

Manual of European Environmental Policy

The following pages are a section from the Manual of European Environmental Policy written by the Institute for European Environmental Policy.

The Manual was published by Earthscan/Routledge from 2010 to 2012. It was designed as an on on-line interactive reference work and annual printed versions were also produced.

This section is the text of the Manual as published in 2012. It is therefore important to note the following:

- The contents have not been updated since 2012 and no guarantee is given of the accuracy of the contents given potential subsequent developments.
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Farmer, A.M. (2012) (Editor). Manual of European Environmental Policy. 1043pp. Routledge, London.



Sectoral policies key to the environment

Introduction

Although EU environmental policy started in the early 1970s as a stand-alone policy pursued mainly through a regulatory approach (initially to address potential problems within the operation of the single market), it has increasingly become interlinked with other policy areas. This relationship between environmental policy and broader policy considerations can be seen in the commitments concerning the environment in the treaties. As discussed in the Section on the Development of the EU Environment in the treaties. As discussed in the Section on the Development of the EU Environmental Policy Framework, not only do the treaties contain specific provisions on the environment in the 'Environment Title' (Articles 191–193), but also two other clauses linking EU environmental policy to the broader policy agenda of the EU, which have since been added and developed. These are, Article 3 (ex-Article 2) which establishes that the Union 'shall work for the sustainable development of Europe' and Article 11 (ex-Article 6), which stipulates that 'Environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Union policies and activities, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development'.

It therefore appears that environmental policy in the EU has developed into something much more than an end-of-pipe solution to environmental ills and consequently it becomes difficult to discuss environmental policy without bringing in wider issues such as sustainable development, environmental policy integration and even, most recently, processes of European social and economic reform. This part of the Manual sets out the development of some of these most important links between EU environmental policy and other policy areas. This is done by examining the way environmental issues have been linked to specific policy areas.