

Sustainable Development in the European Union

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Sustainable Development in the EU

- 1987 Brundtland Report 'Our Common Future'
- 1992 UNCED – Agenda 21
- 1997 EU adopts SD as overarching objective of all policies
- 2001 EU Sustainable Development Strategy:
 assess each new policy proposal on its relation to SD
- 2006 EU Renewed SD Strategy:
 - **expansion EU**
 - **more effective implementation**
- 2009 1st Review:
 - **EU leading in fight against climate change**
 - **Unsustainable trends continue in many areas**
 - **Efforts need to be intensified**

Sustainable Development in the EU

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Sustainable Development in the EU

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- Sustainable development means to continuously improve the quality of life and well-being for present and future generations, by linking economic development, protection of the environment and social justice.
- Sustainable development means a continuous improvement in the quality of life of citizens through sustainable communities that manage and use resources efficiently and tap the ecological and social innovation potential of the economy, so as to ensure prosperity, environmental protection and social cohesion.

Sustainable Development in the EU

- 2006 EU Renewed SD Strategy:
 - Key objectives:
 - environmental protection,
 - social equity and cohesion,
 - economic prosperity,
 - meeting our international responsibilities.

Sustainable Development in the EU

- Policy guiding principles:
 - promotion and protection of fundamental rights,
 - solidarity within and between generations,
 - open and democratic society,
 - involvement of citizens,
 - involvement of businesses and social partners,
 - policy coherence and governance,
 - policy integration,
 - use best available knowledge,
 - precautionary principle,
 - make polluters pay.

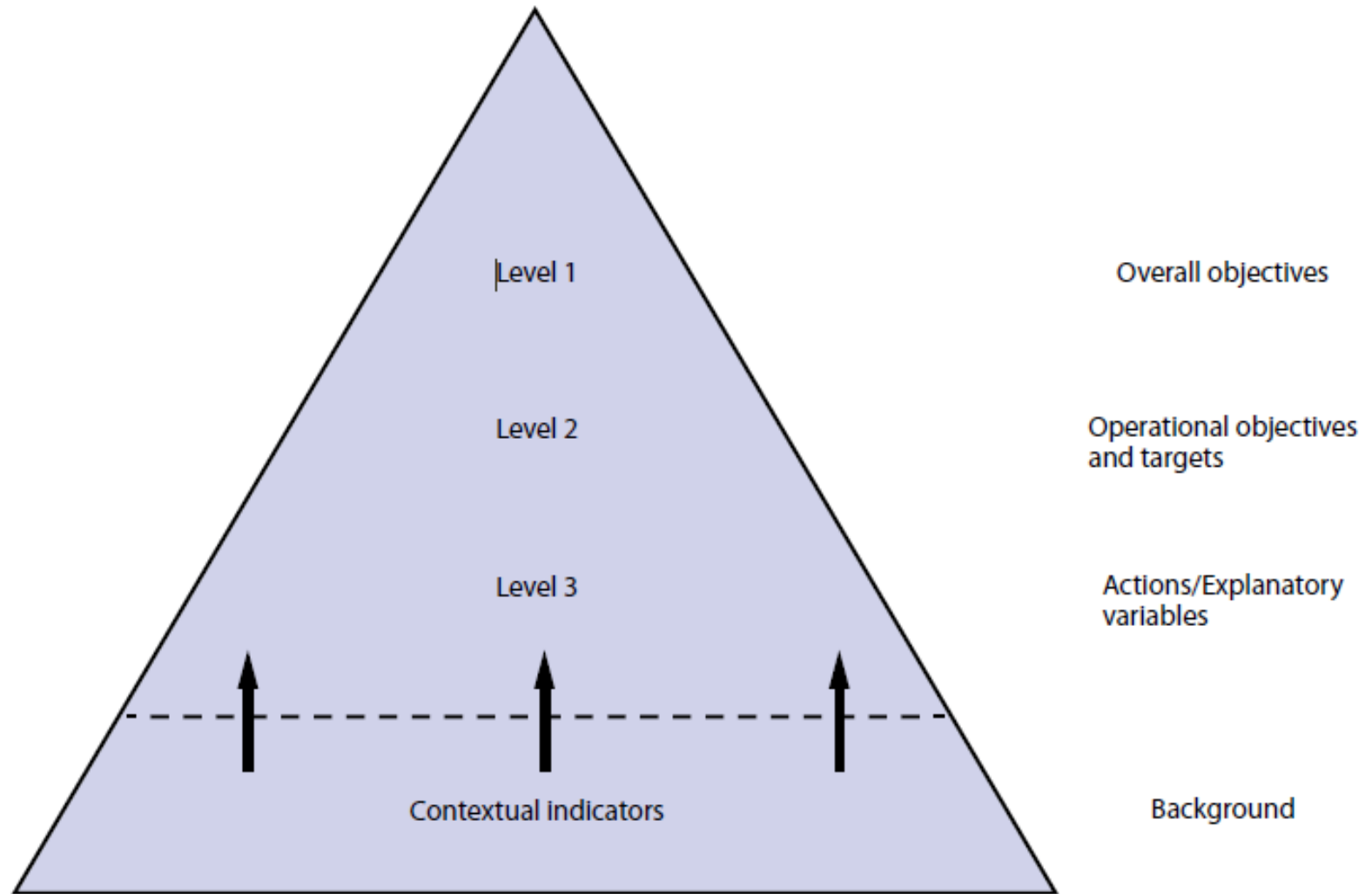
Sustainable Development in the EU

- Key challenges:
 - Climate change and clean energy
 - Sustainable transport
 - Sustainable consumption and production
 - Conservation and management of natural resources
 - Public health
 - Social inclusion, demography and migration
 - Global poverty and sustainable development challenges

Sustainable Development in the EU

- IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND FOLLOW-UP
 - every two years a progress report on implementation of the SDS in the EU and the Member States
 - comprehensive set of sustainable development indicators

Sustainable Development Strategy: indicators



Sustainable Development Strategy: indicators

eurostat
Statistical books

Sustainable development in the European Union

2011 monitoring report of the EU sustainable development strategy



Climate Change and clean energy

– Overall Objective:

- To limit climate change and its costs and negative effects to society and the environment










– Targets:

- GHG reductions
- Reduction energy use
- Increase use of biofuels

– Actions:

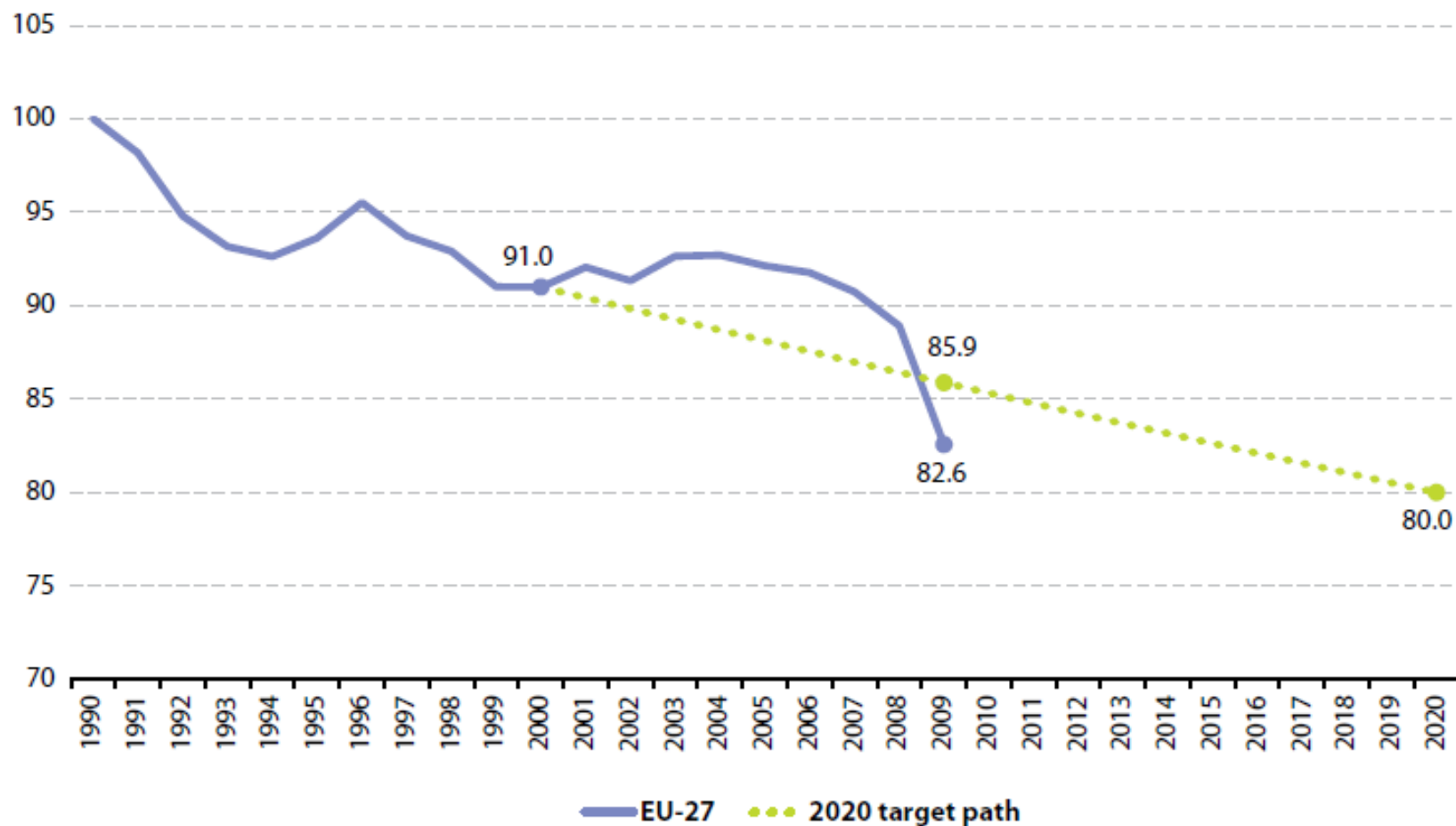
- Enhance effectiveness of power stations
- Emission trading scheme

Climate Change and clean energy

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Climate change	
	: Greenhouse gas emissions by sector	 Greenhouse gas intensity of energy consumption : Global surface average temperature
	Energy	
 Greenhouse gas emissions		 Gross inland energy consumption
 Consumption of renewables (*)		 Electricity generation from renewables
	 Energy dependence	 Consumption of renewable energy in transport (*)
		 Combined heat and power (**)
		 Implicit tax rate on energy

Climate Change and clean energy

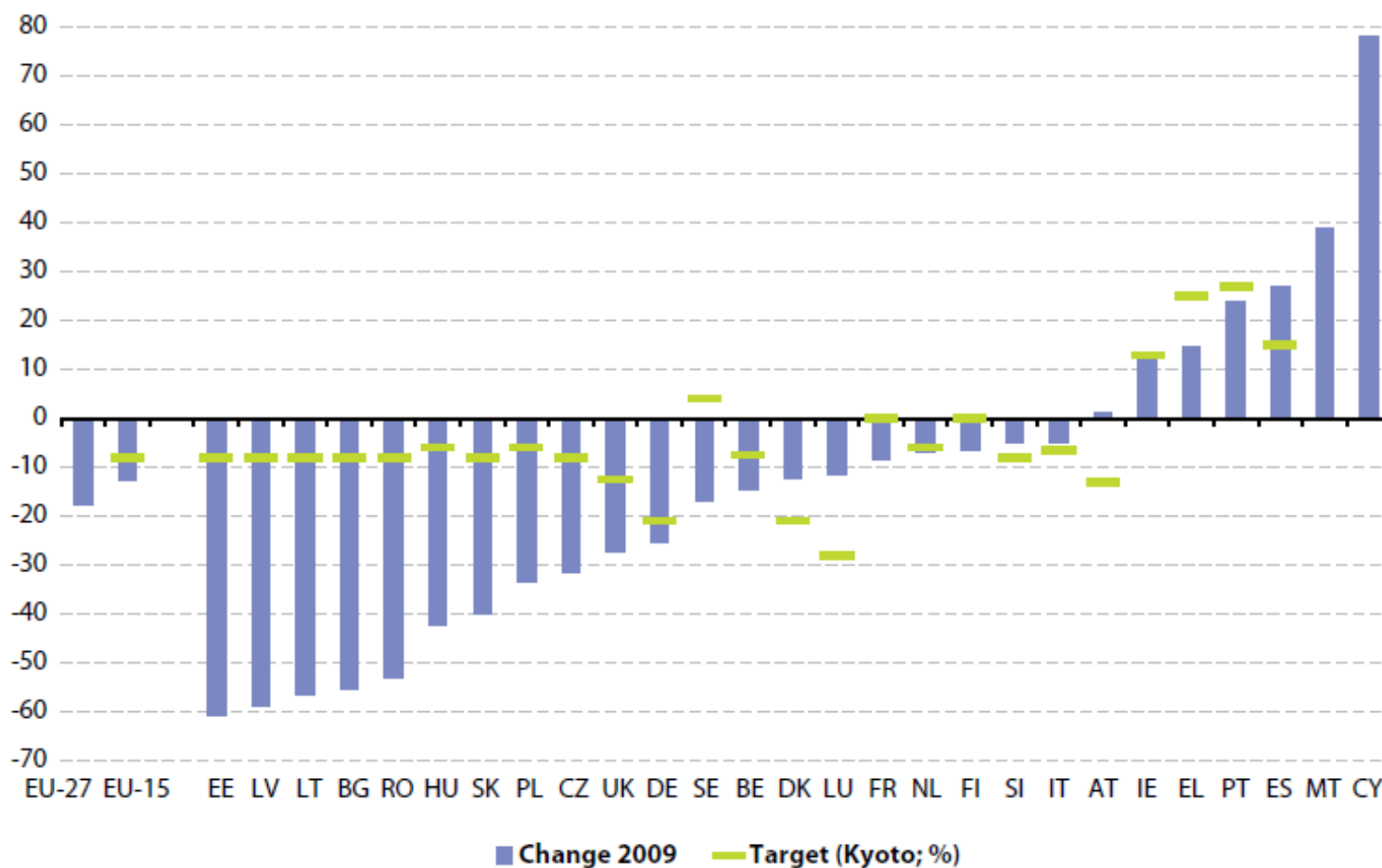
Figure 6.1: Greenhouse gas emissions, EU-27
(index 1990=100)



Climate Change and clean energy

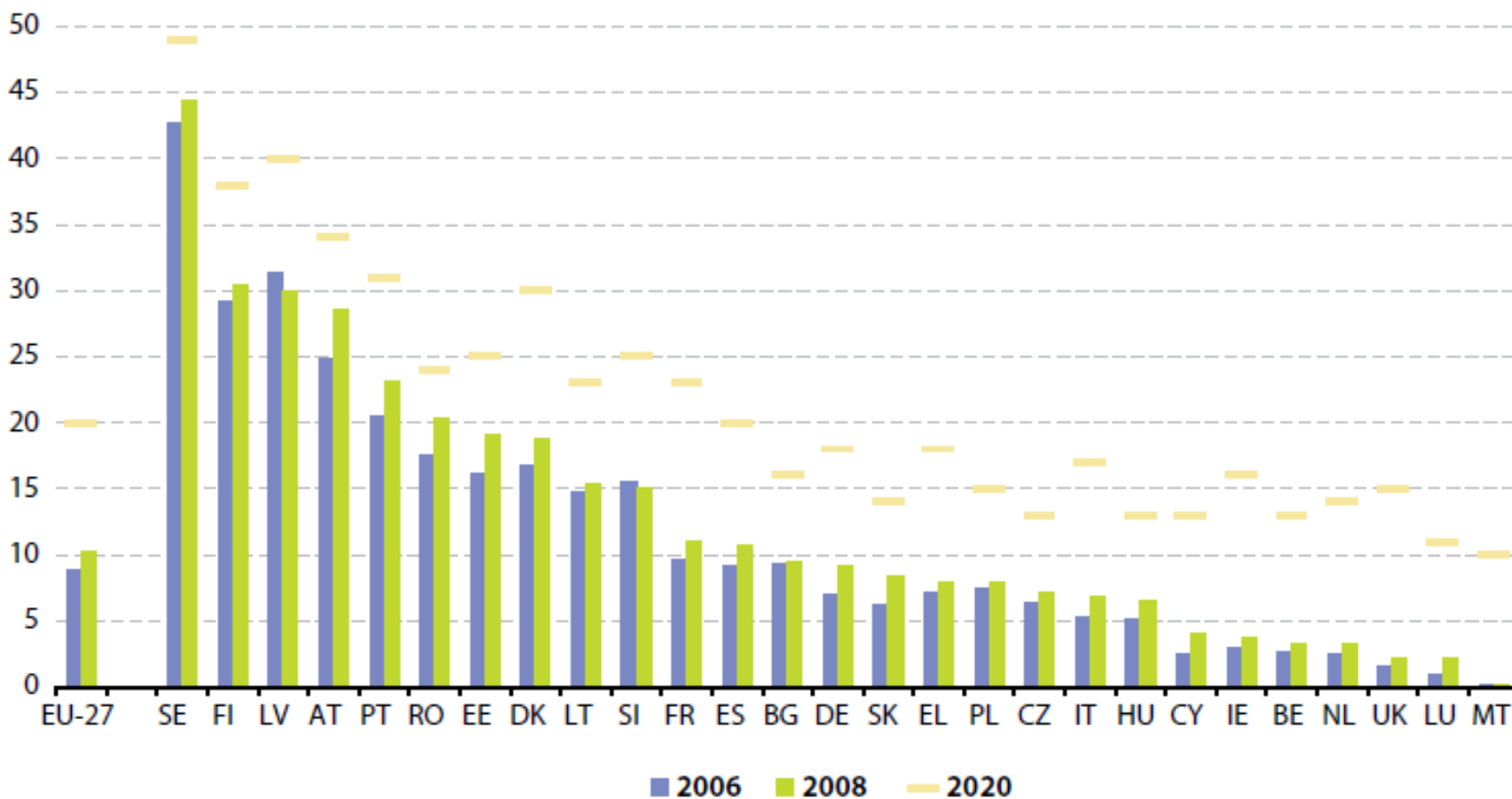
Figure 6.2: Change in greenhouse gas emissions to 2009 since the Kyoto base year, by country

(%)



Climate Change and clean energy

Figure 6.5: Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption, by country (%)



Sustainable Transport:

– Overall Objective:

- To ensure that our transport systems meet society's economic, social and environmental needs whilst minimising their undesirable impacts on the economy, society and the environment












– Targets:

- CO2 emissions of cars
- Noise reduction of traffic

– Actions:

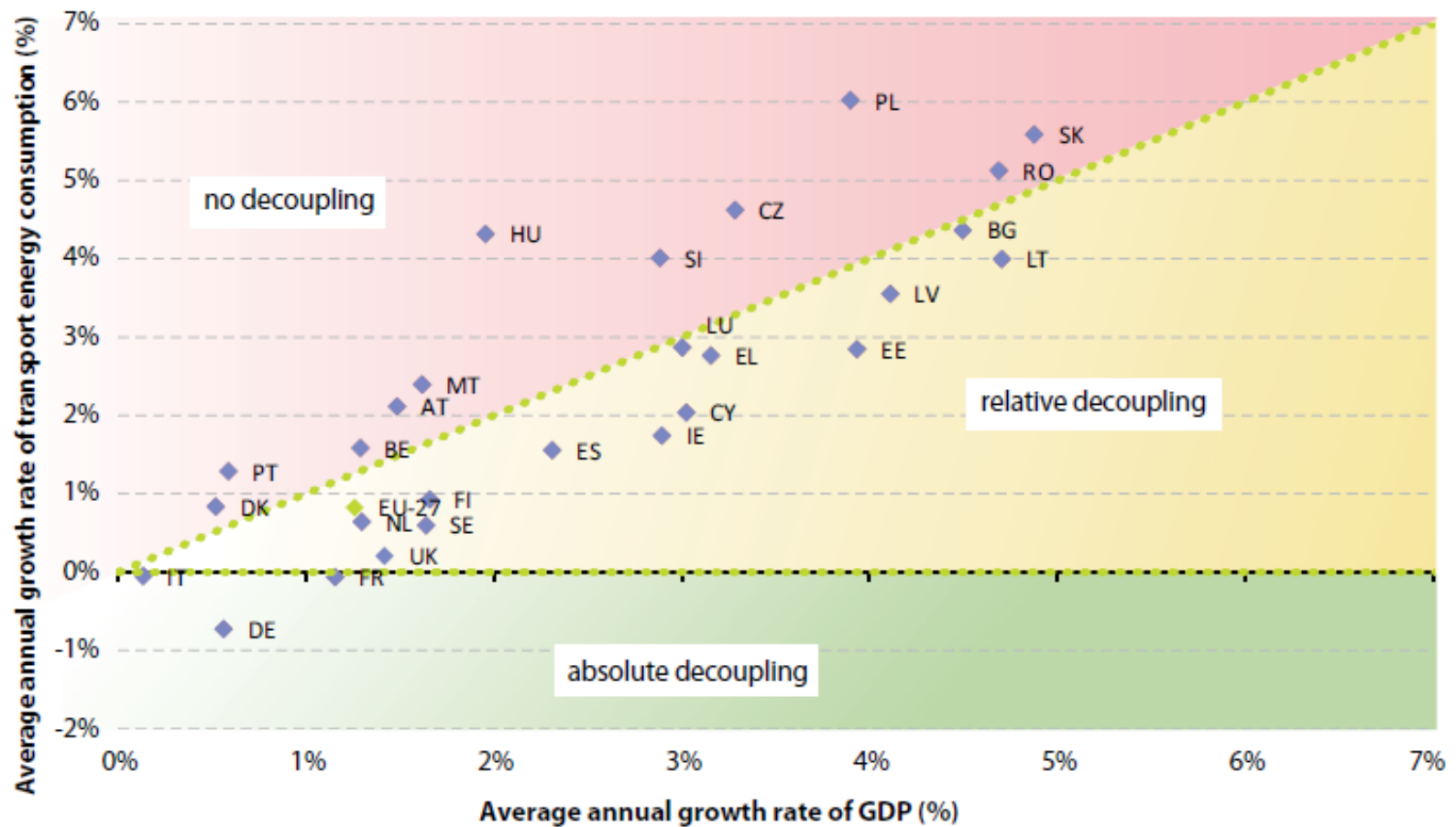
- Road safety awareness raising campaign

Sustainable Transport:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
 Energy consumption of transport relative to GDP	Transport and mobility	
	 Modal split of freight transport	 Volume of freight transport relative to GDP (*)
		 Volume of passenger transport relative to GDP
	 Modal split of passenger transport	 Investment in transport infrastructure
		: Passenger transport prices
	Transport impacts	
	 Greenhouse gas emissions from transport	 Average CO ₂ emissions per km from new passenger cars (***)
		 Emissions of NO _x from transport
	 People killed in road accidents (**)	 Emissions of particulate matter from transport

Sustainable Transport:

Figure 7.4: Energy consumption of transport relative to GDP, by country
(Average annual rate of change 2000-2009, %)



Sustainable consumption and production:

– Overall Objective:

- To promote sustainable consumption and production patterns














– Targets:

- Green public procurement
- Better environmental & social product performance

– Actions:

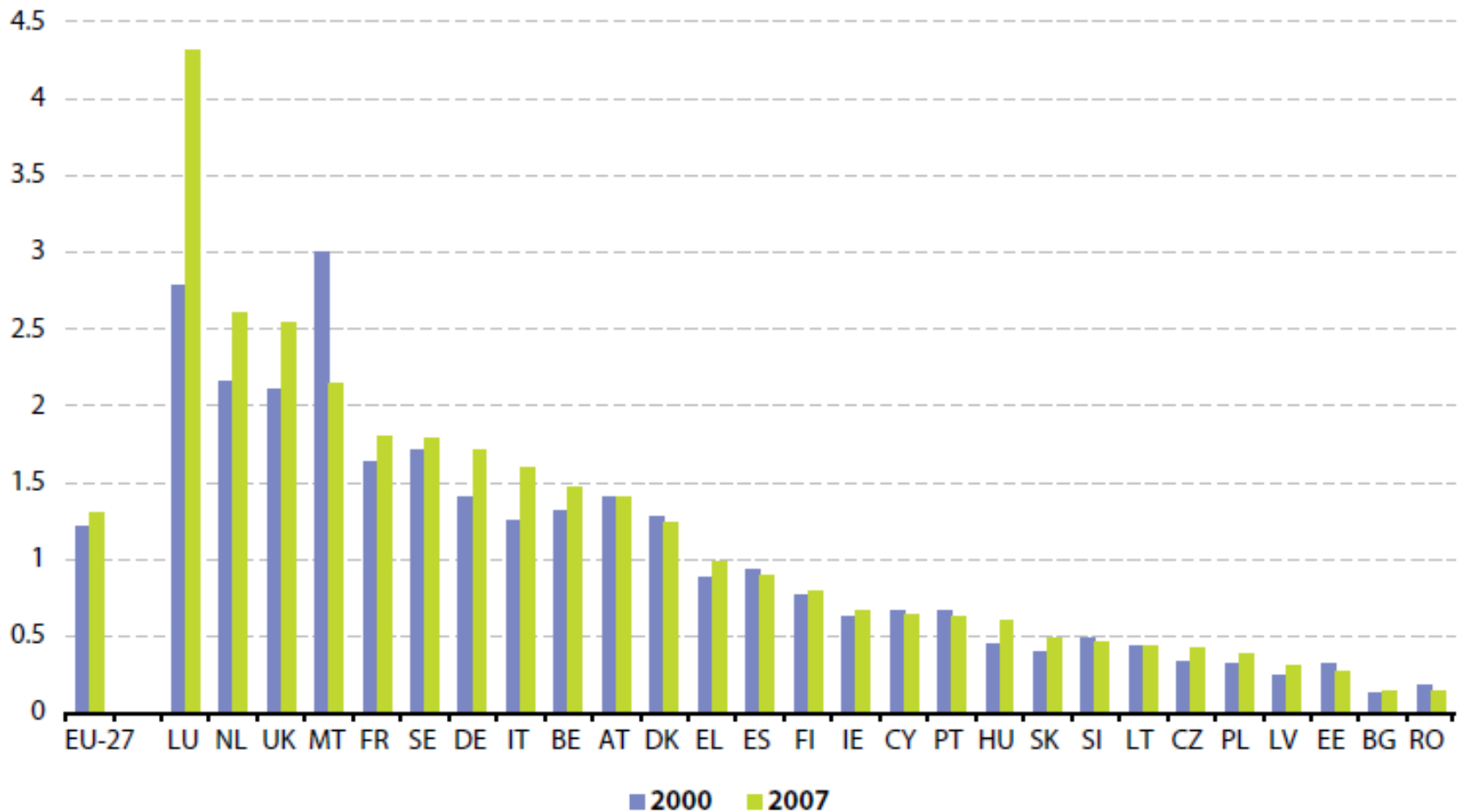
- Promote & disseminate environmental technologies

Sustainable consumption and production:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
 Resource productivity	Resource use and waste	
	 Non-mineral waste (*)	 Domestic material consumption
		 Hazardous waste (*)
		 Recycled and composted municipal waste
		 Atmospheric emissions
	Consumption patterns	
	 Electricity consumption of households	: Number of people in households
		: Household expenditure
		 Final energy consumption
		 Car ownership
	Production patterns	
	 Environmental management systems (**)	 Ecolabels
		: Area under agri-environmental commitment
		 Organic farming (***)
 Livestock density index (**)		

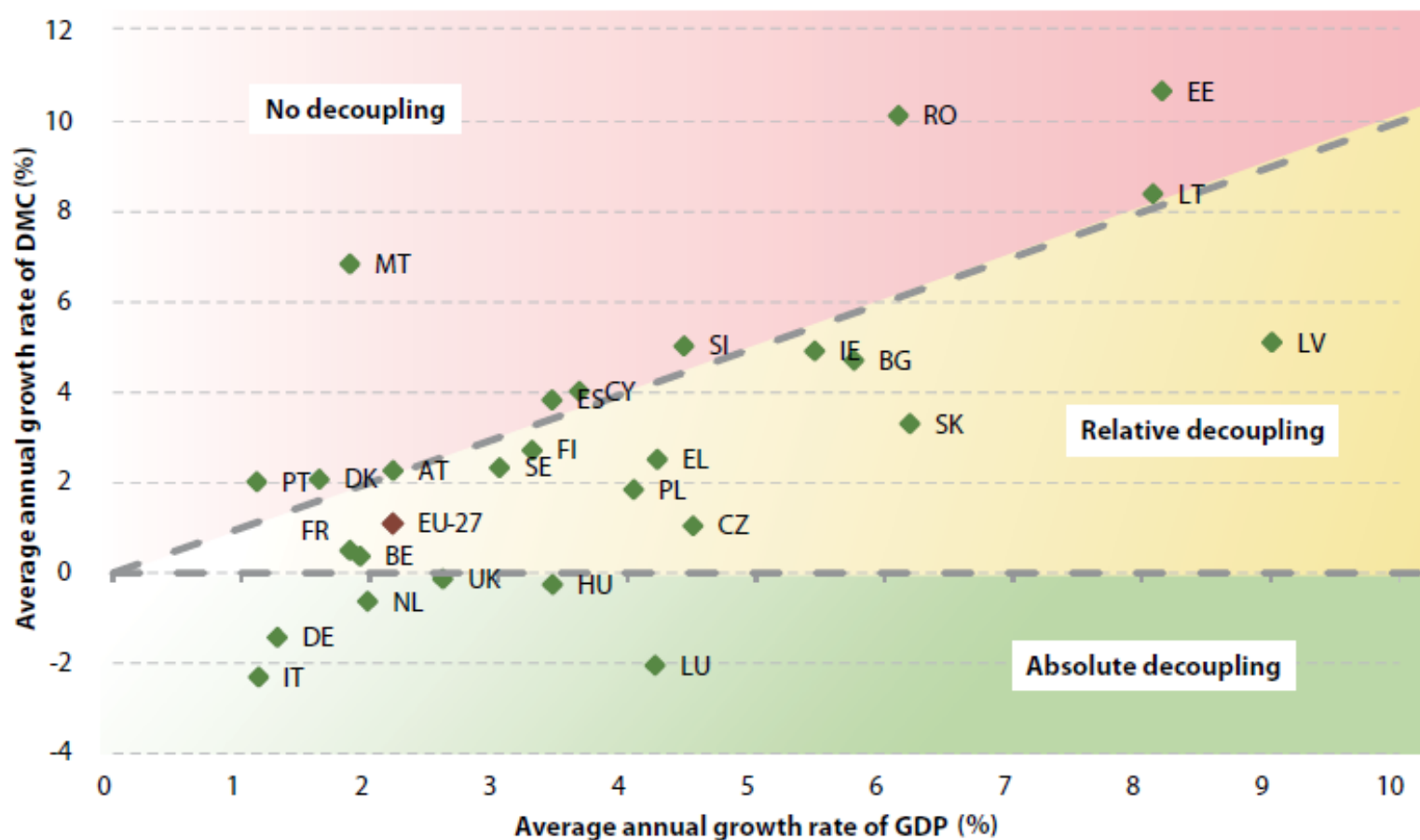
Sustainable consumption and production:

Figure 2.2: Resource productivity, by country
(EUR per kg)



Sustainable consumption and production:

Figure 2.3: Domestic material consumption and GDP, by country
(average annual growth rates 2000-2007)



Conservation and management of natural resources:

– Overall Objective:

- To improve management and avoid overexploitation of natural resources, recognising the value of ecosystem services







– Targets:

- Stop loss of biodiversity
- Avoid overexploitation in fisheries

– Actions:

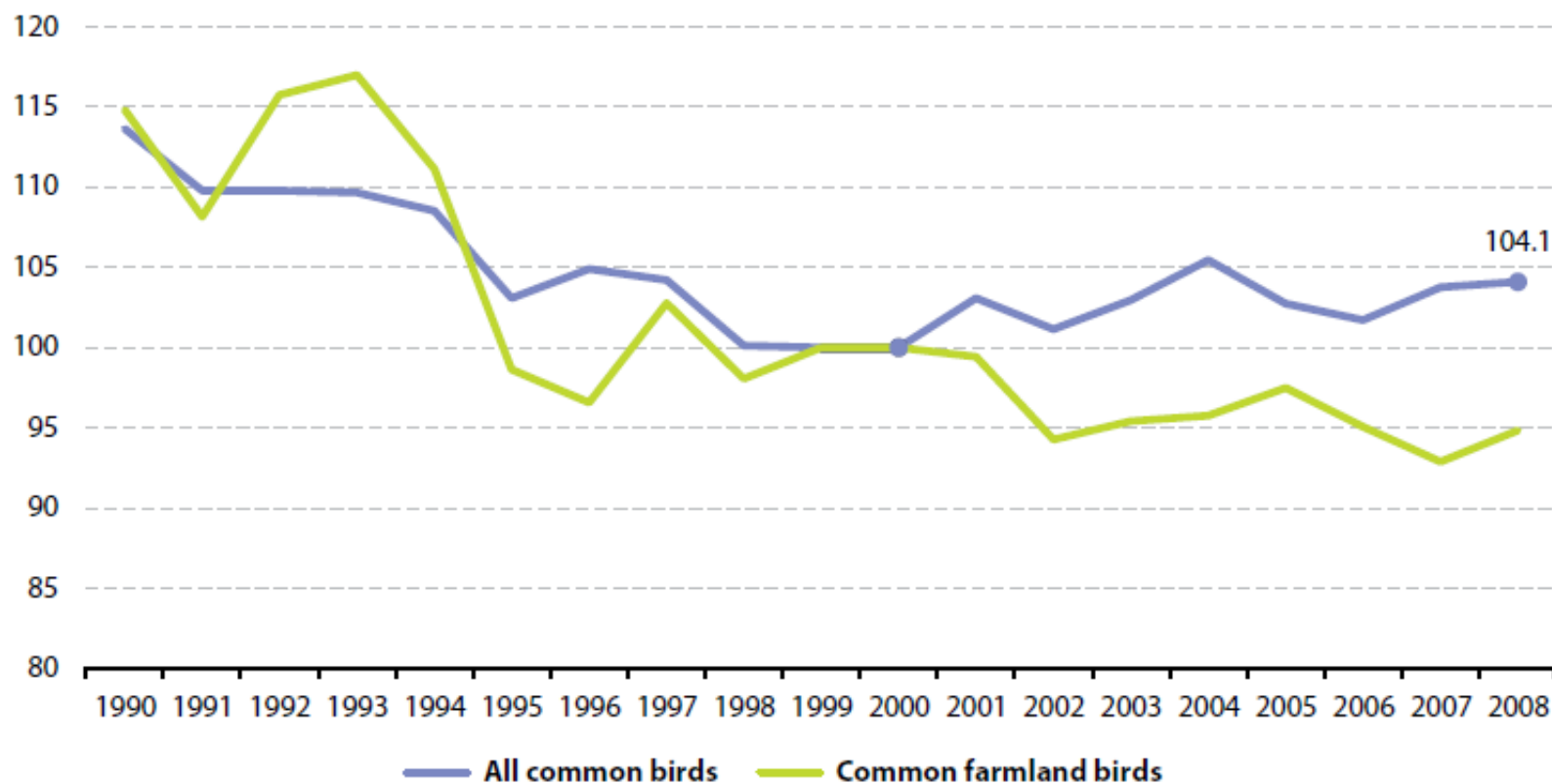
- Common Fisheries Policy
- Legislation on organic farming

Conservation and management of natural resources:

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	Biodiversity	
	 Protected areas (**)	
 Abundance of common birds (*)	Fresh water resources	
	: Water abstraction	 Water quality in rivers (***)
 Conservation of fish stocks	Marine ecosystems	
		: Fishing capacity
	Land use	
	 Increase in built-up land (****)	 Forest increment and fellings

Conservation and management of natural resources:

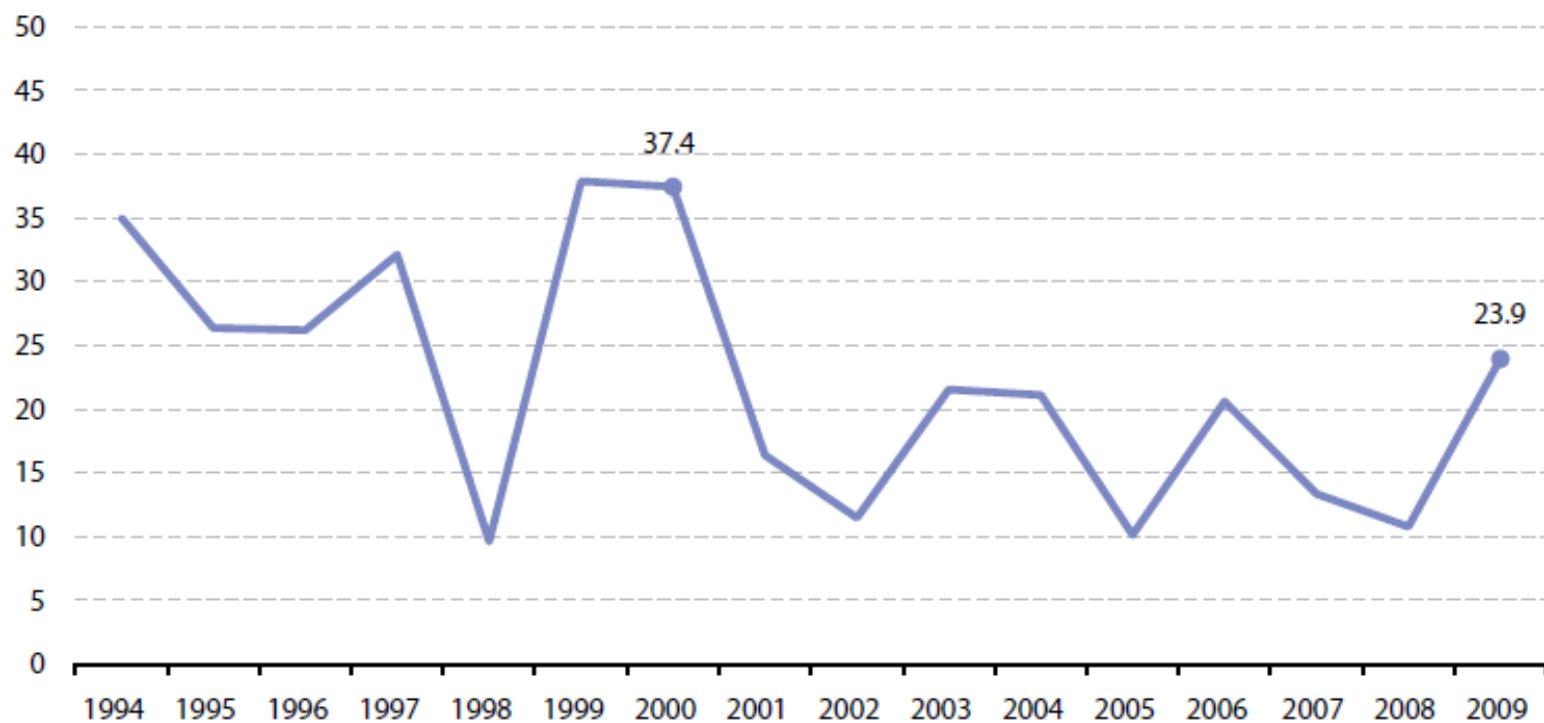
Figure 8.1: Common bird index, EU
(index 2000 = 100)



Conservation and management of natural resources:

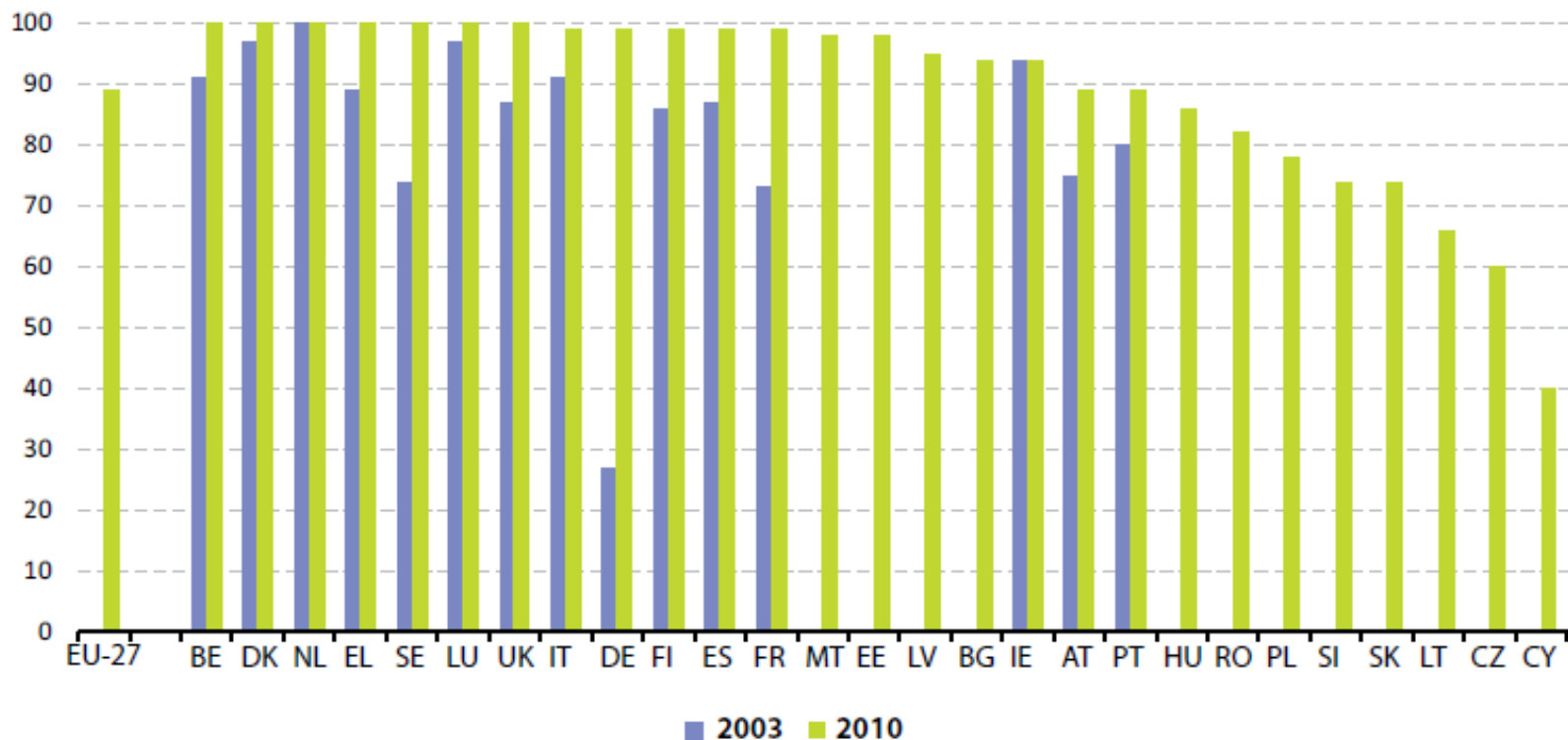
Figure 8.3: Fish catches taken from North East Atlantic stocks outside safe biological limits, total catches

(%)



Conservation and management of natural resources:

Figure 8.6: Sufficiency of sites designated under the EU Habitats directive, by country (%)



Public Health:

– Overall Objective:

- To promote good public health on equal conditions and improve protection against health threats

– Targets:

- Safe chemicals
- Environmental pollution information

– Actions:

- Improve food safety regulations
- Improve indoor air quality

Social inclusion, demography and migration:

– Overall Objective:

- To create a socially inclusive society by taking into account solidarity between and within generations and to secure and increase the quality of life of citizens as a precondition for lasting individual well-being

– Targets:

- Reduce early school leaving to 10%
- Increase labour market participation of women

– Actions:

- Pact for gender equality

Global poverty and sustainable development challenges

– Overall Objective:

- To actively promote sustainable development worldwide and ensure that the European Union's internal and external policies are consistent with global sustainable development and its international commitments












– Targets:

- Raise volume of aid to 0.7% of GNI by 2015

– Actions:

- Use trade agreements to improve social and environmental standards

Sustainable Development Strategy: indicators

SDI theme	Headline indicator	EU-27 evaluation of change
Socioeconomic development	Real GDP per capita	
Sustainable consumption and production	Resource productivity	
Social inclusion	Risk of poverty or social exclusion (*)	
Demographic changes	Employment rate of older workers	
Public health	Life expectancy and healthy life years (**)	
Climate change and energy	Greenhouse gas emissions	
	Consumption of renewables (***)	
Sustainable transport	Energy consumption of transport relative to GDP	
Natural resources	Abundance of common birds (****)	
	Conservation of fish stocks	
Global partnership	Official Development Assistance	

Sustainable Development Strategyicators



2011 Monitoring Report

»“It cannot yet be concluded that the European Union is on a pathway to sustainable development.”