



Integration of Soil Protection Aspects into EU Policies

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Aim of the Project

- To review the **integration of soil protection aspects into existing and foreseen environmental and other policies and initiatives at European level**



Policies at EU level considered

- **Environmental**
 - **Waste**
 - **Water**
 - **Air**
 - **Chemicals**
 - **Climate change**
 - **Impact assessment**
- **Other Policies**
 - **CAP**
 - **Internal Market**
 - **Research and Development**
 - **EU Financial Instruments**



Integration

- **EC Treaty, Article 6: Integration of environmental protection requirements into the definition and implementation of all Community policies and activities**



Most relevant policies and initiatives - 1

- **Waste**
 - **Sewage Sludge Directive**
- **Water**
 - **Water Framework Directive**
 - **Nitrates Directive**
- **Air**
 - **Directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control**



Most relevant policies and initiatives - 2

- **Chemicals**

- **Proposal on a Thematic Strategy for Sustainable Pesticide Use**
- **Directive on Authorisation and Marketing of Pesticides**
- **Directive on Biocidal Products**



Most relevant policies and initiatives - 3

- **Horizontal legislation**
 - **Environmental Impact Assessment**
 - **Strategic Environmental Assessment**
- **CAP**
 - **Cross-Compliance Scheme**



Threats considered - 1

- **Erosion**
 - **Water Framework Directive**
 - **Cross-Compliance Scheme**
 - **Agri-Environmental Measures/Organic Farming**
- **Decline in Organic Matter**
 - **Directive on Sewage Sludge**
 - **Agri-Environmental Measures/Organic Framing**
 - **Cross-Compliance Scheme**
 - **European Climate Change Programme**



Threats considered - 2

- **Decline in Soil Biodiversity**
 - **Sewage Sludge Directive**
 - **Nitrates Directive**
 - **Legislation related to PPP, biocidal products or fertilisers**
 - **Habitats Directive (Natura 2000)**
 - **Biodiversity Action Plans**
 - **Cross-Compliance Scheme**
 - **Agri-Environmental Measures**



Threats considered - 3

- **Soil Contamination**
 - **Local soil contamination**
 - **Waste Framework Directive**
 - **Landfill Directive**
 - **Diffuse soil contamination**
 - **Sewage Sludge Directive**
 - **Water Framework Directive**
 - **Nitrates Directive**
 - **Legislation related to PPP, biocidal products or fertilisers**



Threats considered - 4

- **Soil Sealing**

- **Environmental Impact Assessment**
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment**
- **Strategy for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management**
- **Strategy on the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources**
- **Strategy on Urban Environment**
- **European Spatial Development Perspective**



Threats considered - 5

- **Soil Compaction**
 - **Cross-Compliance Scheme**
 - **Agri-Environmental Measures**
- **Salinisation**
 - **Water Framework Directive**
 - **Agri-Environmental Measures**
- **Floods and Landslides**
 - **Water Framework Directive**
 - **Environmental Impact Assessment**



Conclusions - 1

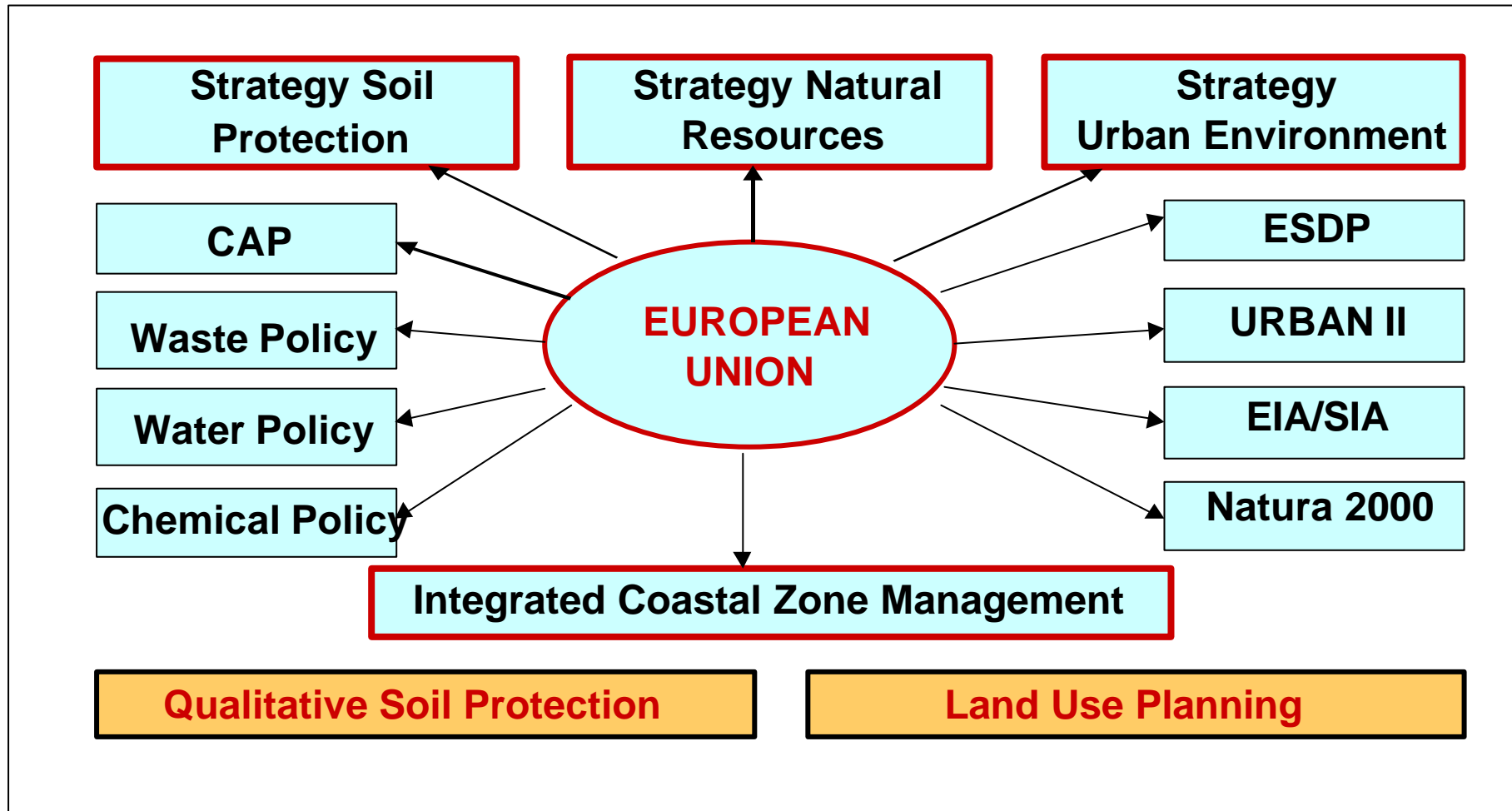
- **Reference to soil protection**
 - **Many existing environmental policies at EU level establish instruments that address soil protection in direct or indirect manner**
 - **Little explicit reference to soil protection, management and sustainable use**



Conclusions - 2

- **Qualitative Soil Protection and Land Use**
 - **Existing policy instruments and measures address mainly qualitative soil protection issues**
 - **Very few instruments at European level address land use planning and soil sealing**

Soil protection policies at European level



Conclusions - 3

- Instruments and measures directly addressing soil issues are rather **fragmented**
- **Indirect** measures and instruments are not designed specifically for soil protection - **not as efficient and effective** as they might be
- Impact depends strongly on the **implementation** in Member States



Conclusions - 4

- **Lack of common definition of soil protection as an explicit objective of the EC policies and the soil indicators**
- **This hinders a coherent integration of soil protection into other policies**



Conclusions - 5

- **Level of policy making**
 - **European Legislation**
 - **Open Method of Co-ordination**
 - **Intergovernmental Forum**
 - **Transnational Co-operation**
 - **Concerted Actions**



Thank you for your attention.

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