the Management Board in June 2008. This approach includes coverage of all 32 EEA countries and those of the West Balkans in the report and provides wide support to the A-B-C structure of the report (see guidance documents for Parts A and B).

It further builds on the discussions at the: NFP/NRC SoE workshop in September 2008; Management Board Seminar in November 2008; responses from countries asked for by the end of January 2009 and by 24 April 2009 respectively, discussions during the NFP/Eionet (February and May 2009) and Management Board (March and June 2009) meetings; separate feedback from DG Environment; as well as deliberations in the EEA. The processes are fully documented on the SOER portal³.

¹ <http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/content/part-b/part-b-guidance-doc>

² <http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/general/background-documents/planning-material-surveys-comments-part-c-till/planning-and-consultation-process-until-2008/april08survey>

³ <http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/general/background-documents/planning-material-surveys-comments-part-c-till>

2. Vision

Our overall vision for the content of Part C is to get across the message of a **Europe of concerted national environmental effort**. By using a combination of describing trends and highlighting solutions we want to show that Europe has, through the strong common environmental policy framework that distinguishes it from almost any other part of the world, worked to deliver environmental improvements for the benefit for its citizens.

This effort has been achieved in a unique collaboration process that recognizes national diversities. In this respect, there is an opportunity to inform the reader about the different circumstances that strongly influence policy implementation and the different, often additional, measures that countries take over and above those committed to under European Directives and multi-lateral environmental agreements.

To reach the citizens we want to establish a regular process of development, updating and communication of the analysis, and primarily use the web for this purpose rather than paper. At the same time we want to show that Eionet and EEA can provide a valuable contribution to Europe's environmental objectives by being policy relevant (e.g. in support of the 6th EAP) by streamlining information resources, by being the hub that links many types of ongoing country analysis under a common umbrella, and by being consistent in the impact that such analysis has across all geographical scales.

The relationship between Parts B and C should be simply distinguished by considering European benchmarking analysis in Part B complemented by more detailed country level analysis in Part C, especially concerning trends and policy measures.

3. Objectives

Part C is the opportunity for country-level situations and responses to be more systematically presented and compared as aspired to in the EEA Regulation Article 2⁴. It is also the opportunity to set in train a continuous process of country analysis that can simultaneously support major EEA assessments (SOER), national SoE assessments, other European and regional demands (European Commission Annual Environmental Policy Review, Pan-European, Mediterranean, Arctic, etc.) as well as global demands (GEO/UNEP live⁵, Rio+20).

The first objective is to analyse the environmental situation and prospects in countries, based on a manageable number of **common** issues derived from

⁴ <http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/documents/mandate.html>

⁵ It has recently been proposed by UNEP that the EEA model will serve as a prototype for UNEP-live

previous consultations. Such issues are easily identifiable because they tend to be those targeted by country actions and investments, either under the environmental acquis (e.g. freshwater, climate change mitigation, air pollution mitigation, nature protection, waste), or by multi-lateral environmental agreements (e.g. climate change mitigation, air pollution, transboundary wastes, marine pollution), by other policy agreements (e.g. halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010) or emerging policy objectives (climate change adaptation, especially around floods and droughts).

The analysis of the environmental situation and prospects should describe:

- The core issues at stake from the national perspective
- The environmental status of these issues and their impacts on the natural environment and human health
- The related driving forces and pressures
- The expected future developments
- The responses taken at country level

The opportunity here is to provide insights into the innovations and the effectiveness of different policy responses – regulatory, market, technical, institutional – in the countries. There is no desire to analyse compliance with legislative obligations; that is for the established processes run by the Commission with Member States.

This approach around common issues applies, with some differentiation, equally to all EEA member countries and those in the West Balkan region. The list of common issues is given in section 4.

The second objective is to provide the context within which the reader can understand that having environmental achievements and implementing the environmental acquis at country level is not straightforward. We know that this is strongly dependent on the **diversity** of country realities and how these realities in turn influence the policy measures taken and progress made. The focus will be on seeking insights into the social, economic, geographical, cultural, legal and institutional trends and legacies that influence practical implementation of regional and international agreements at national level. This section is also expected to shed light on possible future actions and provide new policy perspectives.

The third objective in Part C is to provide **flexibility** within which countries (or groups of countries) can highlight issues of particular interest to them. The opportunities here include providing a platform for communicating issues of particular national concern/success, emerging issues which are of common interest/significance to all countries, or bringing a regional perspective to the fore as has been mentioned in several country responses..

The EEA does not foresee itself providing strong guidance on what can be included here, but rather to leave it to individual countries or groups of countries to decide. However, if countries decide to address a shared issue in a network

approach, the EEA will provide support. What we would ask is that in deciding on such issues, links are made to the commonality and diversity assessments as appropriate. This would facilitate maximum integration across the country analysis and hopefully assist the reader in understanding linkages that might otherwise be missed.

The final objective of the Part C process is to look beyond the specificities of SOER 2010 and to consider how the process and Eionet can be seen as the “single vehicle” for putting in place a **streamlined** approach to country analysis within Europe and more globally⁵. This seeks to fulfill the first principle of SEIS⁶, namely to deliver information once and see it used for many purposes. This is an objective with many facets and some tricky hurdles to clear and therefore we see it as being one to achieve across all the phases of the SOER 2010 timeframe and beyond. This provides also two major opportunities:

- a) for the oft-stated streamlining objective to work in practice, in this case for assessments, and
- b) for Eionet to be seen as the network that brings coherence and quality assurance to otherwise incoherent activities, where the outcomes are often the work of consultants and often not known by national administrations until too late in the process.

4. Content – Commonality, Diversity and Flexibility

During discussions it has been suggested from several quarters that country contributions should take into account commonalities, diversity and flexibility. The EEA has decided to make these the three overall structural headings for steering the contents. For phase 1, we are focusing primarily on developing the first themes under commonality together with a first attempt at drafting the diversity section.

4.1 Commonality

The aim here is to address common themes already identified as main priorities by countries either through the SOER consultations and/or via SEIS country visits. EEA is currently working on an analysis of SEIS country visits and it is striking, if not wholly surprising, to see the commonality of information system developments between countries and their strong links to key priorities of the *environmental acquis*. This observation is very helpful both for structuring the commonality section and for showing the potential to link from country analysis to indicators to underlying databases using web-based approaches.

Taking into account responses from countries and further deliberations in the EEA, there are **6 themes** that emerge from these various considerations:

⁶ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/seis/index.htm>

1. Air pollution – urban and rural air quality, national and transboundary pollution, measures
2. Climate change mitigation – GHG emissions trends and projections national measures
3. Nature protection and biodiversity – protected areas, 2010 target, measures
4. Land – CLC 1990-2006 - stocks, changes, drivers
5. Freshwaters – surface and ground, quality and quantity, WFD, measures
6. Waste – waste generation, treatment and prevention, measures

For each of the above themes we are proposing a **structured set of guiding questions** so that they can be described in a comparable way and in line with a web-based approach to the development and dissemination of contents.

You will notice that for two of the six topics – GHG emissions and waste – we already have ongoing projects that will form the basis for the Part C contributions for these themes⁷. Together with the countries, we will investigate how each of these existing components can be re-engineered to best fit Part C and then implement them in the 3rd phase of the project.

Countries are encouraged to also include information regarding issues such as land use planning to cover a broader socio-economic/planning perspective, tax/fiscal reform, technology action plans, and national “green new deals” in response to the financial crisis.

For the first phase (March – June 2009), we agreed to focus on the **freshwater and air pollution** themes and to structure the contributions on a set of guiding questions which are underpinned by a selection of proposed indicators from the EEA Core Set of Indicators as well as by keywords. The indicators and keywords are to be seen as examples from which countries can select according to their national priorities. The examples given are not exhaustive. It is strongly recommended that countries use indicators from the Core Set of Indicators to strengthen the link to Part B and to facilitate comparability within Part C. The relevant indicators are identified in the guiding questions by the appropriate code.

The guiding questions are in line with the structure foreseen for Part B. In order to enhance the complementarity of Part C with Part B, countries are encouraged to refer to the current assessments available in the Core Set of Indicators⁸. These assessments also include country level information and some benchmarking.

The recommended baseline year for the topics being dealt with under commonality is 1990. If longer time series with a higher informative value are available, please use these for trend analyses.

⁷ For GHG emissions the latest data for the annual report on GHG emission trends and projections in Europe and for waste the country fact sheets on waste management

⁸ <http://themes.eea.europa.eu/indicators>

The guiding questions are valid for all themes and will facilitate comparability and allow for easy transfer to a web publication environment. For web publication, the conventional wisdom is that, for any final text used in the analysis, we should consider 500 to 1000 words per theme supported by links, graphics and multi-media. Countries are requested to deliver by the **end of June 2009** first draft versions based on the guiding questions for **freshwater and air pollution**.

Guiding questions for freshwater and air pollution:

a) Why should we care about this theme?

A brief introduction explaining why the topic in question is important for the natural environment and human health/human well-being at national level. Linkages can be made with national priorities and strategies for the given topic.

- **Examples for freshwater:**

“Well-functioning freshwater ecosystems are essential for species diversity and self-cleaning functions of water bodies; water pollutant loads impact on drinking water quality and eutrophication processes in European seas, etc”

“The added complication of climate change, with an increase in water temperatures and lower river flows, may lead to a decrease of water quality.”

“Increases in extreme rainfall events and flash floods will also increase the risk of pollution from storm water overflow and emergency discharges from waste water treatment plants.”

“There are many different human activities that lead to pressures on water resources; pollution from industry, management of rivers, building of houses in areas with flood risk.”

- **Examples for air pollution:** *“High air pollution causes health problems, premature deaths, reduced agricultural crop yields, changes in ecosystem function and species composition, damage to buildings and materials”*

“Long-range transportation of NO_x and SO₂ particles has impacts on species composition and health of vulnerable ecosystems in different parts of Europe, etc”

b) What are the state (S) and impacts (I) related to this theme, including impacts on the natural environment and human health/human well-being, both at national level as well as in transboundary terms?

Evaluation of the state and trends as well as assessment of the impacts in accordance with the country's own priority issues within the given topic area. The countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in

terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

- **Selection of keywords for freshwater:** ecological quality, nutrients in rivers and streams, eutrophication in lakes, acidification, hazardous substances, water scarcity, drought, floods, groundwater quality, decreasing groundwater levels, loss of wetlands, loss of habitats/species, impacts on human health
- **Possible S and I indicators for freshwater:** **CSI 020:** Nutrients in freshwater (S), water quality class II for nitrogen and AOX (S), **WEU01:** nitrates in groundwater (I)
- **Selection of keywords for air pollution:** air pollutant concentrations, impacts on human health and vegetation, deposition of air pollutants, loss of biodiversity, eutrophication and acidification of ecosystems
- **Possible S and I indicators for air pollution:** **CSI 004:** Exceedance of air quality limit values in urban areas (S + I), **CSI 005:** exposure of ecosystems to acidification, eutrophication and ozone (S + I)
Information relevant for human health aspect: particulate matter, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and benzene concentrations in the air; statistics addressing these air pollutants, i.e. progress towards meeting legally binding limit values, target values and long-term objectives for protection of human health included in the EU Air Quality Directives; exceedances of limit and target values and exposure of European population to levels above those statistics; measures for accumulated exposure of humans to high ozone levels; further developed statistics such as estimates of premature deaths per million inhabitants; national, regional, and/or urban/rural scale.
Information relevant for vegetation and ecosystems: ozone concentrations in the air, deposition of acidifying air pollutants (mainly nitrogen and sulphur compounds), deposition of eutrophying air pollutants (mainly nutrient nitrogen compounds) to terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems; target values and long-term objectives for protection of vegetation and ecosystems included in the EU Air Quality and National Emission Ceiling Directives; Critical Loads for eutrophication, acidification and heavy metals (LRTAP Convention, UN ECE) national, regional, and/or rural scale (e.g. impact at national Natura 2000 sites)

c) What are the related key drivers (D) and pressures (P) at national level?

Description of main driving forces (demographic, economic, etc) and pressures on the natural environment and human health/well-being at country level. Again, the countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

- **Selection of keywords for freshwater:**
Drivers: population trends, water demand, households, industrial production, land use, agriculture, tourism, energy sector, impact of climate change, **Pressures:** waste water treatment, emissions to water, water exploitation, water abstraction
- **Possible D and P indicators for freshwater:** **CSI 018:** Use of freshwater resources (D), **CSI 025:** nutrient balance (P), **CLIM002:** observed changes in annual precipitation, **WQ02:** water abstraction by sector, **WQ01c:** water exploitation index
- **Selection of keywords for air pollution:**
Drivers: population and economic trends, transport, energy and agricultural demand, household consumption
Pressures: emissions of air pollutants
- **Possible D and P indicators for air pollution:**
Drivers: trends of the key drivers include e.g. population and economic (GDP) growth, **EN05, EN06, EN07:** energy and **TERM03:** transport demand
Pressures: **CSI 001, AP1, AP2, AP3:** emissions of selected air pollutants including acidifying and/or eutrophying substances (SO₂, NH₃, NO_x), **CSI 002:** tropospheric ozone precursors (NMVOC, NO_x, CO, CH₄), **CSI 003:** particulate matter (primary PM (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}) and/or secondary precursors, heavy metals, persistent organic pollutants

d) What is the 2020 outlook (date flexible) for the topic in question and how will this affect possible impacts on the natural environment and human health/well-being?

Focus should be on national objectives and targets, if possible providing a reality check, i.e. distance to target approach.

- **Keywords for freshwater:** future needs for water resources, water quality issues as they relate to achieving the international goals on water, sanitation and biodiversity, sustainable access to safe drinking water, climate change impacts, waste water treatments trends
- **Possible outlook indicators for freshwater:** **CSI 025:** trends in nutrient balances, future precipitation patterns, river flow
- **Keywords for air pollution:** Scenarios, outlooks, projections of air pollutant emissions and their associated environmental and health impacts
- **Possible outlook indicators for air pollution:** Projected emissions of air pollutants in 2010, 2020, 2050 etc, comparison of projected emissions with 2010 emissions ceilings where relevant (e.g. NEC Directive, Gothenburg Protocol), modeled impacts of air quality in 2010, 2020, 2050 against established parameters and objectives

(exceedances of limit and target values, critical load exceedances etc), e.g. national/regional/local scenarios/projections

e) Which responses (R) have been put in place or are planned at national level for the theme in question?

Countries are encouraged to highlight national policies, instruments, initiatives, strategies, etc. and, where possible, to evaluate the impact of these.

- **Examples for freshwater:** water pricing, reducing water losses, information on more water-efficient practices, economic instruments as an incentive for polluters to reduce pollution at source
- The EU policy framework to be taken into account for the **freshwater** area: Water Framework Directive, Urban Waste Water Directive, Nitrates Directive, IPPC Directive, Groundwater Directive, Floods Directive, Drinking Water Directive, Bathing Water Directive
- **Examples for air pollution:** Local policy measures, local initiatives undertaken to improve air quality, e.g. implementation of congestion zone charging, successful inclusion of air quality considerations in local planning process
- The EU policy framework to be taken into account for the **air pollution** area: Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, National Emission Ceilings Directive, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Mechanism, Exchange of Information Decision, Ozone Directive

During the second phase (July – September 2009), countries are requested to deliver contributions on **nature protection and biodiversity** as well as on **land** under the commonality section. The guiding questions follow the pattern used for freshwater and air pollution. You will find keywords and proposed indicators for these themes below. The indicators and keywords are to be seen as examples from which countries can select according to their priorities. The examples given are not exhaustive. **Deliveries are expected by the end of September.**

Guiding questions for nature protection and biodiversity and for land:

a) Why should we care about this theme?

A brief introduction explaining why the topic in question is important for the natural environment and human health/human well-being at national level. Linkages can be made with national priorities and strategies for the given topic.

- **Examples for nature protection and biodiversity:**

“2010 is a crucial year for the conservation of biological diversity⁹. The year 2010 and beyond was chosen by the Heads of States, both at EU and global level, to formally set a target to halt the biodiversity decline¹⁰.”

“Biodiversity encompasses not only the conservation/restoration paradigm but it is at the frontline as provider of ecosystems services – the natural production capacity and regulating processes that are essential for the sustainable use of earth's resources and human health¹¹. This new paradigm, that emerged during the last decade shifted and complemented the motivation to protect biodiversity.”

“Loss of biodiversity is occurring in all European countries and all bio-geographical zones: from the Arctic, where growing tourism and climate change result in species extinction and habitat destruction, to the Mediterranean, where biodiversity loss is further exacerbated by infrastructure development and overexploitation in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and touristic sectors.”

“The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment has convincingly shown that these services are under great pressure, for instance, because of human induced habitat loss, climate change and overexploitation of natural resources (MA, 2005¹²). Ecosystem services can be classified as following (Figure 1).”

⁹ "Biological diversity" means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems according to Article 2 (l) of the CBD. <http://www.cbd.int/convention/articles.shtml?a=cbd-02>

¹⁰ The European Council decided in 2001 on the strict target of halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and beyond. A similar approach to reduce significantly the loss of biodiversity by 2010 was endorsed at global scale in 2002 under the CBD.

¹¹ The World Health Organization (WHO) defined already in 1946 health as a state of optimal physical, mental, and social well-being, not merely as the absence of disease and infirmity. <http://www.who.int/about/definition/en/print.html>

¹² MA (2005). *Ecosystems and human well-being. Biodiversity synthesis. A report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*. World Resources Institute, Washington. <http://www.millenniumassessment.org/documents/document.354.aspx.pdf>

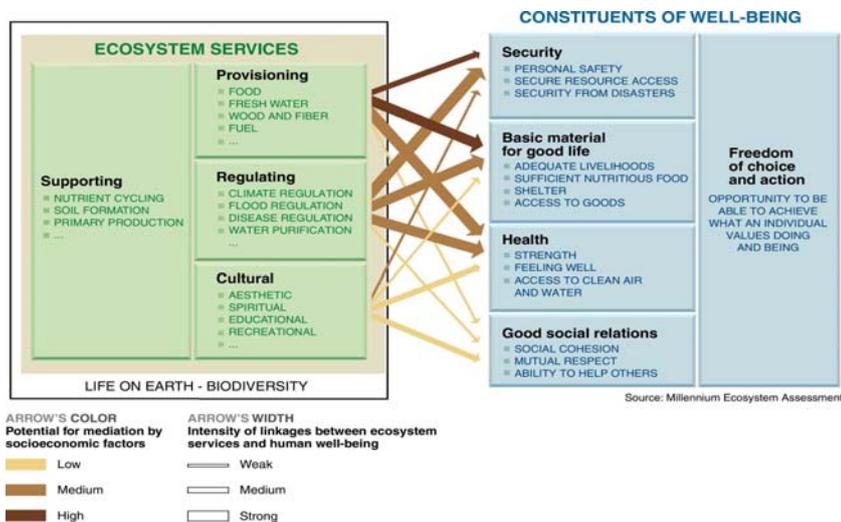


Figure 1: Interrelations between ecosystem services and constituents of human well-being (MA, 2005)

- **Examples for land:**

“The rate, extent and intensity of land use changes in Europe are leading to unprecedented changes in ecosystems and the environment. Different levels of economic development within Europe determine regional differences of land use patterns and intensity.”

“Current land use practices (specialization) often lead to reduction of landscape diversity and its multi-functionality. Less heterogeneous landscape pattern may lead to reduced resilience and loss of ecosystem services. This also makes ecosystems more vulnerable to climate change impacts.”

“Activities such as agriculture, forestry, transport, manufacturing and housing use land and alter its natural state and functions. Many environmental problems are rooted in the use of land: land use has impacts on climate change, biodiversity loss, degradation and pollution of water, soils and air.”

b) What are the state (S) and impacts (I) related to this theme, including impacts on the natural environment and human health/human well-being, both at national level as well as in transboundary terms?

Evaluation of the state and trends as well as assessment of the impacts in accordance with the country’s own priority issues within the given topic area. The countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

- **Selection of keywords for nature protection and biodiversity:** genetic diversity of crops and livestock, trends in abundance and distribution of selected species (birds, butterflies, plants, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, pollinators), trends in invasive alien species (terrestrial and aquatic), occurrence of temperature sensitive species
- **Possible S and I indicators for nature protection and biodiversity:** **SEBI2010 6:** Livestock genetic diversity, Diversity of crops and wild crop relatives (S), **SEBI2010 1:** Abundance and distribution of selected species (S), **SEBI 2010 10:** Invasive alien species in Europe (S+I), **SEBI2010 11:** Impact of climate change on biodiversity (I)
Existing national / regional databases on and/or planned initiatives to take stock of: crop and livestock genetic diversity (status + trends), abundance and trends of selected species, trends in invasive alien species (terrestrial and aquatic), occurrence of temperature sensitive species
- **Selection of keywords for land:** Landscape specialisation/polarization, degree of land use intensity, loss of extensively managed areas, land abandonment, access to green areas, urban sprawl (low density land take), reduced GHG sinks due to (semi)natural land conversion, soil sealing, landscape fragmentation, land accounting.
- **Possible S and I indicators for land:** **CSI 014:** Land take, land cover composition (2006 stocks, 1990 stocks), land cover change 2000-2006 and 1990-2000 (land cover flows: Urban land management, Urban residential sprawl, Sprawl of economic sites and infrastructures, agriculture internal conversions, Conversion from other land cover to agriculture, Withdrawal of farming, Forests creation and management, Water bodies creation and management, Changes of land cover due to natural and multiple causes), status of pastures and mixed mosaics, landscape fragmentation index, green potential background index (aggregation of relevant CLC classes), evolving spatial pattern of settlements.

c) What are the related key drivers (D) and pressures (P) at national level?

Description of main driving forces (demographic, economic, etc) and pressures on the natural environment and human health/well-being at country level. Again, the countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

- **Selection of keywords for nature protection and biodiversity:**
Drivers: sectoral policies (agriculture, forestry, transport, tourism), consumption and production. **Pressures:** habitat loss (ecosystem extent), fragmentation of (semi) natural habitats and rivers, pollution, overexploitation (deadwood)

- **Possible D and P indicators for nature protection and biodiversity: SEBI2010 13:** Fragmentation of natural and semi-natural areas, **SEBI2010 14:** Fragmentation of river systems, **SEBI2010 18:** Deadwood (P)
- **Selection of keywords for land: Drivers:** population trends, urbanization, higher floor space demand per person, change in lifestyle (consumption habits), agricultural production, food/feed demand, timber/fiber demand, tourism, higher mobility, demand for second homes, recreation and leisure facilities, energy sector including bioenergy, land prices, impact of climate change, territorial cohesion policies; **Pressures:** urban and infrastructure land take, arable land use, land use intensification, land abandonment, afforestation, soil sealing, urban diffuse runoff, density of transport networks, GHG emissions due to land conversion, environmental noise.
- **Possible D and P indicators for land:** population size, percentage of urban population, share of agricultural land cover, share of land cover related to urban, industrial and infrastructure use, soil sealing, extension of transport networks, mining activities.

d) What is the 2020 outlook (date flexible) for the topic in question and how will this affect possible impacts on the natural environment and human health/well-being?

Focus should be on national objectives and targets, if possible providing a reality check, i.e. distance to target approach.

- **Keywords for nature protection and biodiversity:** Scenarios, outlooks, projections of biodiversity change / loss with regard to: global environmental change (GHG emissions and climate change, water stress, flooding, droughts) population growth and migration, environmental governance, sectoral policies (agriculture, forestry, transport, tourism)
- **Possible outlook indicators for nature protection and biodiversity:** outlooks for land use change;
- **Keywords for land:** outlooks for population trends, future needs for land resources, scenarios for bioenergy crops and food production, land resource quality issues as they relate to achieving the objectives on soil protection and supporting biodiversity, climate change impacts, land conversion trends, in particular urban sprawl and soil sealing, land abandonment, future settlement patterns (i.e. polycentric vs. monocentric development).
- **Possible outlook indicators for land:** future trends in land cover change.

e) Which responses (R) have been put in place or are planned at national level for the theme in question?

Countries are encouraged to highlight national policies, instruments, initiatives, strategies, etc. and, where possible, to evaluate the impact of these.

- **Examples for nature protection and biodiversity:** financing biodiversity knowledge and management;
- The EU policy framework to be taken into account for the **nature protection and biodiversity** area: Habitats and Birds Directives, Biodiversity Action Plan, Common Agricultural Policy, Common Fisheries Policy, regional policies
- **Examples for land:** spatial planning, rural development, agricultural production cross-compliance (e.g. with environmental normatives), high nature value farmland management, forest management, nature protection areas (e.g. Natura2000 sites), river basin management plans, flood risk mapping, transport network planning, soil protection, land pricing, territorial cohesion.
- The EU policy frameworks to be taken into account for the **land** area: EU Common Agriculture Policy and Rural Development regulation, Birds and Habitats directives, Water Framework directive, Nitrates directive, Floods directive, plans of Trans-European Networks, Thematic strategies of EU 6th Environmental Action Programme (i.e. Urban environment, Soil protection, Sustainable use of natural resources), EC White paper on adapting to climate change (and National adaptation strategies, where relevant), EU Regional policy and Green paper on Territorial cohesion, Territorial agenda of the EU, Strategic environmental assessment directive, EU Recommendation for Integrated coastal zone management.

Some further important information for the countries when dealing with **nature protection and biodiversity** within the commonality section.

The progress towards the 2010 target of halting biodiversity loss has been recently assessed against a set of 26 internationally agreed indicators. These indicators were selected within the pan-European Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators (**SEBI 2010**) process and have subsequently been adopted at EU and pan-European levels.

On 22 May 2009, on the occasion of the International Day on Biological Diversity, the European Environment Agency (EEA) released a first assessment of Europe's biodiversity based on the SEBI 2010 indicators¹³. During the summer

¹³ The EEA report 'Progress towards the European 2010 biodiversity target' is available for downloading at: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/highlights/publications/progress-towards-the-european-2010-biodiversity-target/>.

2009, the factsheets for all the SEBI 2010 indicators will be available for reference at EEA web site¹⁴ at:

The SEBI 2010 process and indicator set provides the best coverage possible with existing information and resources in Europe. However, data coverage, both geographical and temporal, needs to be improved. Implementing Part C of the SOER 2010 is also the opportunity for the countries to support the development of SEBI 2010 and other biodiversity-related indicators and assessments.

The SEBI 2010 process was also a crucial element of the structuring of the EU Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) where countries contributed with other information. This information will be updated by the countries in preparation of the 2010 BAP assessment report.¹⁵

For the third phase, countries are asked to provide country level assessments on **waste** and on **climate change mitigation** under the commonality section. The guiding questions with appropriate keywords and indicator proposals follow the pattern used for the other four themes and the **deadline for delivery is 31 October**. This timeline takes into account the fact that the Agency has carried out work recently in these areas and up to date comparable country level data and information are readily available. The indicators and keywords are to be seen as examples from which countries can select according to their priorities. The examples given are not exhaustive.

Guiding questions for waste and climate change mitigation:

a) Why should we care about this theme?

A brief introduction explaining why the topic in question is important for the natural environment and human health/human well-being at national level. Linkages can be made with national priorities and strategies for the given topic.

- **Examples for waste:**

“Growing waste amounts put pressure on waste treatment capacities and exacerbate environmental impacts from waste management (landfill, treatment, collection). Waste disposal is a loss of material resources.”

“Improper waste management causes environmental pollution and can cause impacts on human health”

- **Examples for climate change mitigation:**

“Climate change is one of our greatest environmental, social and economic threats.”

¹⁴ <http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/progress-towards-the-european-2010-biodiversity-target-indicator-fact-sheets>

¹⁵ The mid-term assessment of implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan (2008 report) may be downloaded at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/bap_2008.htm

“The warming of the climate system is unequivocal according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007). Observations show increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, rising global mean sea level, ocean acidification, and extreme climatic events. It is very likely that most of the warming can be attributed to the emissions of greenhouse gases by human activities. Without global action to limit and mitigate emissions, the IPCC expects that global temperatures may increase further (with an increase of already about 0.8 °C) by 1.8 to 4.0 °C by 2100 and thus temperature increase since pre-industrial times would exceed 2 °C (the proposed EU global target).”

b) What are the state (S) and impacts (I) related to this theme, including impacts on the natural environment and human health/human well-being, both at national level as well as in transboundary terms?

Evaluation of the state and trends as well as assessment of the impacts in accordance with the country's own priority issues within the given topic area. The countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

- **Selection of keywords for the waste management situation:** The overall question to answer here is whether the waste system at national level is moving towards less generation of waste and better waste management, i.e. whether the waste system is moving upwards in the waste hierarchy towards waste prevention, reuse and recycling. Health impacts from poor waste management. The countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

Keywords:

- Trends in waste generation: total waste, municipal waste, WEEE, packaging waste (information partly available at the [Waste Data Centre](#))
- State of the waste management system and progress towards better waste management: amounts and treatment routes of municipal waste. Information partly available at the [Waste Data Centre](#)
- Progress towards prevention and recycling for packaging waste, WEEE, end-of-life vehicles. Information partly available at the [Waste Data Centre](#)
- Progress towards the closing of landfill sites not complying with environmental standards; progress towards full coverage of the population with waste collection schemes
- **Possible indicators for the waste management situation: CSI 016:** municipal waste generation, **CSI 017:** generation and recycling of

packaging waste, as well as EU structural indicator on municipal waste

- **Selection of keywords for climate change mitigation and possible S and I indicators for climate change mitigation:** These questions do not apply to climate change mitigation and do not need to be addressed by the countries in this context.

c) What are the related key drivers (D) and pressures (P) at national level?

Description of main driving forces (demographic, economic, etc) and pressures on the natural environment and human health/well-being at country level. Again, the countries can address the diversity of their individual situation in terms of geography, as well as social, cultural, economic and environmental legacies.

- **Selection of keywords for waste:** What drives the generation of waste at national level, including the trends? Drivers for municipal waste generation, e.g. GDP, household consumption, change of consumption patterns, tourism, household size trends. Is waste generation decoupled from these drivers? Drivers for total waste generation, e.g. industrial activities, construction activities. Pressures from waste, e.g. GHG emissions from the waste sector, emissions of pollutants from waste management to air and water; benefits of good waste management (if available)
- **Possible D and P indicators for waste: CSI 016:** municipal waste generation per capita; total waste generation per GDP.
- **Selection of keywords for climate change mitigation: Drivers:** population growth, economic growth, transport demand (road transport, aviation, international shipping), energy demand (fuel combustion, household consumption, transport, industry), agricultural demand, waste generation, industrial activities, energy mix, energy balance, forestry, sinks. **Pressures:** emissions and sinks of greenhouse gases.
- **Possible D and P indicators for climate change mitigation:** **Drivers:** trends of the key drivers include e.g. population and economic (GDP) growth, energy indicators **CSI 027 to CSI 031** (e.g. primary energy intensity, primary energy consumption by fuel, final energy consumption by sector, share of renewable energy, % renewable electricity generation etc), transport indicators **CSI 035 to CSI 037** (e.g. transport demand, transport final energy consumption). **Pressures:** Emissions and sinks of greenhouse gases, by gas and by sector (e.g. **CSI 010**)

d) What is the 2020 outlook (date flexible) for the topic in question and how will this affect possible impacts on the natural environment and human health/well-being?

Focus should be on national objectives and targets, if possible providing a reality check, i.e. distance to target approach.

- **Selection of keywords for waste:** Projections or scenarios for the generation of e.g. municipal waste, WEEE or other waste types. Targets and objectives for waste prevention, recycling and better waste management, including the feasibility of reaching these targets. Future requirements for waste treatment capacities
- **Selection of keywords for climate change mitigation:** Scenarios, outlooks, projections of greenhouse gas emissions, Kyoto Protocol, 2020 emission reduction targets, climate and energy package, emission trading, effort sharing, flexible mechanisms
- **Possible outlook indicators for climate change mitigation:** Projected emissions of greenhouse gases over Kyoto period, 2020, 2050, etc. (e.g. **CSI 011**). Comparison of projected emissions with emission targets (Kyoto, 2020), use of flexibility mechanisms, emission trading, carbon price, projected removals from sinks, projected savings from policies and measures, etc.

e) Which responses (R) have been put in place or are planned at national level for the theme in question?

Countries are encouraged to highlight national policies, instruments, initiatives, strategies, etc. and, where possible, to evaluate the impact of these.

- **Examples for waste:** Here the country fact sheets on waste policies can be used for input:
http://scp.eionet.europa.eu/facts/factsheets_waste/2006_edition,
or the updated versions for 16 countries:
http://scp.eionet.europa.eu/facts/factsheets_waste/2009_edition
Please note: the 2009 versions have not yet been published as some layout details are still under development but they can still be used for this purpose.
- **Selection of keywords for waste:** Which policies have been implemented or are planned to prevent waste? Examples: waste prevention strategies, targets and instruments (e.g. economic, administrative, voluntary). What is the experience with the effectiveness of these policies?
Which policies have been implemented or are planned towards better waste management? Examples: planning of waste treatment capacities. Improving waste collection.
Policies to support recycling (e.g. recycling targets, implementation of producer responsibility schemes, regulation of quality of recycled

products, voluntary agreements with industrial sectors). What is the experience with the effectiveness of these policies?

Which policies have been implemented or are planned towards the closing of non-compliant landfills?

- The EU policy frameworks to be taken into account for the **waste** area: Waste Framework Directive, Landfill Directive, WEEE Directive, Packaging Waste Directive, End-of-life vehicles Directive, Waste Shipments Regulation, Waste Incineration Directive, IPPC Directive
- **Selection of keywords for climate change mitigation**: Which policies have been implemented to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases? Are these policies being implemented effectively? What future use of trading and flexible mechanisms is anticipated? International, national and local responses: emission trading, European Community legislation, national legislation, voluntary agreements, renewable energy, energy efficiency, flexible mechanisms, national initiatives, fuel switching, carbon capture and storage (CCS), behaviour change.
- The EU policy frameworks to be taken into account for the **climate change mitigation** area: UNFCCC and Kyoto protocol, EU 2020 targets, EU climate and energy package, effort sharing, EU ETS, renewable energy targets, energy efficiency targets, vehicle fuel efficiency, energy performance of buildings, energy taxation, IPPC Directive, F-gas regulation.

Some further important information for the countries when dealing with **climate change mitigation** within the commonality section: The EEA annual report on *Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe* (next version to be published early November 2009) includes country-specific information on climate change mitigation. This information, compiled in “greenhouse gas country profiles”, is mainly based on official reporting under the EU GHG Monitoring Mechanism Decision (280/2004/CE). The profiles include quantitative data on GHG emissions (total, per gas and per sector) and on GHG emission trends (since 1990) and projections (until 2020), as well as short assessments of these trends and of each country’s progress towards its Kyoto target.

4.2 Diversity

In contrast to the commonality section, where there is strong emphasis on comparability, fewer concrete requirements are necessary for the diversity section. We are suggesting guidance in the form of questions, keywords and estimated number of words, together with indications of the opportunities for linking to more detailed information and multi-media opportunities. We would like to focus on delivering a first version of the diversity section during phase 1, that is, **by the end of June 2009**.

The list of questions that we would like to use for framing the diversity analysis in a comparable way is:

a) What are the factors that distinguish your country from many others?

(**Length:** c 300-500 words. **Keywords:** climate, geography, size, population density, economic structure, governance, transformation from communist to democratic system. **Links:** country climate, geography, population maps, governance description, economic statistics, population statistics)

b) What have been the major societal developments since 1980 compared with the period 1950-1980, including their relevance for the environment?

(**Length:** c 300-500 words. **Keywords:** EU accession/enlargement, transformation from centrally planned economy to market economy, globalisation, urbanisation, consumption/production, armed conflicts/war legacy, tourism. **Links:** published articles, media references, factual books)

c) What are the main drivers of environmental pressures and how do these contribute to multiple impacts on people and the natural environment?

(**Length:** c 500 words. **Keywords:** industrial production, agriculture, transport and mobility, energy, housing, food and drink, human health/well-being, tourism, multi-pollutant, multi-effect. **Links:** sectoral policy documents, sectoral statistics, landscape/cover/use maps)

d) What are the foreseen main developments in coming decades that could be expected to contribute most to future environmental pressures?

(**Length:** c 100-200 words. **Keywords:** demographics and economics forecasts, scenarios, strategic futures, 5-10 year development plans. **Links:** sectoral policy documents, private and public sector scenarios and strategic futures exercises, academic literature)

4.3 Flexibility

We see flexibility as being an area where EEA guidance is not paramount and rather wish discussions within and between countries to determine the elements to address.

For phase 1, we are not looking for first draft assessments as for the commonality and diversity sections. However, where countries/regions are motivated to do so,

we would welcome contributions in their own right and as a basis for shared learning with other countries/regions.

During phase 2, we invite countries to **identify by the end of August** one to two aspects which they intend focusing on. We would encourage you to discuss your plans with your Country Desk Officer. The contribution for the flexibility section should be 500-1000 words, supported by relevant links to further information. As discussed at the NFP/Eionet meeting in May, we propose 3 types of approaches to the flexibility section:

Single country perspective

Here countries have the opportunity to highlight their specific issues, including emerging issues, and how they are dealing with them. What measures have been effective, which obstacles have been encountered? We are looking for a balanced assessment, so while it is important to showcase success stories which support the shared learning process, it is equally important to underline the challenges, or even failures, in tackling the issues. It would be very useful to hear how EU legislation and standards have supported, or not supported, the process at national level. Case studies or success stories can be of national, sub-national or local relevance.

The responsibility for contributions under the single country perspective is clearly with the countries themselves.

Multi-country perspective

Several countries have expressed interest in addressing area-based analyses in the flexibility section. Issues and regions that have been mentioned more than once are Baltic Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Alpine region, Carpathians and marine issues in general.

Groups of countries are invited to consider where they would like to provide contributions from a multi-country perspective through a self-organized process, i.e. interested countries to cooperate towards the development of coherent deliveries, where the Agency's role would be to facilitate the process with administrative support (e.g. portal, possible meetings). We estimate that we would be able to facilitate a maximum of three such processes.

All country perspective

This alternative would depend on a large number of countries addressing one or two common issues from a country perspective. The issues proposed by the EEA are climate change adaptation and/or the green economy initiative. We would very much welcome a network response to these proposals, that is, we encourage countries to consult with each other and consider the suggestion as a network and to send us a network reply. The aim of this exercise would be to address the lack of transparency and consistent terminology in these areas across Europe and to bring systematic order to the issues.

As stated at the NFP/Eionet meeting in May, the EEA would put substantial effort into supporting the development of country contributions dealing with climate change adaptation and/or greening the economy. We estimate that we would have to choose one issue given available resources.

Development of flexibility contributions

During the third phase, we invite countries to develop their flexibility contributions and to **submit first draft versions by 31 January 2010**, taking into account all the aspects mentioned above.

As stated earlier in this document, the EEA does not intend providing strong guidance on what can be included in the flexibility section, but rather to leave it to individual countries or groups of countries themselves to decide. However, as promised during the September 2009 NFP/Eionet meeting, we would like to offer you some “light” guidance for the production of your flexibility contributions.

The flexibility contributions should have the same “look and feel” as the ones for diversity and commonality, that is, they should be short and succinct and be accompanied by relevant graphics. As underlined several times in this guidance document, the conventional wisdom for web publication is that, for any final text used in the analysis, 500 to 1000 words per theme supported by links, graphics and multi-media would be the ideal format.

As the guiding questions are proving to be extremely useful for structuring the diversity and commonality contributions in a readable, consistent and web-friendly way, we would like you to use a similar approach for the flexibility section. To ensure the best possible presentation, please structure your flexibility contributions along the following questions:

- Why is this issue important for your country?
- What is the environmental relevance of this issue?
- What are the related trends?

For those countries which have not yet made a final decision regarding their flexibility contributions, we advise you to look at issues which are insufficiently addressed at European level.

A further possibility would be to address the forward-looking component of environmental assessments, the use of such an approach in policy making and how this is supported by appropriate information systems.

For those countries engaging in a multi-country exercise (Alpine and Baltic contributions are anticipated), please note that it is important to make the text relevant to the EU policy framework in order to add value to the project.

Finally, as mentioned several times during the Part C project, please ensure that your contributions are balanced, fair and realistic, even if you are reporting about

particularly successful or exemplary actions or measures at national level. A lack of balance could seriously endanger the credibility of the whole project.

5. Part C web approach

The discussion between EEA and Eionet countries on how to present Part C on the web was initiated by launching the quick informal survey regarding the development of national, web-based Part C contributions - *Assessment of need for assistance or capacity building* - organized by NFP Norway and EEA. The discussion then continued at the NFP/Eionet meeting in May. It was agreed that the EEA would provide the countries with information and standards for web-formatting of contributions. These would be very important for ensuring that the Part C process is in line with SEIS principles and for providing a platform on which to build a continuous maintenance of Part C contributions post 2010. The proposal for the Part C web approach is available in a separate document on the SOER Portal.¹⁶

The agreement, at the NFP/Eionet meeting in May, to proceed with Part C on the web suggests that a workshop with NRCs Information Systems would be useful in 2009. This workshop takes place on 29 September 2009, back to back with the NFP/Eionet meeting.

6. Benefits

There will be many benefits to be gained from the implementation of the Part C project. One will be a better basis for getting across the environment message in national media – witness the interest in Part C of the SOER 2005. Secondly, it will support country benchmarking either within countries (national SoE reports), between countries/regions, across Europe or with respect to Europe in the world.

Part C will also put flesh on the SEIS concept by delivering rich content in line with many of the SEIS principles. Breathing life into SERIS¹⁷ and the Core Set of Indicators¹⁸ will be two immediate offshoots of the work.

Arguably the greatest benefits of all will come from bringing a wide range of country analysis activities under one coherent umbrella in a streamlined approach. There are many processes that we can connect coherently including country analyses under the Lisbon process, the Annual Environmental Policy Review of the Commission, thematic processes such as Biodiversity Action Plan and the Water Framework Directive, Environmental Policy Reviews by OECD and UNECE, country analysis by UNCSD, as well as proposals in the pipeline for country analysis under the UNEP umbrella.

¹⁶ http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/part-c/part-c-guidance/Part_C_web_proposal020709.doc

¹⁷ <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/seris>

¹⁸ <http://themes.eea.europa.eu/IMS/CSI>

In this respect Part C is made for Eionet. It is the only network of its kind with responsibility for such a broad coverage of issues – see EEA Regulation and latest Eionet review proposals – and with the mandate to address information needs from one end of the spectrum to the other – the so-called Monitoring-Data-Information-Assessment-Knowledge chain – that has informed indicator, SEIS and other processes in the past.

By assuming this umbrella role, we can also start to address a further trend that is often incompatible with the objectives of the EEA Regulation – the curse of the consultants troubling busy officials or gathering “unofficial” information and using this as the basis for supporting “official” country analysis. This is a trend we see more and more frequently as more and more processes seek a country perspective in their work – from the United Nations to the European Commission, to private consultancies. There is a huge opportunity out there to bring order where disorder reigns and at the same time increase hugely the visibility and relevance of Eionet in many more eyes.

7. Resources

This concerns as much the approach taken to the work as to the time needed. We do not envisage that Part C will be a major writing exercise rather an exercise in organizing **existing** information in such a way that enables us to achieve the objectives and benefits described previously. We already have many developed elements in place around commonality and we expect that you will use the web as the opportunity to **link smartly to existing information sources** (national SoEs, databases etc). You will have full degrees of freedom around flexibility issues and again we would foresee links being made to many existing information resources. Diversity arguably offers the biggest writing challenge but also the opportunity to put the common and flexible issues into the right context for the reader. More often than not, through the media, the public are given a misrepresentative picture of a country’s performance in the EU context. The realities of diversity can help mitigate this and provide a truer reflection of why the environment is what it is.

With all this in mind, we at EEA will take responsibility for facilitating the comparability, integration and synthesis of country contributions in the commonality part and will guide the process and the content in the other parts. Editing of the final report for publication will be the responsibility of the EEA in consultation with the countries.

Countries will be responsible for drafting the entire contribution for the commonality part in line with the guiding questions, providing underlying data and relevant web links, and for preparing and providing the diversity and flexibility parts.

It is up to the countries to decide whether they deliver their contributions in English or the national language. For efficiency reasons, however, the SOER team and country desk officers have a preference for national contributions to be developed in English, if this is possible. Where necessary, the EEA will assume responsibility for translating the country contributions for the SOER report into English as well as translating the summary for decision makers into the national languages.

We estimate that the workload for Part C will be an average 30 days per country across the lifetime of the SOER2010 project. Some countries will need more, some less, with factors such as size, governance, organisation of information being key determinants of where countries will sit around the average.

8. Process

We kicked-off phase 1 of the process on Monday, 23 March with a process plan posted on the SOER 2010 portal including supporting documentation and tools. EEA will use the portal as the vehicle for keeping track of developments from both sides.

To facilitate the work the portal allows for:

- Uploading of country contributions to country folders by Part C country coordinators/NFPs,
- Setting up notifications for newly uploaded documents,
- Deadline notifications linked to the calendar on the site.

The EEA has developed a short guidance for Part C country coordinators on how to administer country folders on the SOER 2010 portal¹⁹.

We will use future meetings with NFPs to monitor progress with the process and to facilitate shared learning. We will organize working sessions with NRCs/Part C country coordinators as appropriate. Based on NFP feedback following the February and May NFP/Eionet meetings, EEA will look into the usefulness of holding a joint NFP/NRC SOE meeting at either the end of 2009 or the beginning of 2010, timing dependent on progress with the project.

EEA suggests that NFPs or other suitable experts take an overall coordination role for the Part C exercise in the countries, involving NRCs SOE to perform an overall assessment role, while thematic NRCs should play a role in thematic contributions within the commonality part and that NRCs Communication could assist in maximizing the impact of the outcome at the national level.

¹⁹ <http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/general/guidelines>

The Management Board and the Bureau will be informed regularly about the process leading towards Part C. The EEA anticipates that issues of a strategic nature may arise during the process and plans to ask the Bureau and Management Board for advice and/or decision on such issues.

NFPs are requested to inform the EEA (Milan Chrenko at milan.chrenko@eea.europa.eu) about any changes of contact persons in their country responsible for the overall coordination of the Part C analysis. The list of “SOER Part C country coordinators” is available through SOER 2010 portal²⁰

On the EEA side, the Part C team will be responsible for overall coordination of the process and communication with countries. The EEA Part C team is accessible at soerpartc@eea.europa.eu.

EEA country desk officers will act as a bridge between the Part C team and countries, providing a support to country contributions as needed and playing an important role in (informal) interactions and consultations between the EEA and countries. Where necessary, they will also oversee the translation of the country contributions to the analysis in Part C. However, the overall responsibility will lie with the EEA Part C team.

The list of EEA contact persons – those responsible for the various parts of SOER 2010, EEA country desk officers as well as Part C country coordinators is accessible at SOER 2010 portal in the contacts sections²¹.

9. Annexes

A) Available data sources at European or international level²²

²⁰ http://eea.eionet.europa.eu/Members/irc/eionet-circle/Home/central_dir_admin?fn=roles&v=eionet-group-countrysoerc&rd=1&af=0&ud=1&od=1

²¹ <http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/contact>

²² http://soer2010.ew.eea.europa.eu/part-c/part-c-guidance/Item_5.1_Annex_A_-_External_data_sources_overview_10-02-09.pdf