Friends of the Earth Europe conference: Responsible or irresponsible? Europe's resource use and its impacts

8-9 November, European Parliament

# European resource use in the green economy framework

Prof. Jacqueline McGlade Executive Director, EEA





#### What is a green economy?

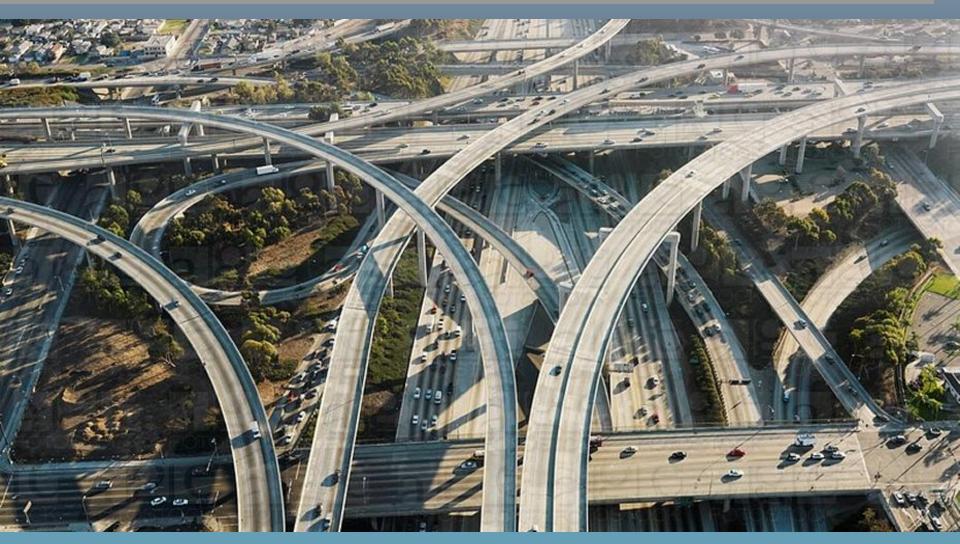
An economy in which policies and innovations enable society to increase its well-being while preserving the natural systems that sustain us



#### We face complex interconnected challenges



### Road transport binds numerous social, economic and environmental systems



### Food and drink, housing and mobility create the greatest pressures on the environment: the European picture



Eating and drinking 17 % of GHG emissions 28 % of material use

Housing and infrastructures 35 % of GHG emissions 19 % of material use





Mobility
25 % of GHG emissions
22 % of material use



#### We can cut food demand by avoiding waste



### Significantly reducing impacts will require sophisticated approaches and action by all sectors

**Encourage Enable Engage Exemplify** 

For example via...

Ecological tax reform, reward schemes, penalties, social pressures, enforcement action

Remove barriers, educate, train, inform, provide facilities, build capacity and skills

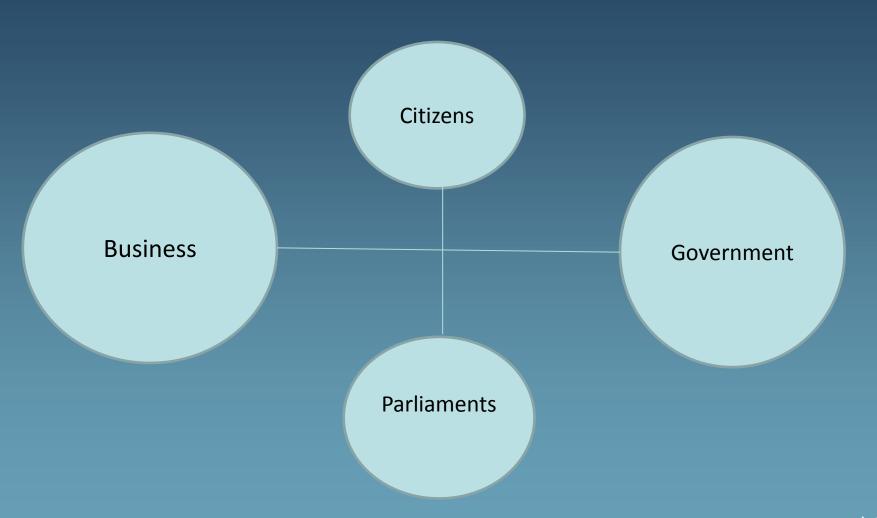
Community action and forums, personal contacts, media campaigns, networks

Leading by example (e.g. green public procurement), ensuring policy consistency

### We need a paradigm shift in our approach to managing resource use

#### Past and current **Future** Reduce global life-cycle Reduce environmental environmental pressures from pressures from our consumption production Protect the local Protect the global environment environment Technology and behavioural **Technology** is the change is the solution solution **Public authorities** Shared responsibility in a triangle of change responsible

### Key actors of change



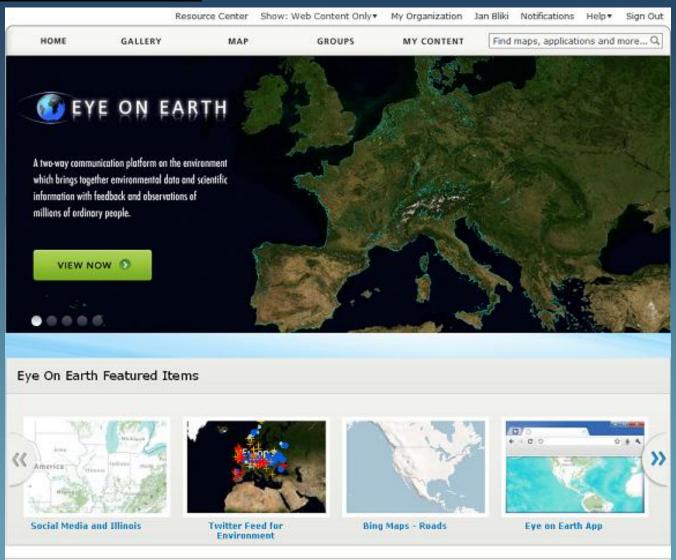


### Improved accounting is essential for wise management — "What you don't measure you can't manage"



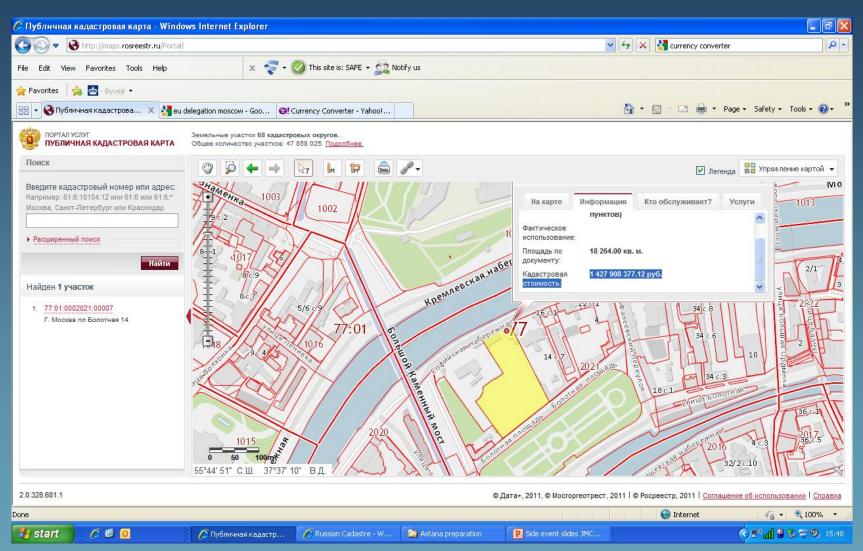


### A new global public good



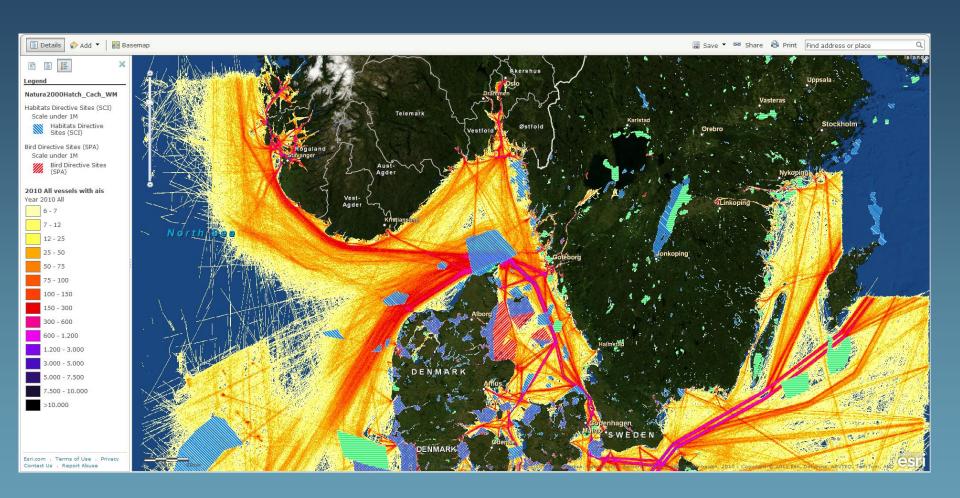


### Spatial Data Infrastructures





## Maritime shipping 2010 & Natura 2000 protected sites



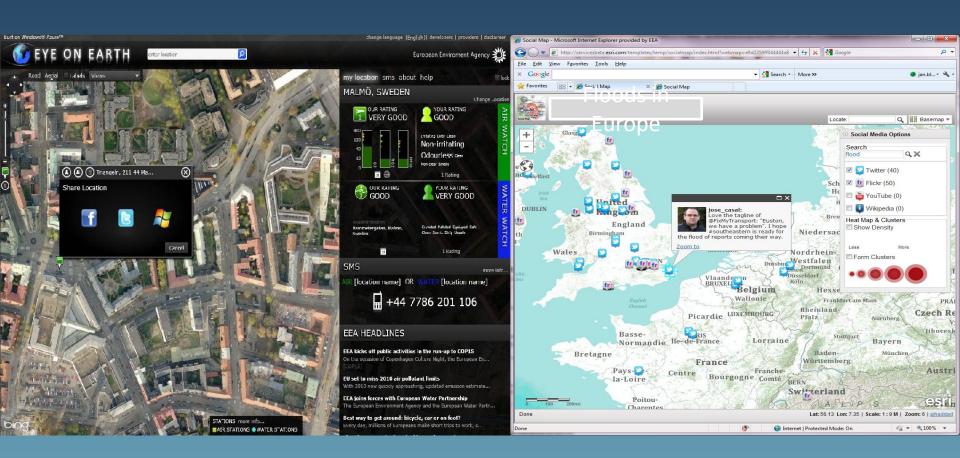


### Integrating observations from citizen scientists and indigenous peoples



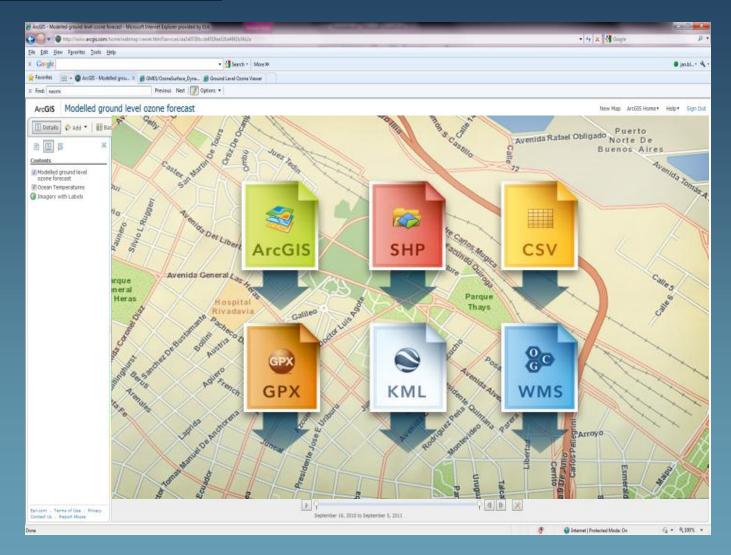


### Social media integration





### Drag and drop intelligent maps



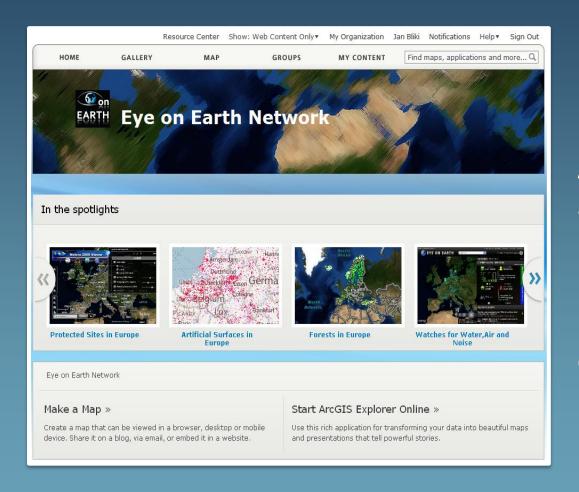


#### Data & service market



# Global release at the Eye on Earth summit in Abu Dhabi 12–15 December 2011





All EEA applications and available web-services

Data from UN and other international organisations

**National data** 

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### Thank you!

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