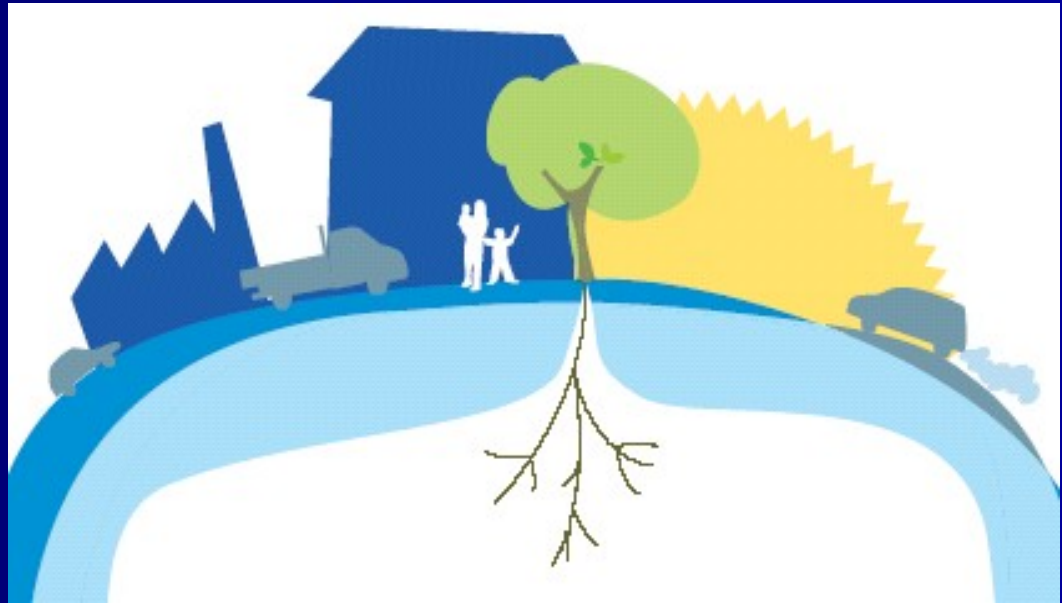


UK Biodiversity indicators, London, 16/10/06

Biodiversity Indicators for EU decision- making process



Anne Teller, DG ENV

Contents

- Lisbon and SD strategies
- Comparing indicators
- Comparing processes
- Quality requirements
- Next steps: a biodiversity index?
- EU Ecosystem Assessment ?



Lisbon and Sustainable Development Strategies

- Lisbon responds to the immediate threats to European prosperity and its social model by focusing on growth and jobs



- SDS responds to the wider and deeper threats to European and global prosperity and quality of life and trends which could prove irreversible if not tackled effectively now

Biodiversity indicators: Comparing SIs and SDIs

STRUCTURAL INDICATORS

- Population trends of farmland birds
- Fish catches from stocks outside 'safe biological limits'

- Protected Areas for biodiversity: Habitats & Birds Directives

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS (inc. *best needed*)

L1

- (*Biodiversity Index*)

- Population trends of farmland birds
- Fish catches from stocks outside 'safe biological limits'

L2

- *Sufficiency of Member States proposals for protected sites under the EU Directives (Habitats)*

L3

- *Change in status of threatened and/or protected species*

Biodiversity indicators: Land use SDIs

(Including *best needed indicators*)

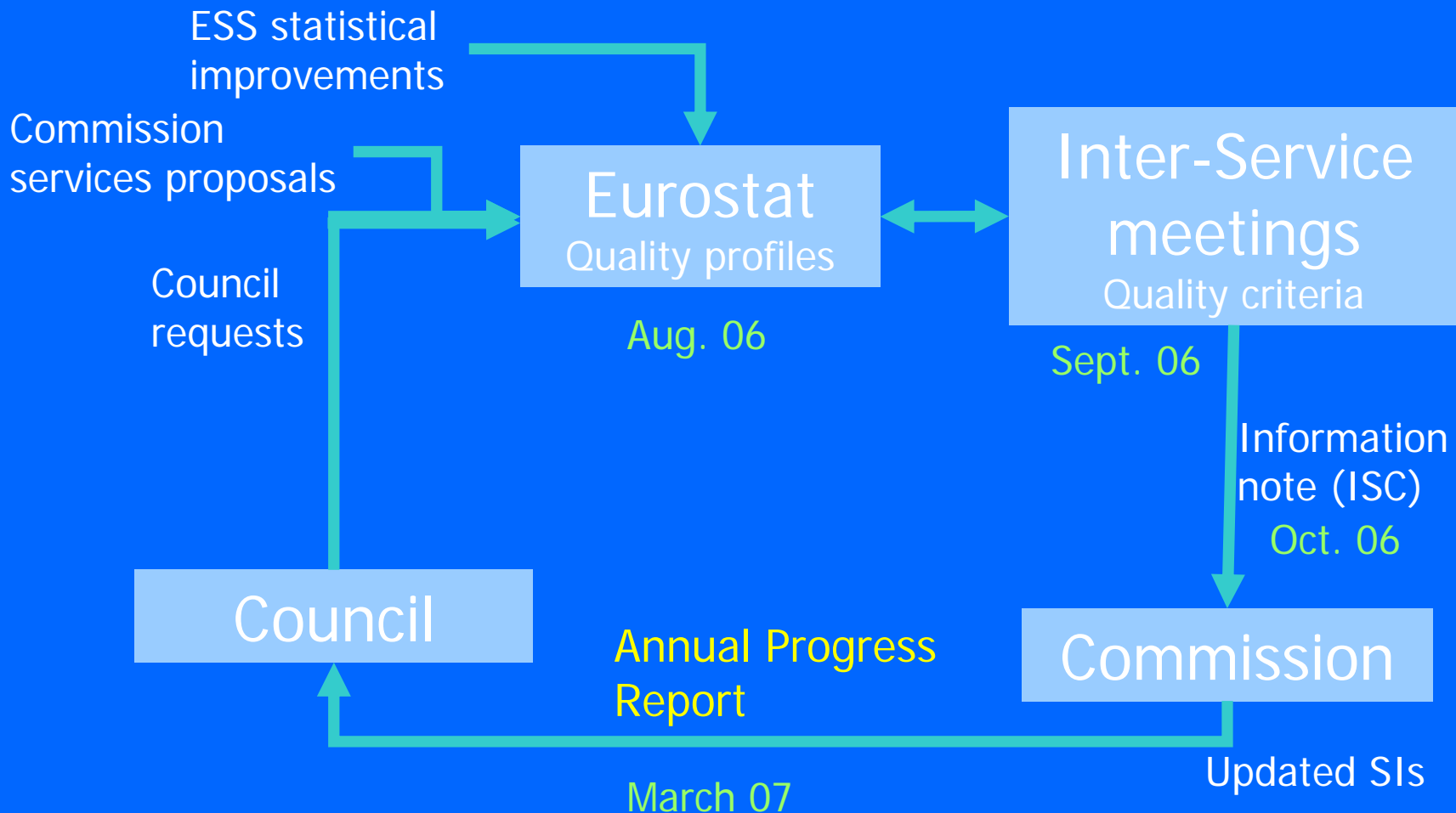
L2

- *Land use change, by category*
- Built-up area as a % of total land area
- *Exceedance of critical loads of acidifying substances and nitrogen in sensitive natural areas*

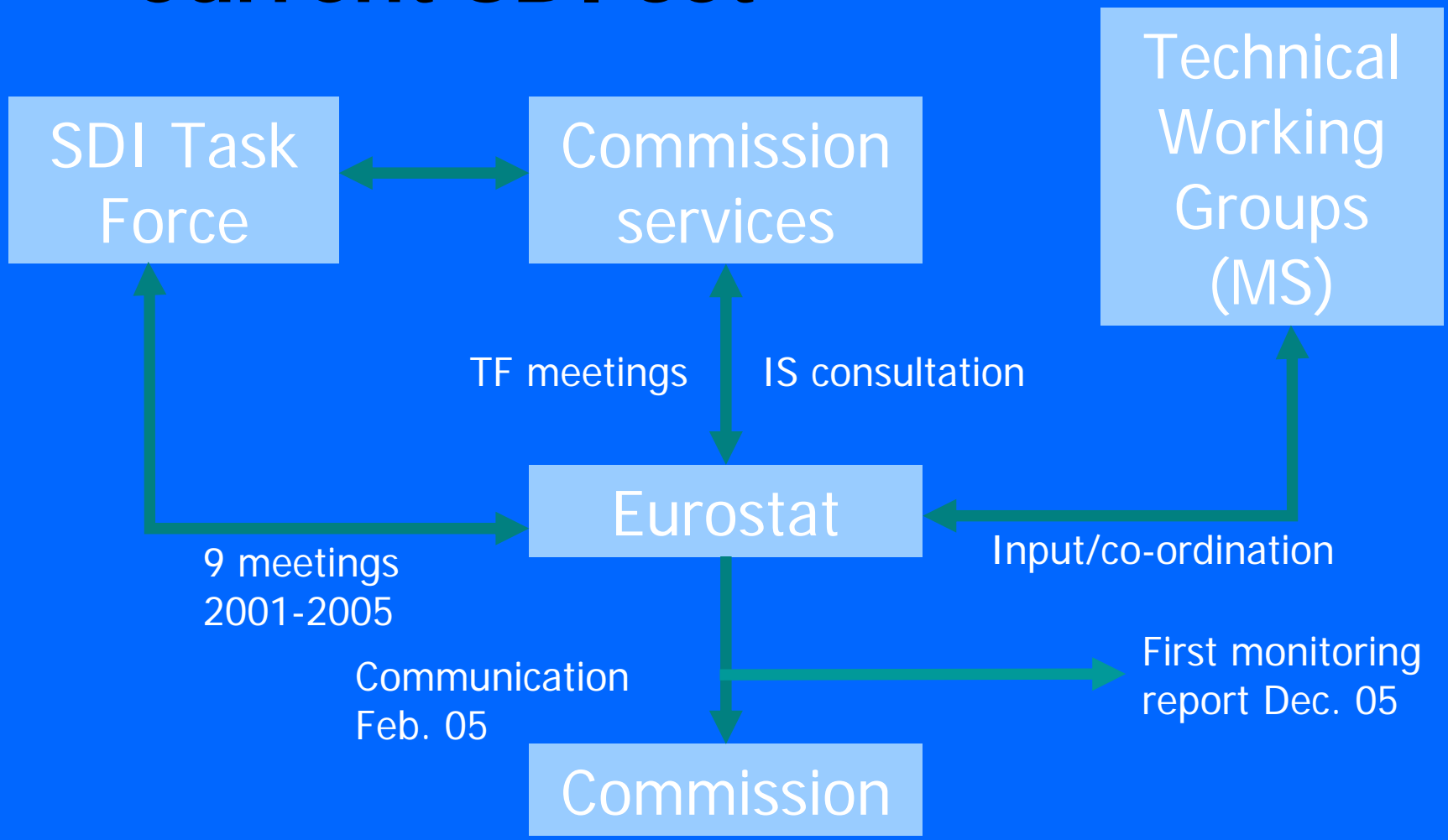
L3

- *% of total land area at risk of soil erosion*
- *% of total land area at risk of soil contamination*
- % of forest trees damaged by defoliation
- *Fragmentation of habitats due to transport*

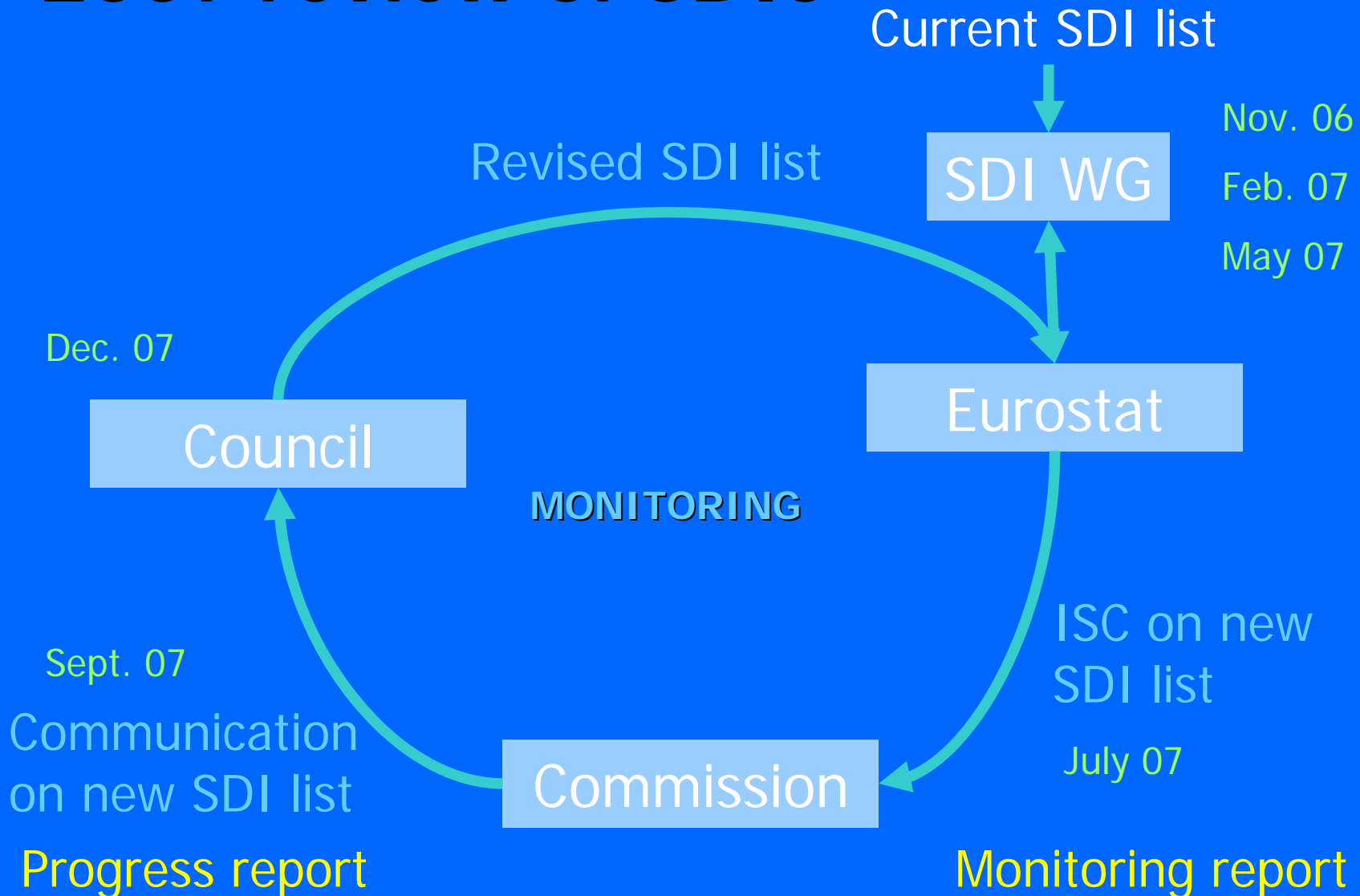
Processes: 2006 review of SIs



Processes: Current SDI set



Processes: 2007 review of SDIs



Next steps: A biodiversity index?

- 2003 General Affairs Council: **indicator on biodiversity** 'could be' included in short list
- 2004 Environment Council welcomes set of headline **biodiversity indicators**
- 2006 European Council: elaboration of a structural **indicator on biodiversity**
- 2006 Biodiversity COM: a **biodiversity index** developed as SI and SDI in 2007

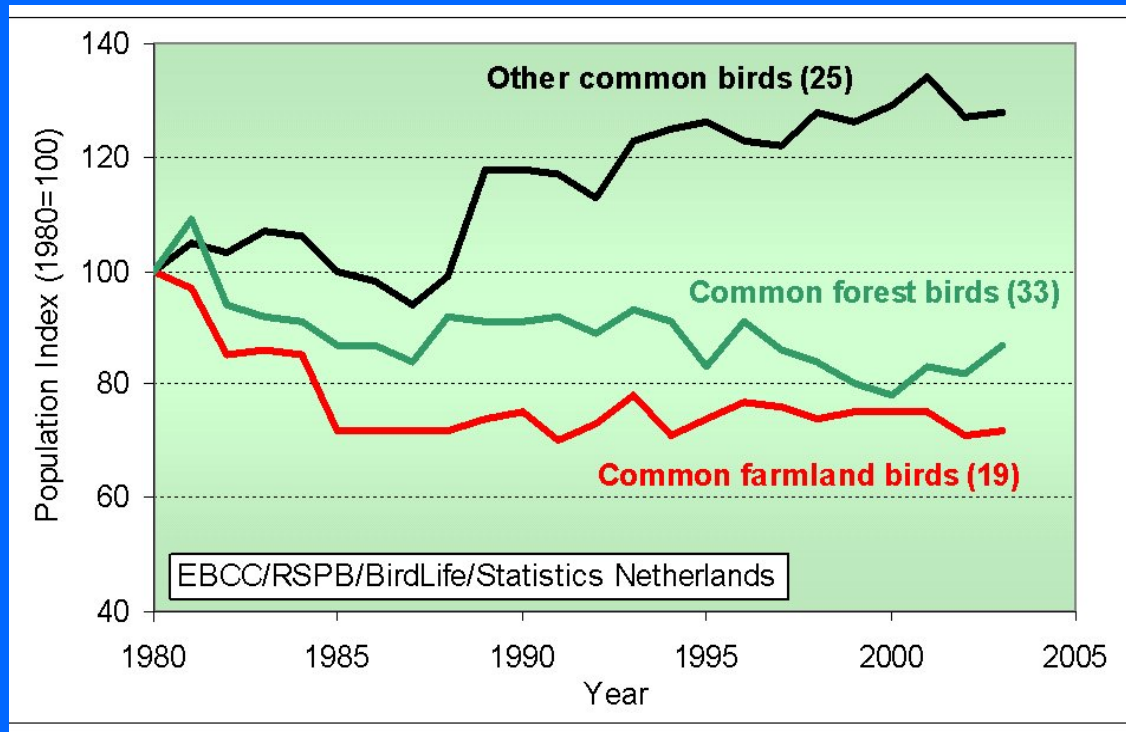
Next steps: best needed indicators

- A biodiversity index?
 - State
 - Response
 - Pressure
 - other?

State indicator

- Change in status of common bird species

Trends in abundance of selected species: Pan-European Common Bird Index (PECBMS)

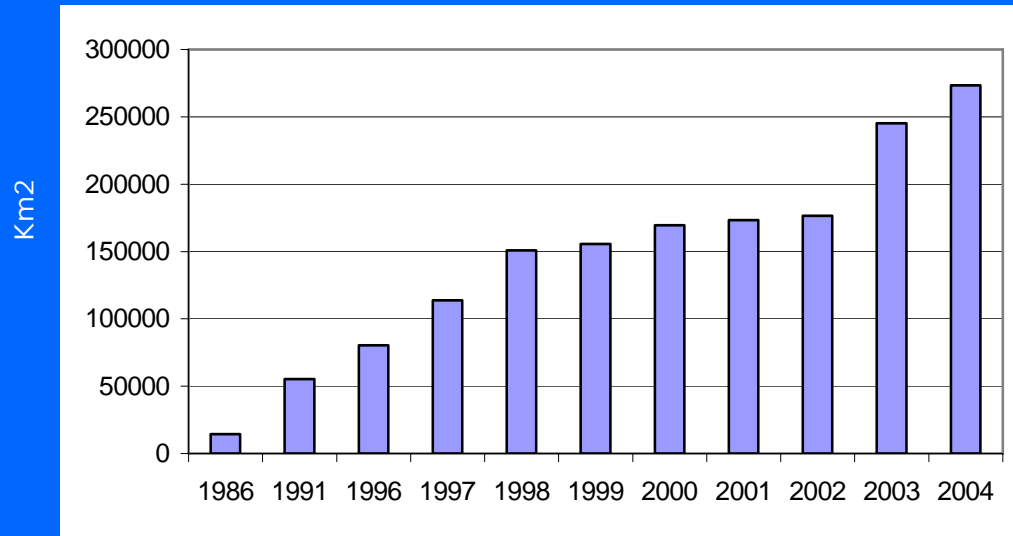


- Indicator ready
- Data collected, indicator developed/produced by NGOs
- 18 countries included
- 24 year time series

Response indicator

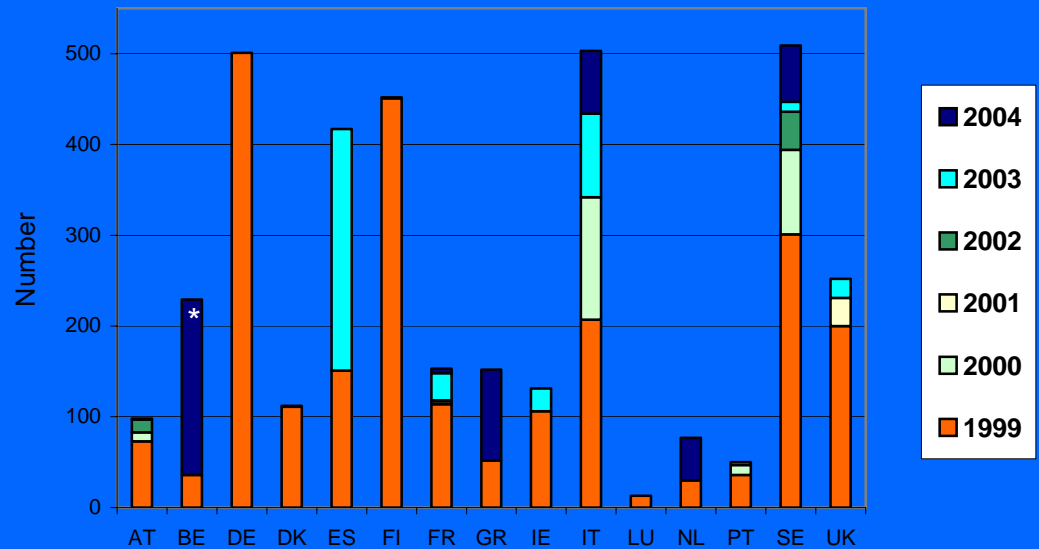
- Protected areas for biodiversity

Progress in SPA classification



- Indicator ready
- Data collected for Natura 2000 network
- Indicator provided by European Commission
- EU 15 Member States
- Data since 1986

Source: Natura 2000 SPA database, June 2004 and CEC-DG Environment



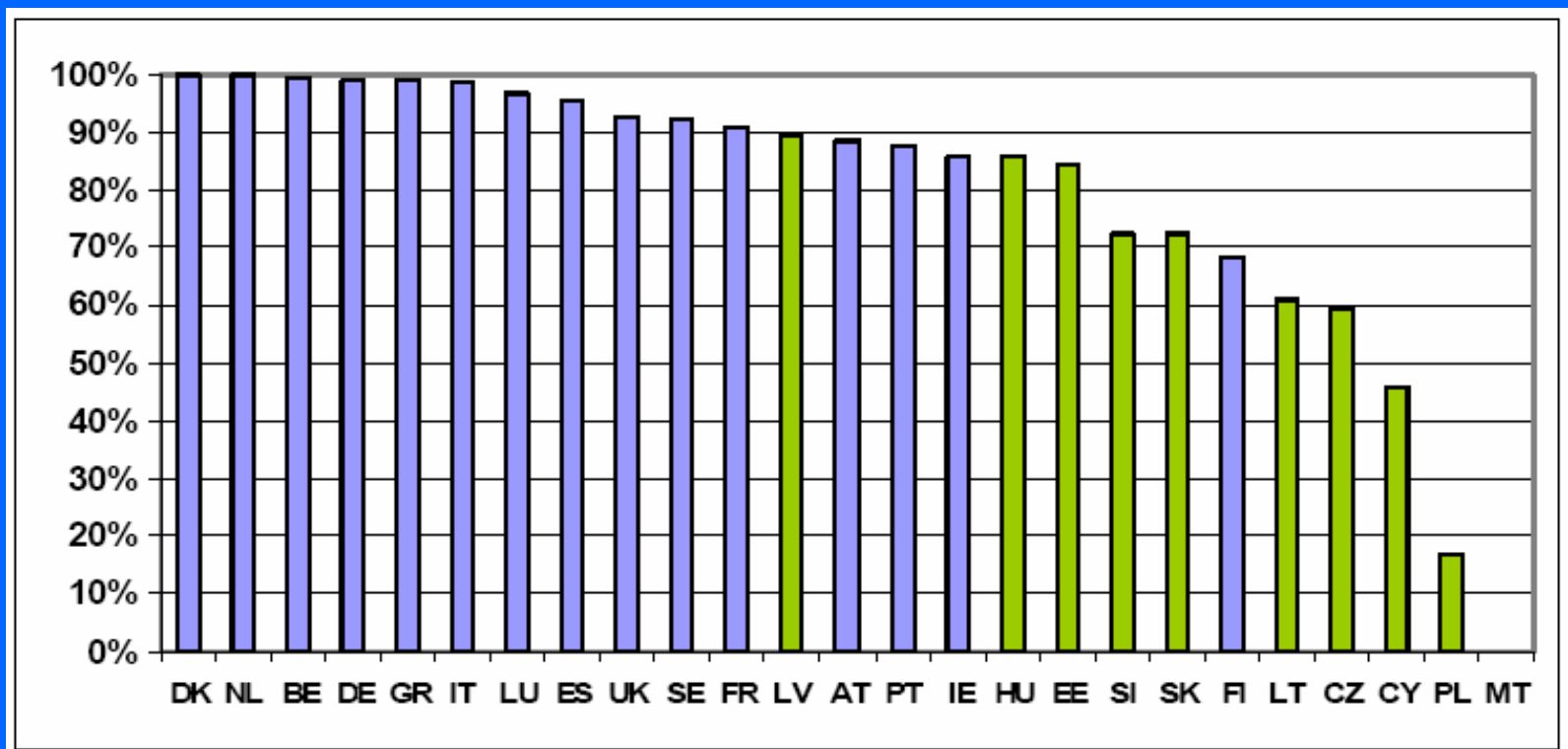
Source: Natura 2000 SPA database, June 2004

Response indicator

- Sufficiency of protected sites

Distance to target – Habitats Directive

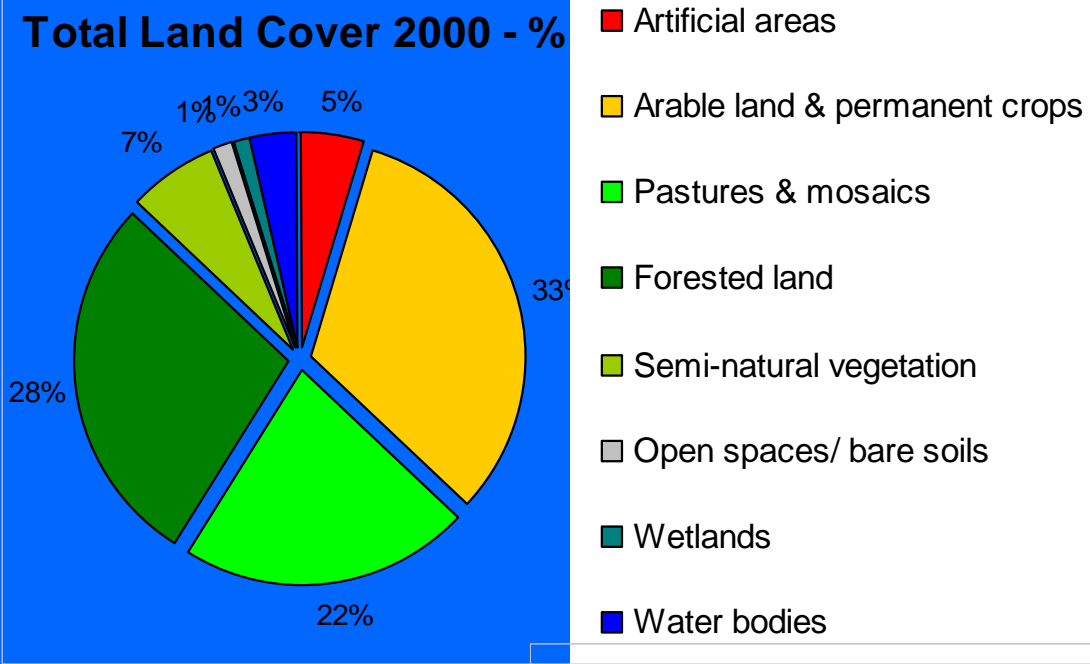
State of progress by Member States in reaching sufficiency for the designation of Sites of Community Importance under the Habitats Directive: proportion of Annex I habitats and Annex II species for which sufficient number of SCIs have been proposed (Updated September 2006)



Pressure indicators

- Land use changes

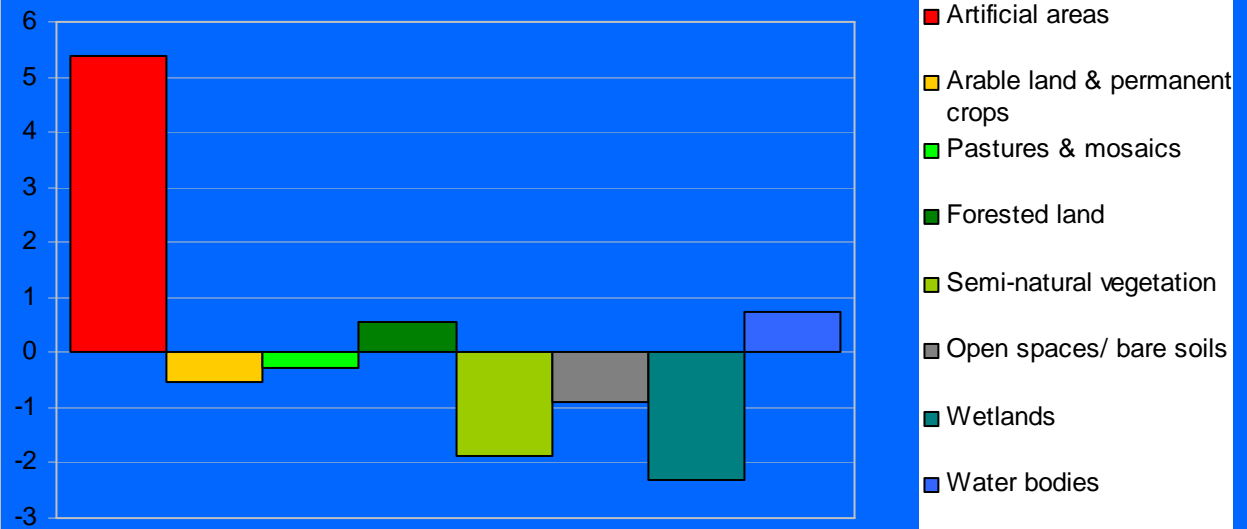
Total Land Cover 2000 - %



Summary statistics and graphs from CLC 1990 and 2000

- National classification of land cover based on remote sensing images
- Indicator under development by EEA
- 30 countries included
- 23 countries with 1990 and 2000 snapshots

Net Change in Land Cover % of initial year

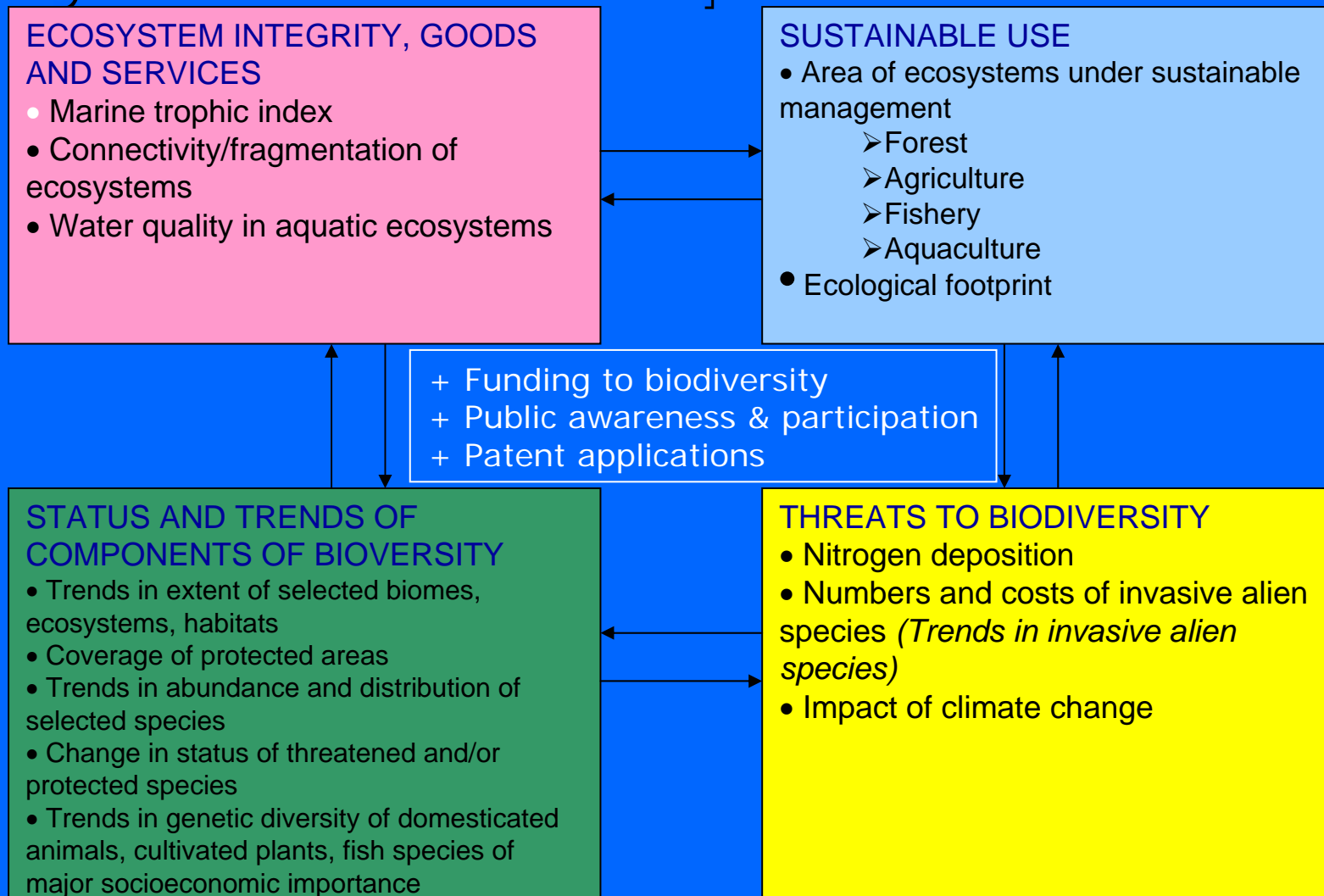


Source: European Environment Agency

Ecosystem Assessment for Europe?

- Concept under discussion ENV/EEA
- Linked to evaluation of 2010 commitments
- Linked to development of Shared Environment Information System for Europe (SEIS)
- Linked to discussions on Financial Perspectives & Future of Europe

EU Headline Biodiversity Indicators by CBD Focal Area as part of EAE



Core Questions for Ecosystem Assessments

1. **What is the rate and scale of ecosystem change?**
2. **What are the consequences of ecosystem change for the services provided by ecosystems and for human-well being?**
3. **How might ecosystems and their services change over the next 50 years?**
4. **What options exist to conserve ecosystems and enhance their contributions to human well-being?**

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**