

Circular economy and sustainable resource use: Systemic approaches in uncertain times

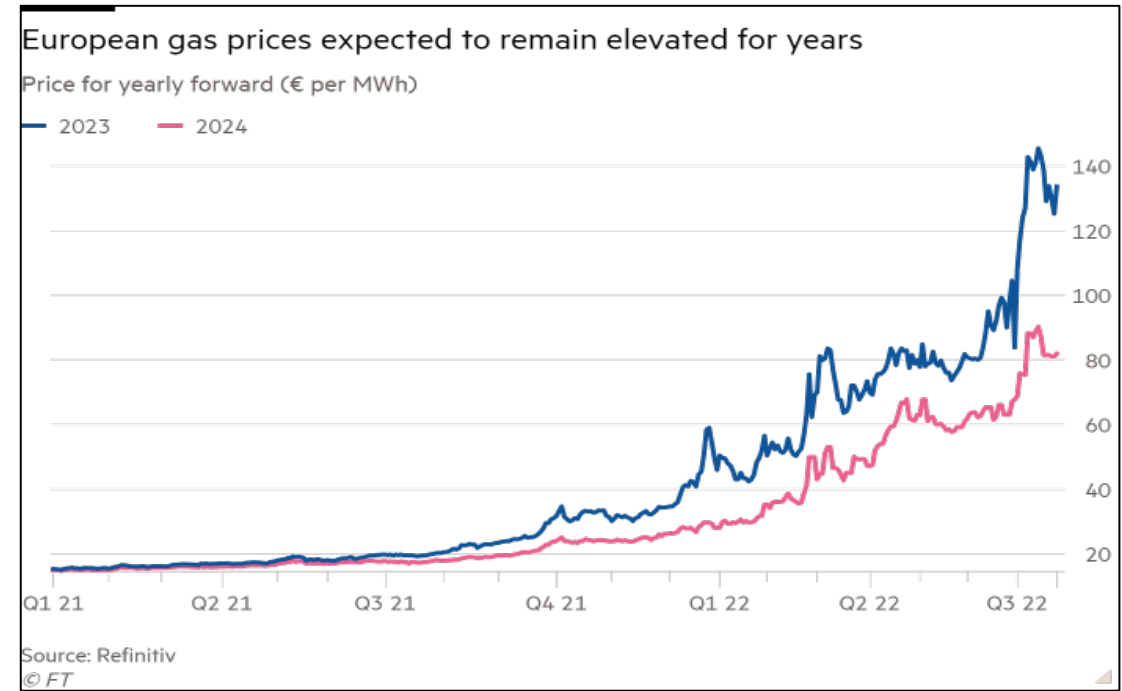
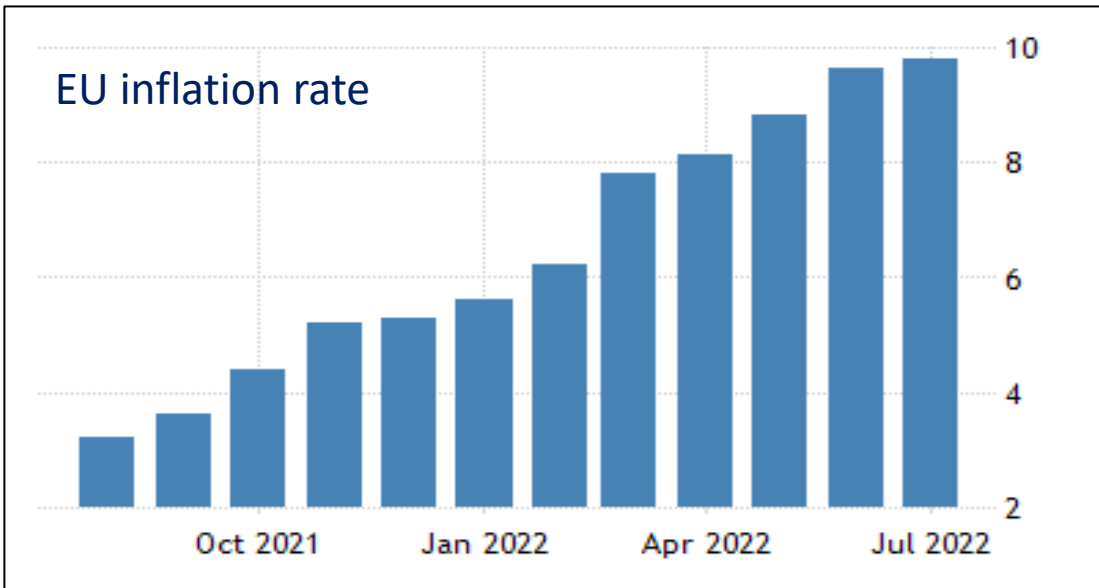
Luc Bas, European Environment Agency

EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY:

Shifting tourism towards circular economy models

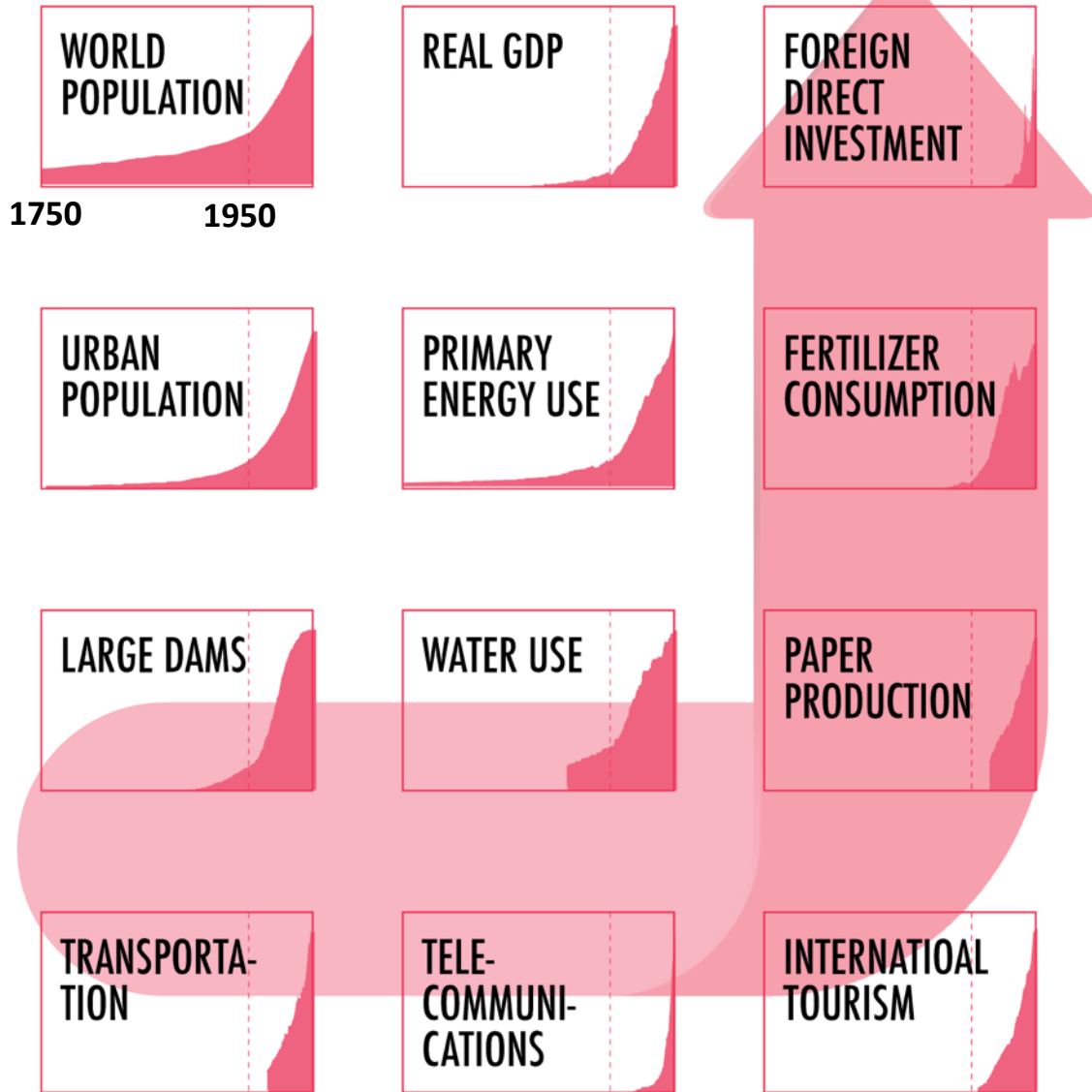
6 October 2022 - 13:10-14:40, 5b/Fresnel Building of Cyprus Institute

Resources (and populations) under pressure

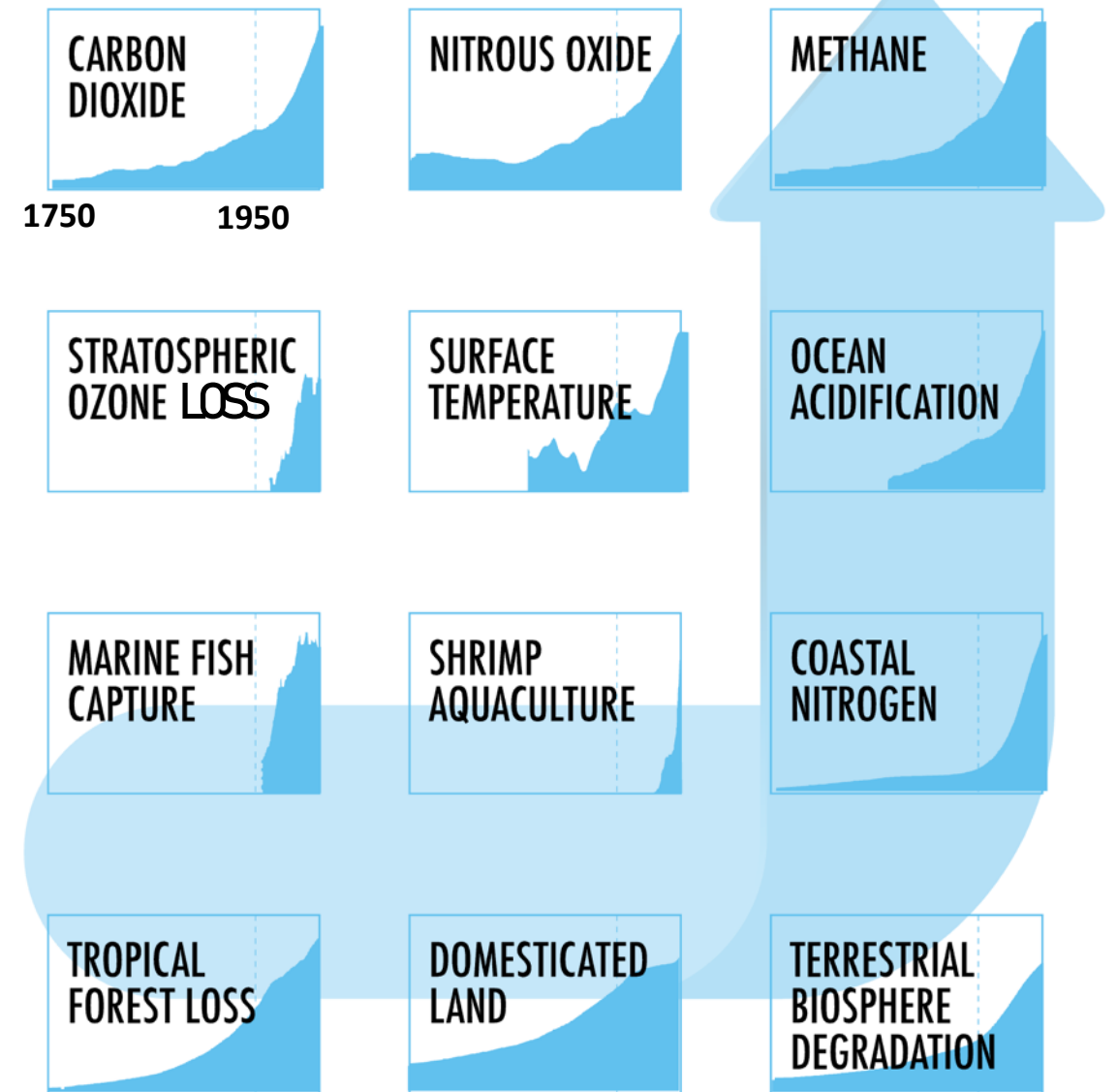


Off the chart: global trends in the current paradigm

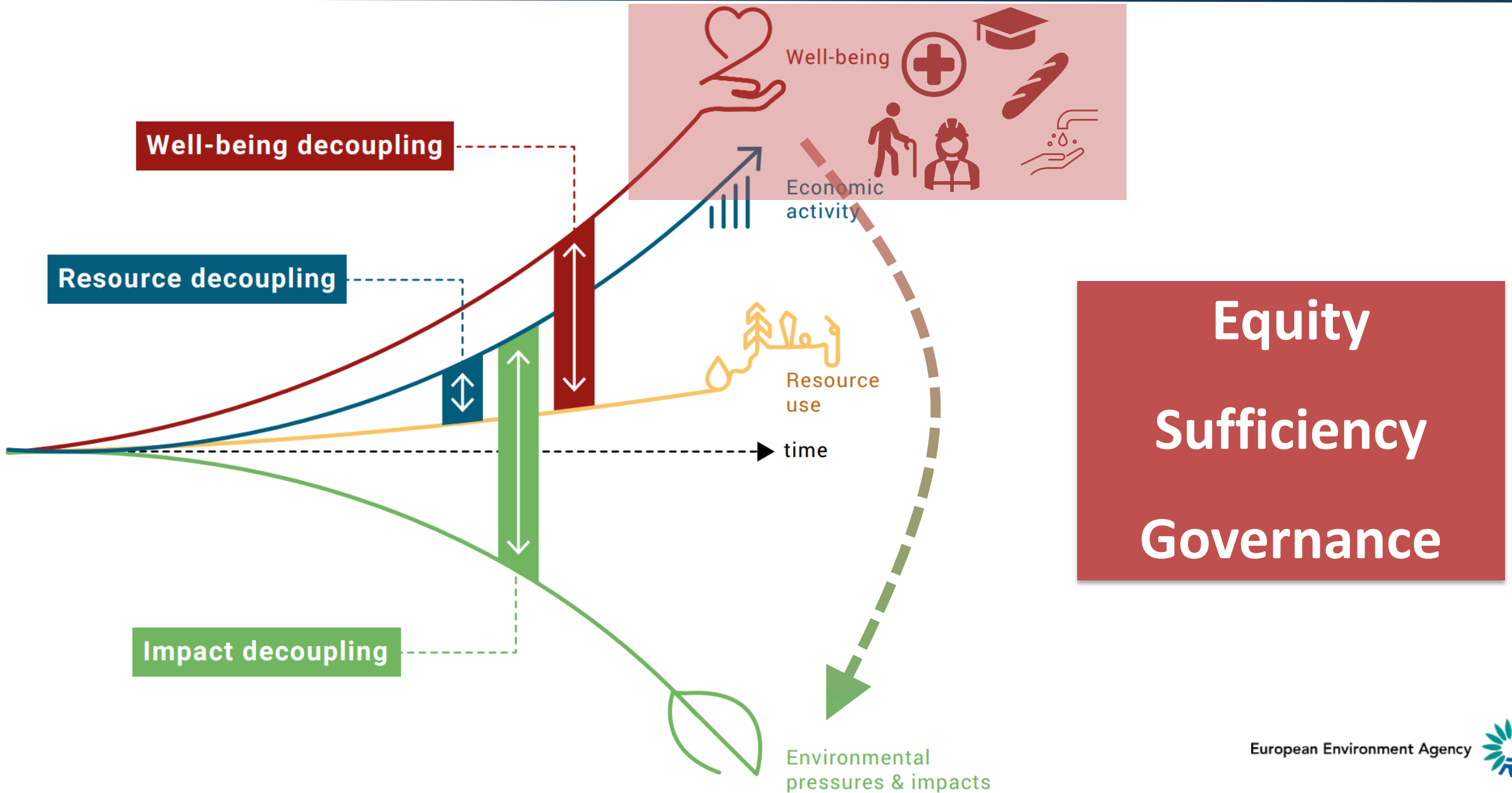
Socio-economic trends



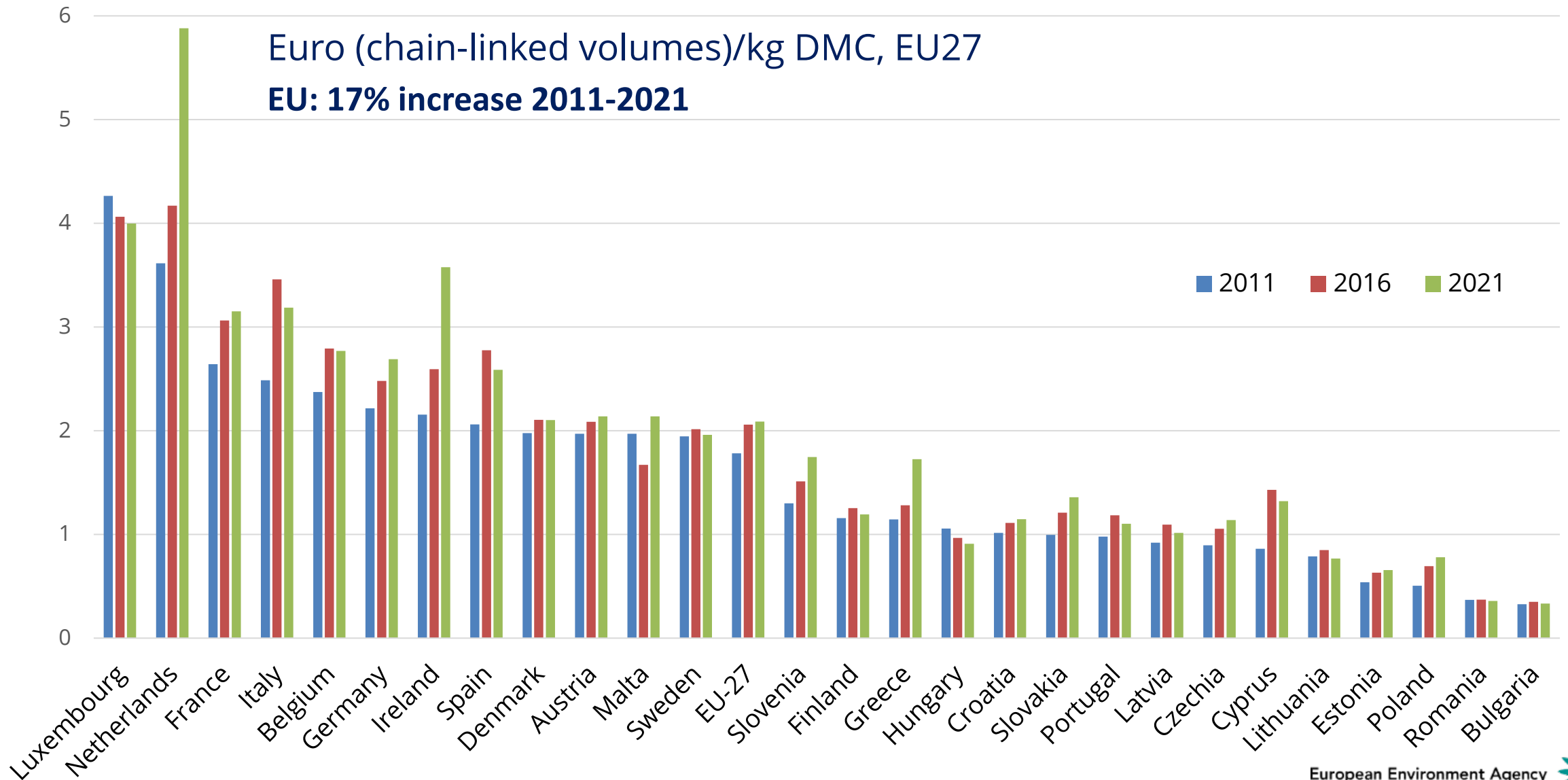
Earth system trends



Decoupling wellbeing from resource use and impacts

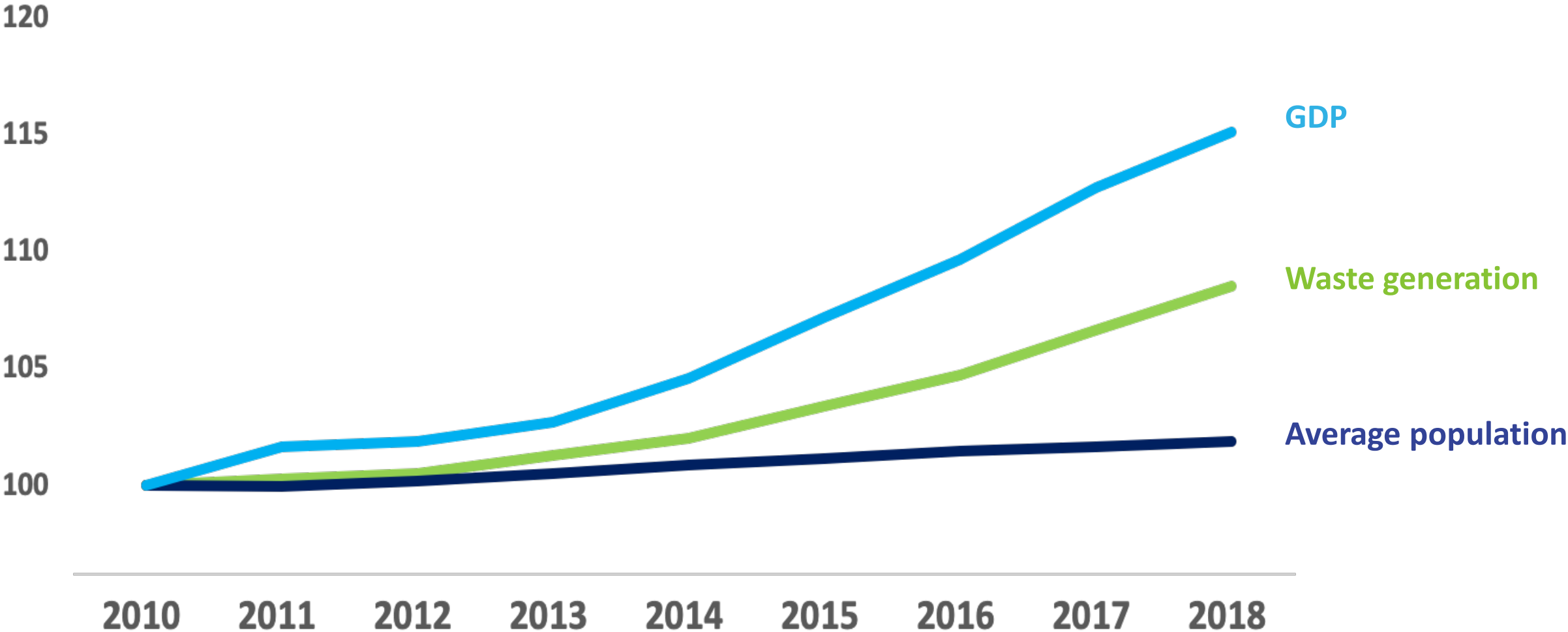


Resource efficiency is improving in Europe



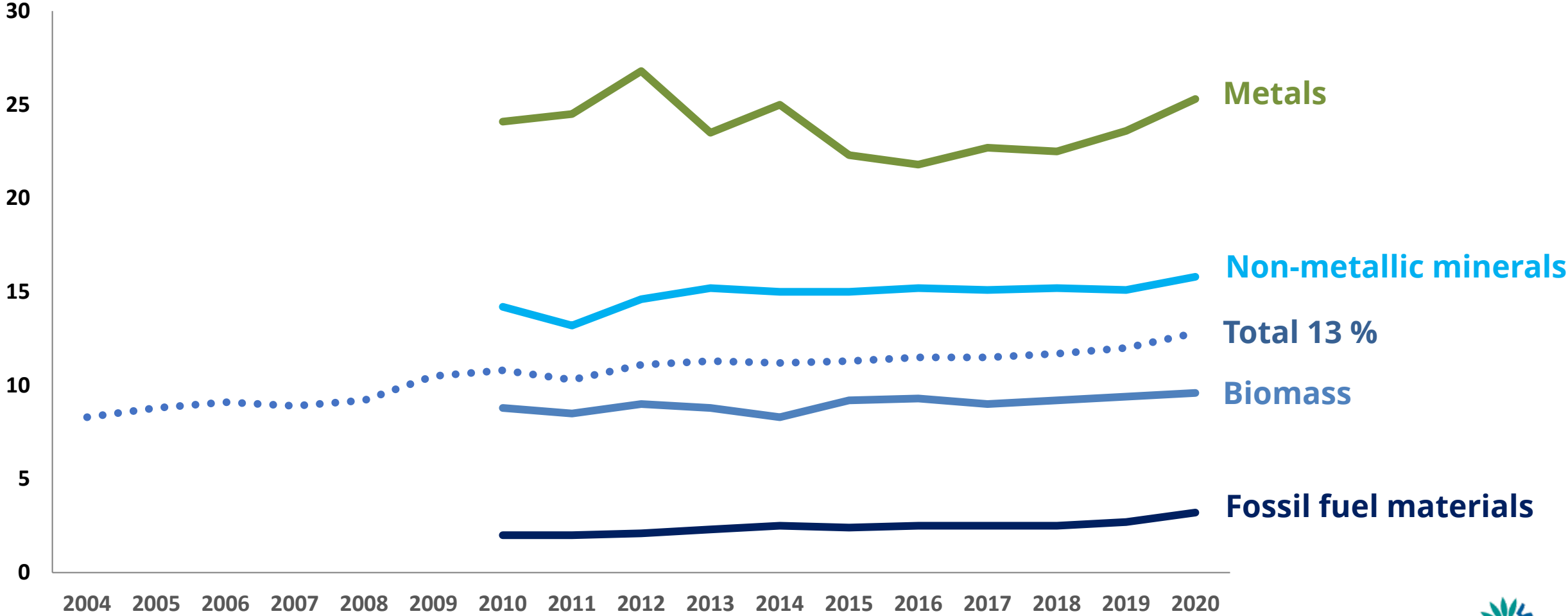
Waste generation is still increasing

Trends in waste generation, economic development and population, EEA-33



Circular use of materials is still low

Trends in the circular material use rate, % in EU-27



Re-configuring the (circular) economy is an international challenge

**Increasing global material use
& globalised value chains**

**Changing demographics
& incomes**

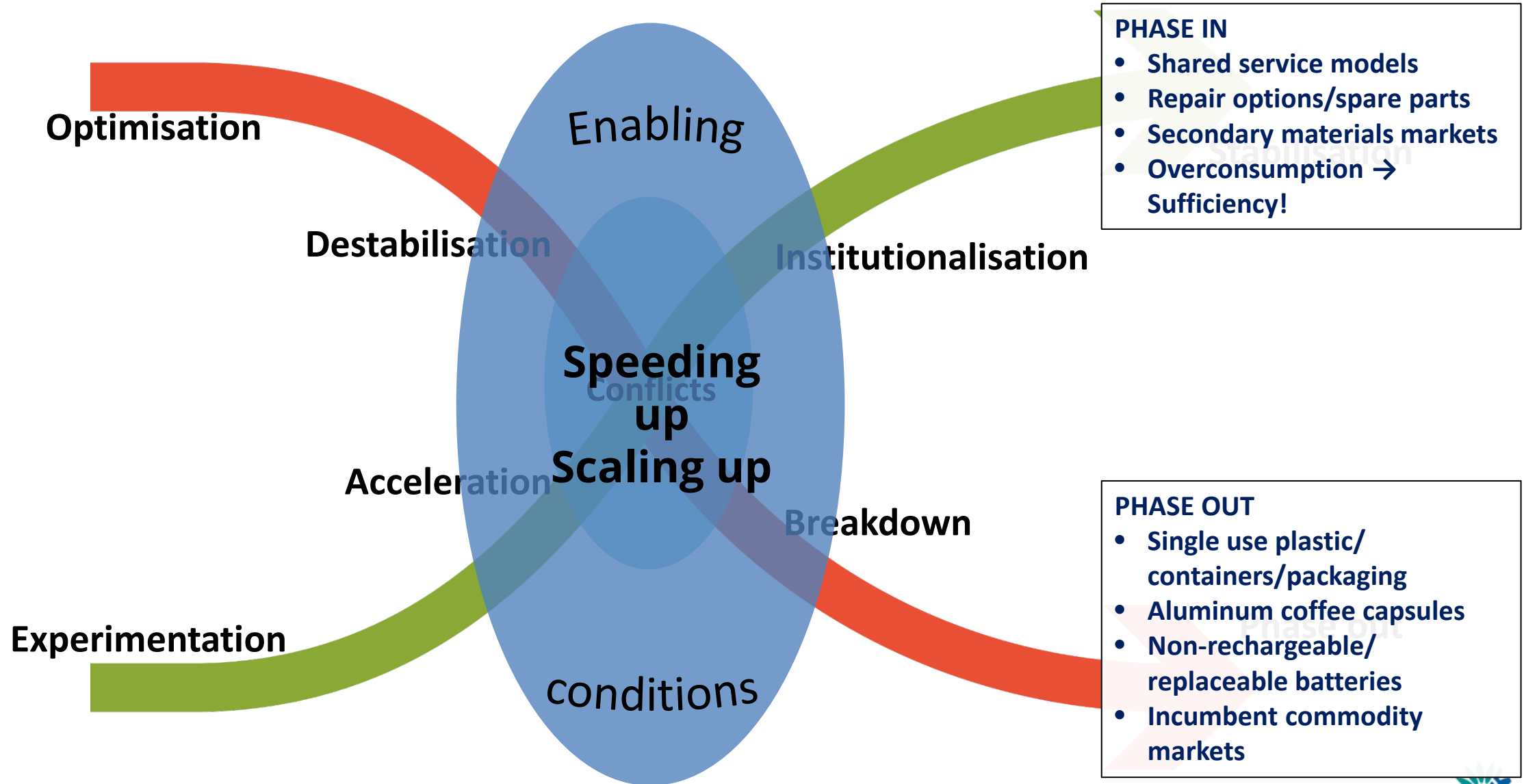
**Distribution of social
impacts of material use**

**Distribution of supply
chain know-how**

**Virgin vs recycled
materials**




Paradigm shifts/systemic change are disruptive: the 'x-curve'



EEA work areas supporting...

2 Climate change mitigation and adaptation 

3 Human health and the environment 

4 Circular economy and resource use 

5 Sustainability trends, prospects and responses 



- First **climate-neutral** continent, incl. **Adaptation Strategy**
- **Biodiversity Strategy 2030**
- **New Circular Economy Action Plan**
- **Zero pollution strategy**
- **Farm to fork strategy**
- **Just transition**
- **Sustainable European Investment Plan**
- **Future ready economy – new industrial strategy**

Addressing monitoring gaps: Bellagio process



1 Monitor the circular economy transition



2 Define indicator groups



3 Follow indicator selection criteria



4 Exploit a range of data/information sources



5 Ensure multilevel monitoring



6 Measure progress towards targets



7 Ensure visibility and clarity



Circular Economy monitoring at the EEA



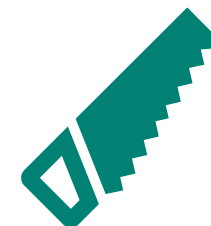
Coalition building

- **Bellagio partnership**
- **Country level**
- **Eurostat**
- **UNECE / OECD**



Innovation and pilots

- **Piloting the use of novel data sources**
- **Harvesting data from product passports**
- **Pilot indicator on life spans**
- **Integrate in Circularity Metrics Lab**

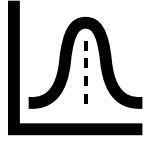


Delivery and implementation

- **CE State and Outlook report**
- **Circularity Metrics Lab**
- **EEA Indicator set**
- **Doubling CMUR**



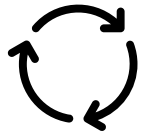
Considerations for tourism sector in line with the CE ambitions



Business models based on volume growth should be abandoned



Models where tourism triggers value and financial resources for conservation/restoration



Dematerialise tourism and aim at recirculating materials – to a model based on engagement



Asset-heavy actors in the tourism value chain can contribute by procuring/operating green and circular



Yielding higher value from less travel to stay within local and global planetary boundaries



Asset-light actors – e.g. tour operators – can contribute by channelling the market to circular friendly options

A large sculpture of a turkey, constructed entirely from various pieces of plastic waste. The body is a dense, colorful mass of items like plastic bottles, caps, and containers. The tail feathers are made of long, thin plastic strips. The head is a smaller, more defined shape. The sculpture is mounted on a black base, possibly a wheelbarrow or a similar container, which is partially covered by a brown tarp. The background shows a body of water and a cloudy sky.

Thank you

Luc Bas, EEA | IGET side event at 9th EfE conference | 6 October 2022