



Starting Point

2 – Environment

'After half a century of "building Europe", the EU's environment policy has become one of its major achievements. There have been substantive reductions of harmful emissions into air and water, waste is better managed, and there are fewer harmful chemical substances. All this has improved human health. It has helped European industry to become world leader in a number of high growth sectors and created millions of jobs.

...

As the EU celebrates its first 50 years - and looks towards the next 50 years - it is clear that developing and implementing policies that can effectively protect Europe's environment will be at the heart of the European "project". For the period until 2012 implementing and building upon the 6th EAP will be at the centre of this work.'

From: COM (2007) 225: 'Communication 'on the Mid-term review of the Sixth Community Environment Action Programme'

Background and portals

Overview - [Environment](#)

Summaries of legislation (SCADPlus) - [Environment](#)

European Parliament [Fact Sheets](#) - Section 4.9 - Environment policy

1. [Environment policy: general principles](#)
2. [Application and control of Community environmental law](#)
3. [Sustainable development and environmental concerns](#)
4. [Treatment of waste](#)
5. [Water protection and management](#)
6. [Air and noise pollution](#)
7. [Climate change and the environment](#)
8. [Biodiversity, nature and soil](#)
9. [Chemicals](#)
10. [Integrated product policy and industrial technologies](#)

Thematic website - [Environment](#)

[Sixth Environment Action Programme \(6EAP - 2002-2012\)](#)

Portal - [Environment](#)

[Sustainable Development](#)

Policy and legislation

[European Commission](#)

Commissioner [Stavros Dimas](#)

[DG for Environment](#)