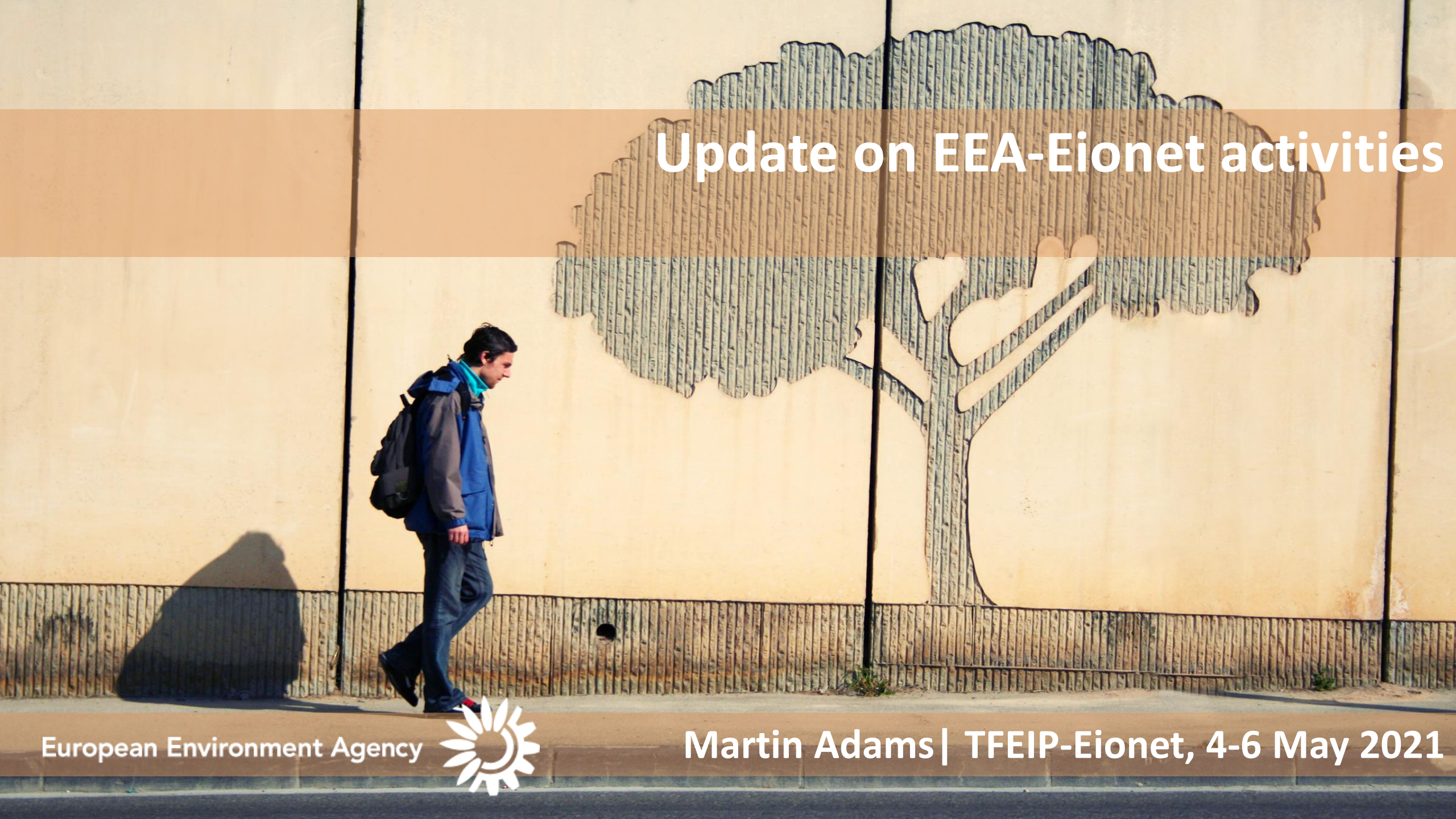
Update on EEA-Eionet activities



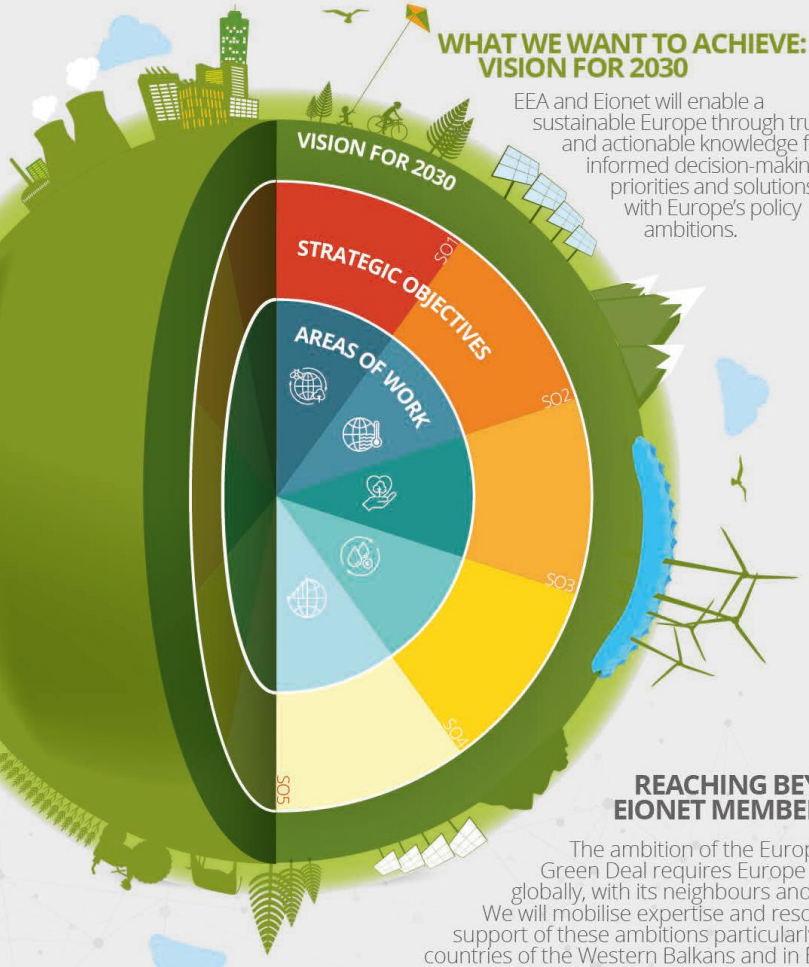
European Environment Agency

Martin Adams| TFEIP-Eionet, 4-6 May 2021

EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030

EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030

Delivering data and knowledge to achieve Europe's environment and climate ambitions



WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE: VISION FOR 2030

EEA and Eionet will enable a sustainable Europe through trusted and actionable knowledge for informed decision-making on priorities and solutions, in line with Europe's policy ambitions.

REACHING BEYOND EIONET MEMBERS

The ambition of the European Green Deal requires Europe to work globally, with its neighbours and partners. We will mobilise expertise and resources in support of these ambitions particularly in the countries of the Western Balkans and in Europe's

EUROPE'S ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE POLICY AMBITIONS

Tackling environment and climate challenges is the defining task of our times. To achieve a sustainable future, policy initiatives, including the European Green Deal, call for action under the following headings:

- Halt biodiversity loss and restore ecosystems
- Achieve net zero emissions of greenhouse gases in 2050 and climate resilience
- Achieve a zero-pollution ambition for a toxic-free environment
- Achieve resource efficiency in a circular economy
- Mainstream sustainability in all EU policies

We will play a central role in supporting environment and climate actions under these key European policies and in the implementation of the 8th Environment Action Programme. We will likewise support global efforts, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

HOW WE WILL WORK: STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

SO1
Supporting policy implementation and sustainability transitions
Produce evidence-based knowledge to support policy implementation and development of new initiatives to accelerate and scale up the transition to sustainability.

SO2
Providing timely input to solutions for sustainability challenges
Deliver targeted inputs to inform policy and public discussions, by organising and communicating knowledge on responses, including innovative solutions to societal challenges.

SO3
Building stronger networks and partnerships
Strengthen our network through more active engagement at the country level and work with other leading organisations in order to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise.

SO4
Making full use of the potential of data, technology and digitalisation
Embrace new technologies including digitalisation, big data, artificial intelligence and earth observation that will complement and potentially replace established information sources to better support decision making.

SO5
Resourcing our shared ambitions
Develop structures, expertise and capacity across our network to meet evolving knowledge needs, securing and diversifying the resources needed to achieve our joint vision.

WHAT WE WILL DO: AREAS OF WORK

We will deliver actionable knowledge across five areas of work. Europe's production sectors (including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and industry) as well as consumption and production systems (energy, mobility, food, and buildings) will be addressed through these interlinked work areas:

Biodiversity and ecosystems
Faced with continued biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, Europe seeks to bring nature back in our lives. We will monitor this transition and support the implementation and evaluation of actions in this area, including the development of nature-based solutions.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation
Climate change is happening now and will continue in the decades to come. Europe aims to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and become more resilient and less vulnerable to climate change. We will monitor this transition and support the development, implementation and evaluation of policies and measures in this area.

Human health and the environment
We will assess the impacts on human health caused by environmental pollutants and Europe's changing climate, and improve understanding of the social and demographic factors that affect the exposure and vulnerability of Europe's citizens. We will support Europe's zero pollution ambitions and the implementation of related European and national actions.

Circular economy and resource use
We will monitor progress of Europe's transition towards a circular economy, and the environment and climate benefits delivered. We will assess Europe's efforts towards reducing the impacts caused by our society's consumption and production of raw materials, products, services and waste.

Sustainability trends, prospects and responses
We can achieve our ambitious goals by stimulating fundamental changes in the lifestyles and consumption and production patterns that drive unsustainable trends. We will assess trends and prospects across environmental priorities, sectors, systems and policies, and engage stakeholders on the innovations and other responses needed to achieve the European Green Deal.

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EEA-Eionet Strategy 2021-2030

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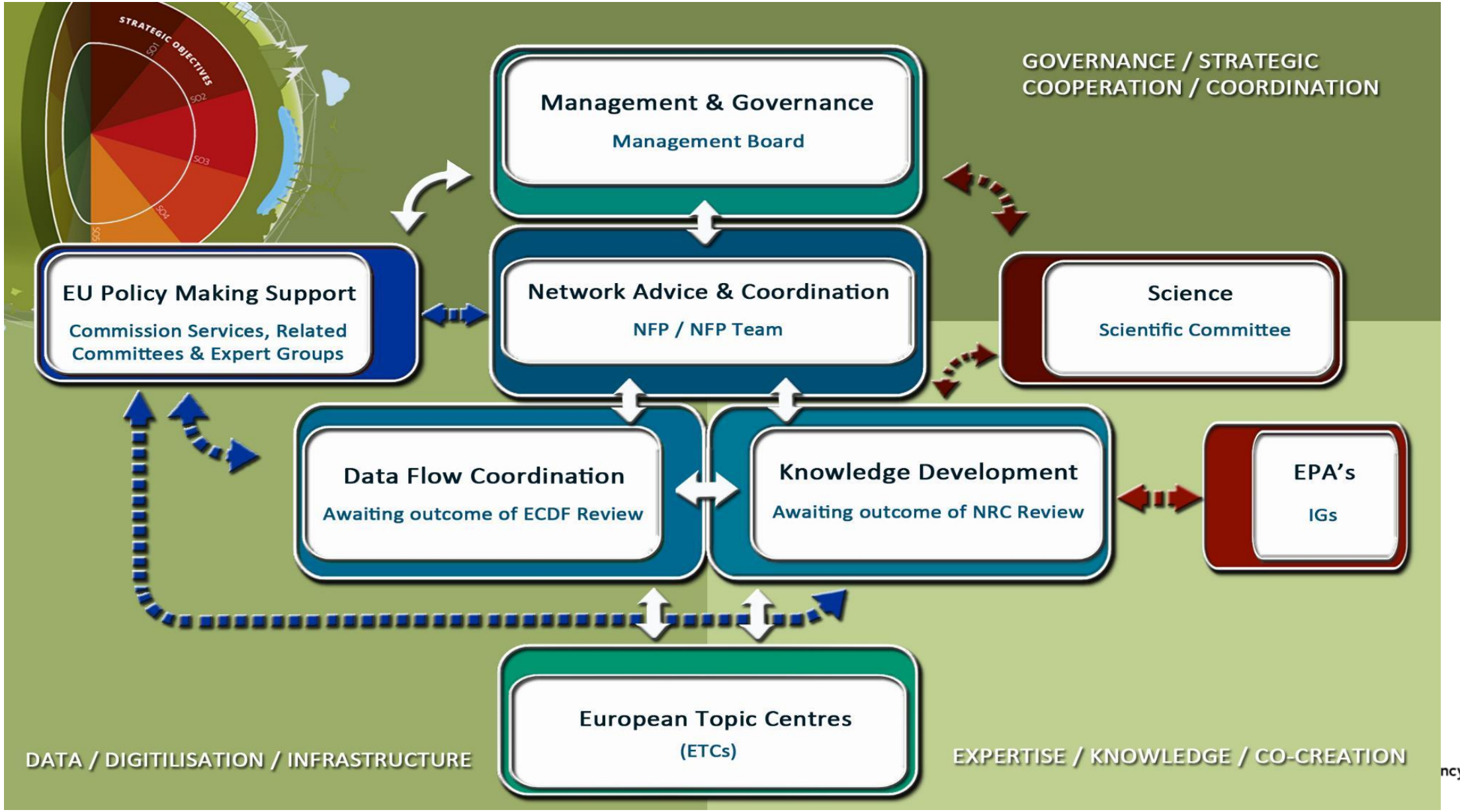
Eionet modernisation: Review of functions and methods



Eionet National Reference Centres (NRC) Review – why change?

Why change the current network?

Two main dimensions:

i. **Structure**. Ambitions of the EEA-Eionet Strategy: focus on 5 areas of work, the links between these dimensions, systems, increasing capacities on solutions towards sustainability (EGD)

ii. **Working methods**. Encourage flexibility, responsiveness, innovation, lighter governance, focus on co-creation/joint knowledge projects

Ensure greater **added value** back to countries – develop a joint/co-led network community

NRC Review – ‘zero-order’ scheme discussed at NFP plenary (Feb)

NRCs linking to EEA Eionet Strategy activity area priorities

- NRC on Biodiversity and ecosystems (incl biodiversity, water, marine, agriculture-ecosystems…)
- NRC on Climate change mitigation and energy systems (agriculture GHG…)
- NRC on Climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation
- **NRC on Human health and the environment (incl. Health and air quality, emissions, noise, soil, water…)**
- NRC on Circular economy and resource use
- NRC on Forward-looking information, solutions and services (incl more focus on solutions, sustainability…?)
- NRC on State of environment assessment

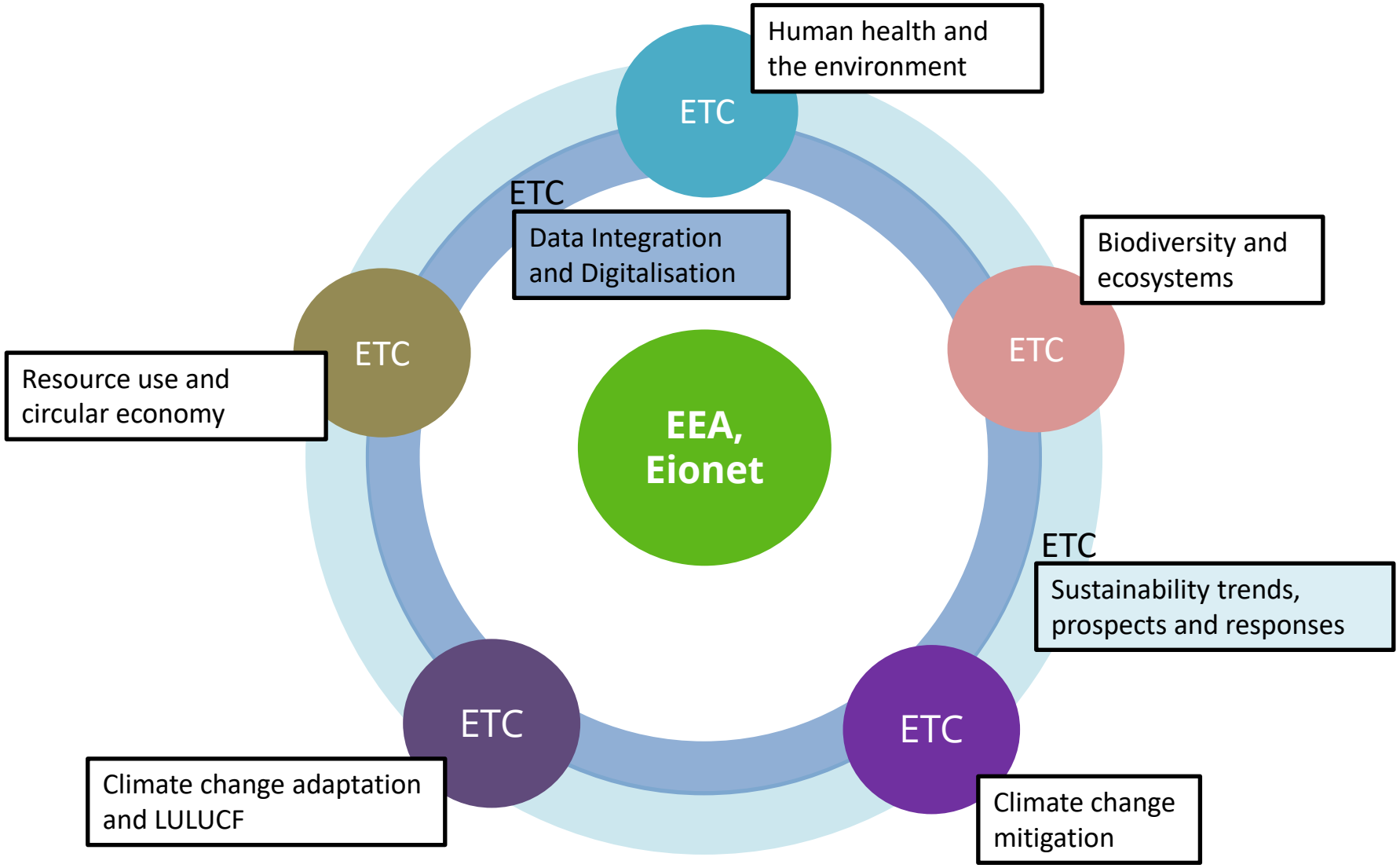
NRCs linking to ‘systems’

- NRC on Food and Land systems (incl. soil, land use and land cover)
- NRC on Mobility systems
- NRC on Chemicals

‘Linking’ NRCs

- NRC on data, technologies and digitalisation (incl Copernicus)
- NRC on Communications

New European Topic Centres (ETCs) 2022-2026



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EEA Annual work plan highlights

- Zero Pollution Action Plan – EEA will support the monitoring and outlook framework, also the linked chemicals indicator framework

  (Green Week 2021 – Zero pollution focus)
- EEA Environment and Health quality index development
- Annual support to CLRTAP and NECD emission Inventory reporting and review
- Updated European industry portal – E-PRTR website, LCP data etc
- Online AQ report – content on emissions, AQ status, health impacts

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