

SCOPE OF THE REVIEW**- Review period: since 2009^a -**

ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Part I PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Chapter 1 Key environmental trends and policy measures

Description of key environmental trends through the use of selected indicators, supplemented by data relevant to national circumstances. This chapter aims to provide an overview of progress achieved against national policy goals and international commitments over the review period and to summarise key policy developments. It includes:

- a brief description of the prevailing economic, sectoral and social conditions;
- a presentation of a set of selected key indicators for energy and climate, air, water, biodiversity, land use, waste, resource use and efficiency, health impacts;
- a brief explanation of the main trends (including decoupling) and what is driving them;
- for each environmental sector (air pollution control; water management, waste and materials management, chemicals)^b: a presentation of key policy priorities (e.g. new plans, strategies) launched during the review period and main changes in the regulatory framework.

Chapter 2 Environmental governance and management

This chapter assesses how environmental policies are developed, implemented and enforced.

- Institutional framework for environmental management at national and sub-national levels, including arrangements for co-ordination among different levels of government and with non-environment ministries and agencies, to ensure the integration of environmental concerns in other policies.
- Evaluation of environmental policies and monitoring progress: effectiveness of the arrangements in place to evaluate ex ante and ex post policy and projects (cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analysis; strategic environmental assessment and regulatory impact analysis); mechanisms to track progress.
- The regulatory framework for environmental management: licensing and permitting; environmental impact assessment; land-use planning.
- Environmental compliance and enforcement, including inspections, non-compliance cases, and non-compliance responses; activities to promote compliance, such as negotiated agreements/voluntary initiatives by industry, environmental management systems, environmental audits and reporting.
- Environmental liability; access to justice on environmental decisions.
- Provision of environmental information (environmental statistics system, environmental monitoring and reporting); promotion of environmental awareness and education and public participation in decision making (policies, plans and projects); involvement of indigenous people; role of NGOs.

^a The previous EPR of Greece was released in 2009.

^b Climate change and biodiversity are covered in Part II.

Chapter 3**Towards Green Growth**

This chapter analyses the interaction between the environment and other policy areas, with a view to highlighting: i) the key policy developments in fiscal, economic and sectoral policies (e.g. energy, transport, agriculture, tourism) that either undercut or support environmental objectives and the effectiveness of environmental policies; ii) the opportunities and barriers to environmentally friendly growth; iii) the complementarities between environmental policies and other sectoral policies; iv) the social and international aspects of the transition towards green growth.

- Sustainable development and green growth policy framework, such as strategies and plans.
- Greening the system of taxes and charges:
 - environmentally related taxes (e.g. on energy and vehicle use, agricultural inputs, resources and pollution); fiscal treatment of, and revenue from, natural resource extraction (e.g. royalties); overall coherence of taxation policy with environmental objectives;
 - subsidies, including tax exemptions: environmental state aid and incentives for environmentally friendly behaviour in consumption and production; sectoral subsidies potentially harmful to the environment (e.g. fossil fuel subsidies, agricultural support);
 - other economic instruments, e.g. waste and water charges, emissions trading scheme;
- Environment-related expenditure and investment (including investment in water and waste infrastructure and services, renewables, energy efficiency, public transport); mechanisms for mobilising private sector investment for environmental purposes.
- Eco-innovation and the environmental goods and services sector.
- The social consequences of the transition towards green growth:
 - labour market implications (employment impacts);
 - distributional impacts (such as implications for low-income households and for regional (in)equality);
 - interactions between poverty and environmental degradation.
- The international dimension of green growth: environment, trade and development:
 - data on official development assistance for the environment and discussion of its effectiveness;
 - arrangements for mainstreaming the environment in other development co-operation projects;
 - coherence of trade and investment flows with environmental and development objectives; environmental impacts of export credits, responsible businesses behaviour; implementation of the OECD guidelines on multinational enterprises.

Part II

PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

Chapter 4

Climate Change mitigation and adaption

The chapter will include a systematic analysis of Greece's climate policy (mitigation and adaptation), in terms of both effectiveness and efficiency.

Institutional arrangements for mitigation and adaptation (weight: 25%)

- Institutional framework and the arrangements for policy making, monitoring progress and coordination among agencies at national and sub-national levels.
- International agreements: international negotiations; voluntary commitments; nationally determined contributions (NDCs); reporting arrangements; action plans.

Mitigation (weight: 40%)

- Performance: trends in GHG emissions and removals (by gas and sector); progress towards targets and projections; monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV).
- Policy framework and role in mitigation: energy policy, transport policy, agricultural/forestry policy.
- Economic instruments for mitigating GHG emissions (e.g. carbon tax, vehicle taxes, EU ETS). Regulatory and economic measures to mitigate GHG emissions from energy production and use (renewable energy sources and energy efficiency), transport, agriculture and waste; effectiveness and efficiency of those measures.

Adaptation (weight: 20%)

- Current and projected impacts of climate, including on physical conditions (e.g. temperature increases, changes in rainfall and snowfall), the economy and society.
- The strategic framework: climate change adaptation objectives and priorities; national and sectorial adaptation plans.
- Instruments to mainstream adaptation priorities; links with climate change mitigation strategies and relationship between climate and sustainability agenda in the country.

Means of implementation for mitigation and adaptation (weight: 15%)

- International co-operation; climate finance and official development assistance
- Education, enhance climate awareness in the society, capacity building of different stakeholders.

Chapter 5

Biodiversity

The chapter will include a systematic analysis of Greece's policy to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in terms of both effectiveness and efficiency. It will assess progress in mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into sectoral and other policies.

Pressures, state and trends (weight: 30%)

- State and trends of species and habitats (terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems); alien species; trends in threatened species; fragmentation and degradation of habitats and ecosystems; progress with respect to objectives/targets; projections.
- Pressures on species and ecosystems (e.g. from hunting/fishing, mining, infrastructure development, agriculture, forestry, climate change, invasive species).
- Indicators on protected areas: number and area extension of terrestrial and marine protected areas; type of areas; correspondence of protected areas to ecosystem and species conservation needs; progress towards the Aichi target on protected areas. Effectiveness and impact of protected areas on biodiversity.
- Biodiversity information requirements and availability. Status for a Biodiversity baseline.

Institutional arrangements, governance and mainstreaming (weight: 30%)

- International and national policy objectives and targets on nature and biodiversity.
- Strategic and regulatory framework for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, including the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and for managing protected areas.
- Institutional capacities and requirements at national, regional and local levels to assume and implement the biodiversity policies. Horizontal and vertical co-ordination mechanisms.
- Mainstreaming biodiversity and nature concerns in sectoral/other policies:
 - Agriculture, aquaculture, fishery and forestry;
 - Tourism;
 - Infrastructure and urban development, land-use planning;
 - Industrial policy;
 - Energy and climate change policies;
 - Mining;
- Role of non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the management of, and investment in, protected areas and off protected areas; public support mechanisms to involve NGOs in the implementation of biodiversity policies.
- Addressing distributional issues, including clarifying rights to resources and distribution of benefits and costs between different groups, inside and outside protected areas; employment opportunities; local communities, gender participation on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Biodiversity and development (opportunities, challenges).

Instruments for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (weight: 30%)

- Evaluation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and the use of economic evaluation methods for policy making. Integration of biodiversity considerations in environmental impact assessment procedures and in land-use planning.
- Policy instruments for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and for the management of protected areas, complementary areas (private conservation initiatives, ecological corridors, buffer zones, ecological infrastructure areas) and off areas (see table). Assessment of effectiveness and efficiency of policy instruments.

Regulatory (Command-and-Control) Approaches	Economic Instruments	Information and Other Instruments
Restrictions or prohibitions on use (e.g. trade in endangered species and CITES) or on access (e.g. protected areas).	Price based instruments, credits and incentives Taxes (e.g. groundwater, pesticide and fertiliser use) Charges/Fees (e.g. for natural resource use, access to National Parks, hunting or fishing license fees) Subsidies	Eco-labelling and certification (e.g. organic agriculture labelling schemes, sustainably harvested fish or timber labels)

Performance based standards; quality or quantity standards, often enforcing the use of specific technologies (e.g. commercial fishing net specifications)	Diagnosis and Reform of environmentally harmful subsidies	Voluntary Agreements (e.g. between businesses and government for nature protection or voluntary offset schemes)
Permits and quotas (e.g. logging and fishing)	Payment for Ecosystem Services	Public procurement (e.g. of sustainably harvested timber)
Liability instruments Non-compliance fines Performance bonds	Biodiversity offsets/Biobanking	Environmental guidelines and criteria for including biodiversity objectives in productive activities or sectors.
Environmental Impact Assessment Environmental strategic evaluation Territorial planning	Tradable permits (e.g individual transferable quotas for fisheries)	MRV (Measuring, Reporting, and Verification) Environmental accounts on biodiversity

- Financial and human resources for biodiversity conservation and the management of protected areas; biodiversity funds.
- Investing in ecological infrastructure and restoring degraded ecosystems (public and private expenditure on nature conservation, biodiversity-related official development assistance (ODA), level of private sector engagement, etc.).
- International co-operation.

Research, Development and Innovation (weight: 10%)

- Research and development (R&D) and innovation: availability and performance of institutional mechanisms and public financing instruments to promote R&D on biodiversity; mainstreaming of biodiversity objectives in sectorial funds for research and innovation.



ANNEXE

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- Actions taken to implement the 2009 OECD Environmental Performance Review recommendations
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