



## Achieving SDGs in Europe: Poverty eradication and environmental actions go hand in hand

Presentation to the Europe parliament, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
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# THINK 2030

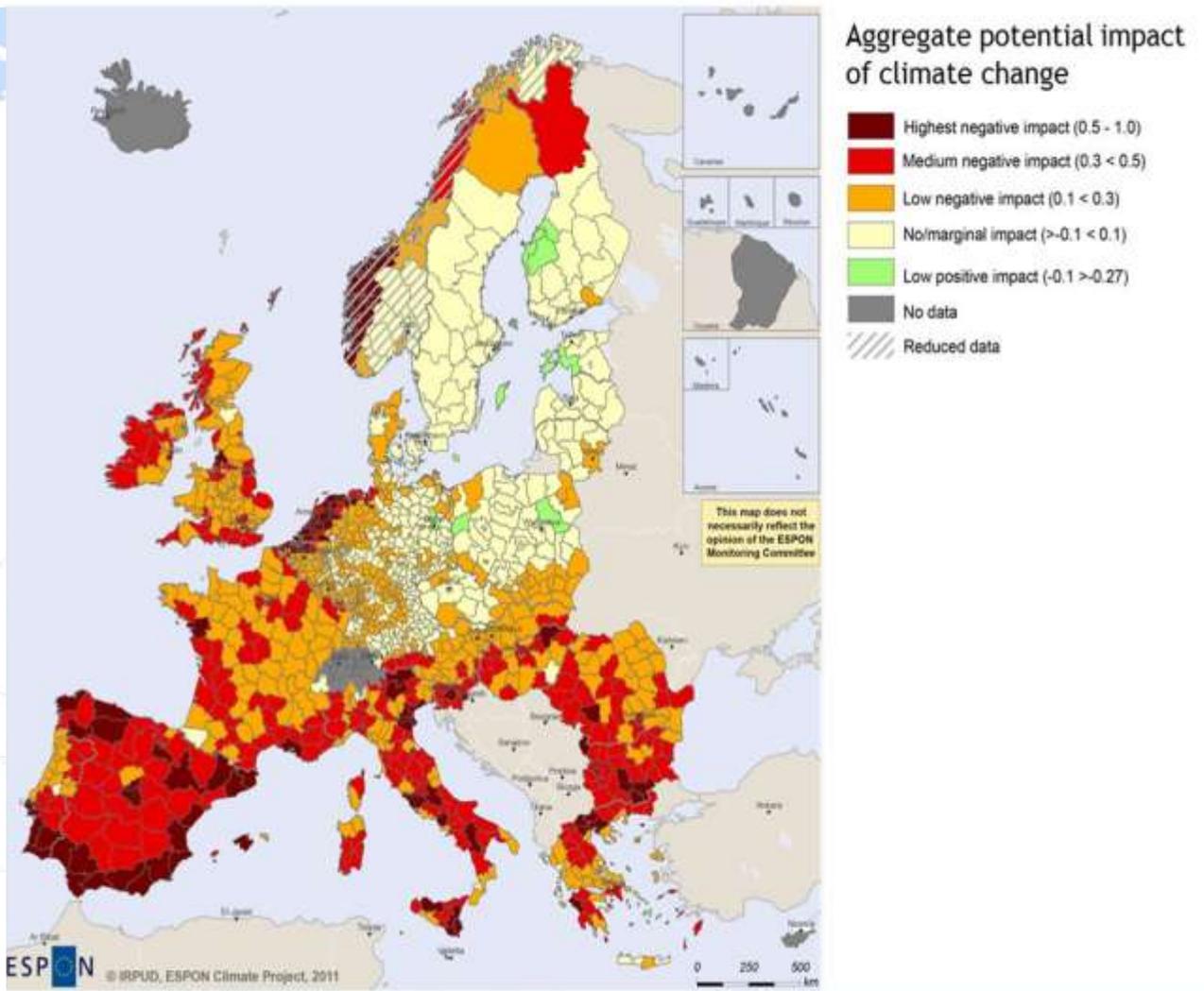
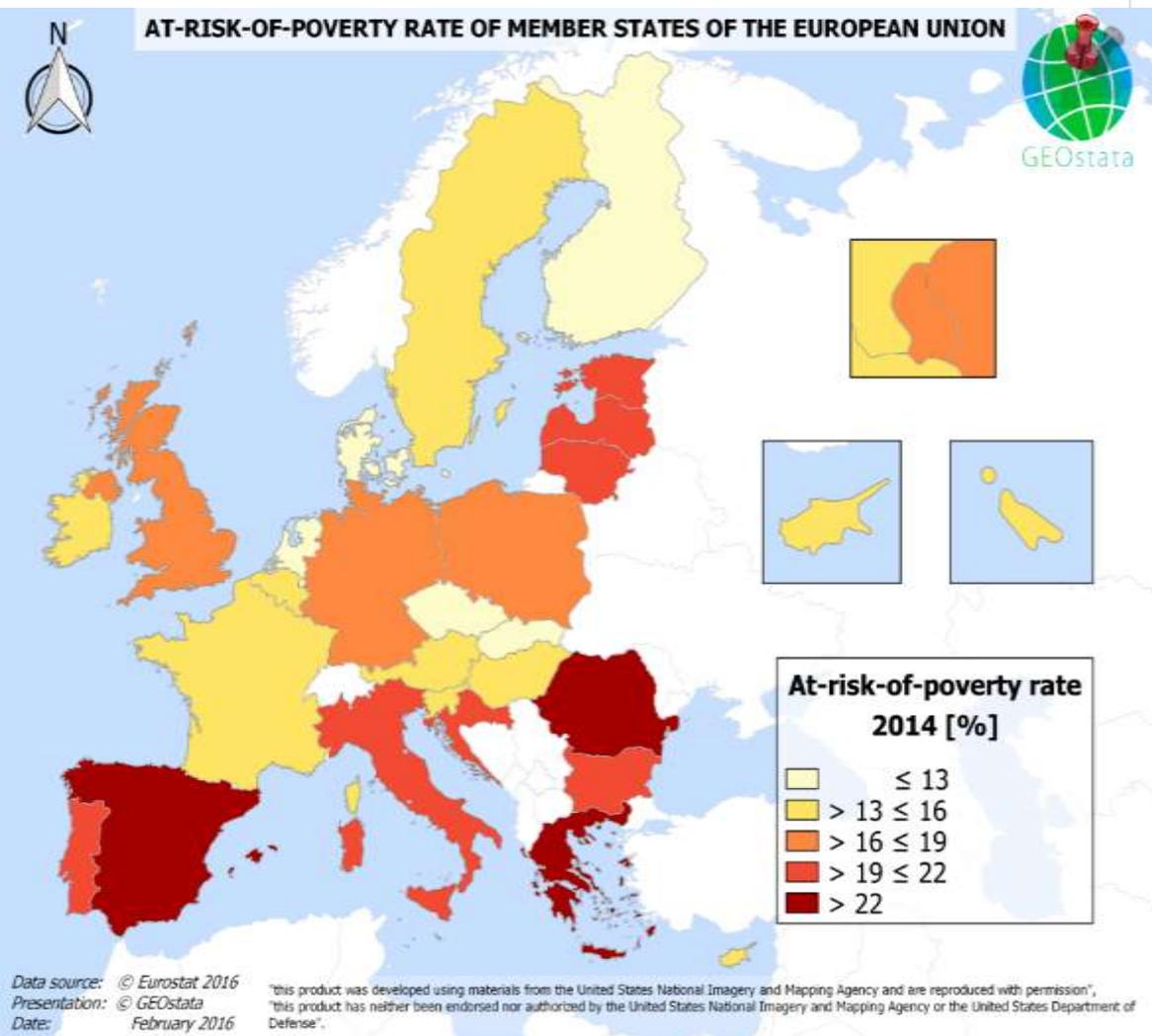
Science-policy solutions for  
a more sustainable Europe

# Very opportune moment to debate interlinkages between social and environmental policies

- Largely an undiscussed issue within Europe until the Gilets Jaunes
- Siloed policy frameworks, except for energy poverty
- Major gaps in research
- Just transition discussion still too limited and possibly counter productive
  - Paramount to discuss interlinkages between different dimensions of sustainability to achieve SDGs and the Paris agreement
  - Discussions ahead of next EC and EP on Europe's post 2020 agenda (e.g reflection paper)



# Problem analysis: what relationships between people in poverty and the state of the natural environment?



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**What access to and reliance on natural resources/ecosystems services for livelihoods, access to essential goods and well-being?**

**What capacity to cope with environmental shocks** (information, income, coping networks and mechanisms)?

**What relationship with other vulnerabilities and constraints** (access to quality housing, health services)?

**What scale and scope of future risks with BAU** (climate change, biodiversity)?

## **Key socioeconomic variables**

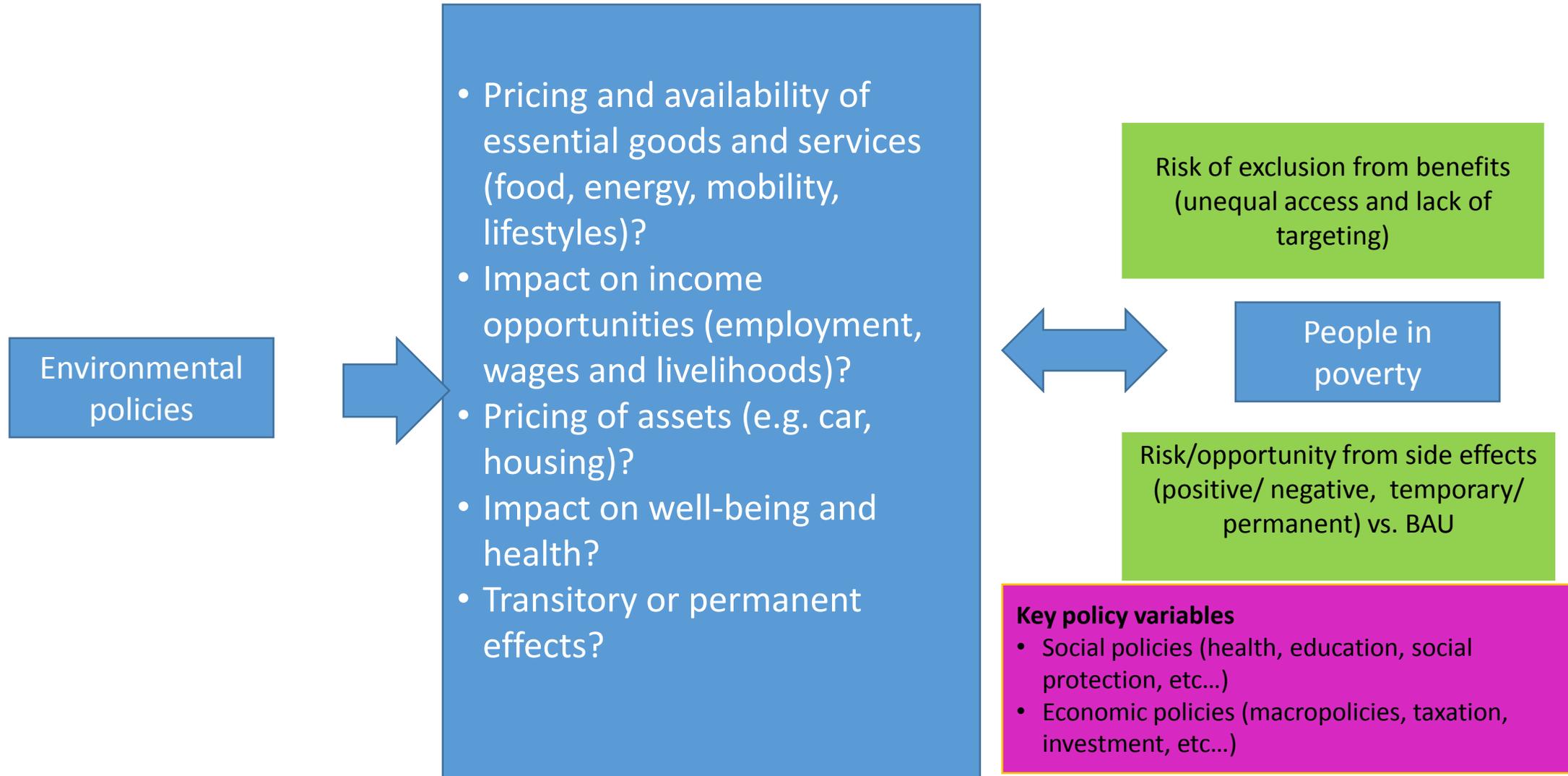
- Degree of poverty
- Household composition
- Rural/urban
- Age
- Country and region (incl. Outermost regions)
- Sector of occupation
- Minorities/indigenous peoples

**What exposure to pollution and other environmental hazards** (degree of exposure and multiplicity of hazards)?

Are there **specific behaviours and cultures** vis-à-vis the natural environment?

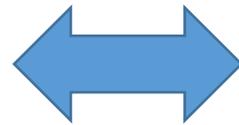
- **118 million people at risk of poverty** (ranging between 13% and 40% among member states)
- 37.8 million people affected by **severe material deprivation** (none in some MS, up to 1/3 in others)
- 15.4% of Europeans in **poor dwelling conditions**
- 8.7% of Europeans **unable to keep their houses warm**
- **Single parents with dependents**: 48% greater likelihood of being at risk of poverty
- **18-24 most at risk as age group** (Eurostat, 2018)

# Problem analysis: what relationships between poverty and environmental policies?



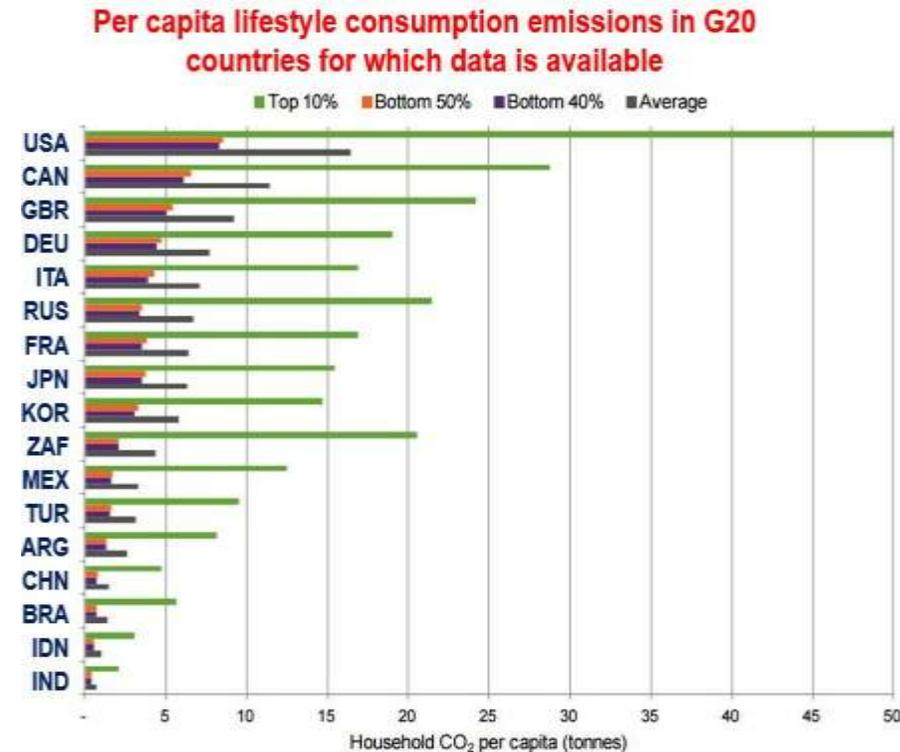
# Problem analysis: what relationships between multidimensional inequality and the environment?

Environmental status and environmental policies



## Multidimensional inequality

- Income and wealth
- Gender
- Minorities
- Intergenerational
- Geographical



Source: Oxfam, 2015

# Towards solutions: time for a paradigm shift?

EU 7<sup>th</sup> Environmental Action Programme 2015-2020

Priority objective: to safeguard citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and well-being



Living well, within the limits of our planet  
7th Environment Action Programme

European Environment Agency

European Pillar of **#SocialRights**

