## Managing the climate transition in cities and regions

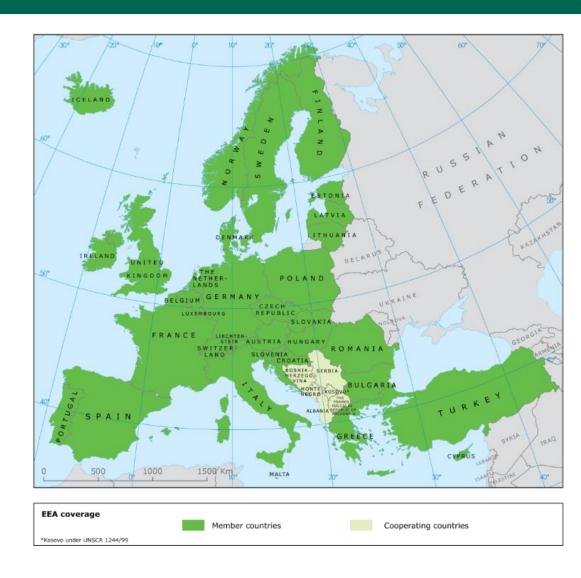


Jock Martin, Head of Programme – Integrated Environmental Assessment European Environment Agency



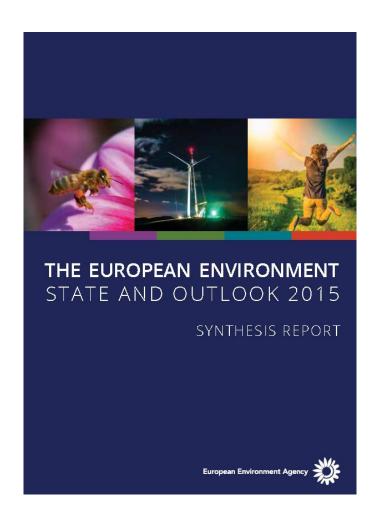
## The European Environment Agency

- European Environment Agency: an EU agency working at the science-policy interface
- Network organisation: Eionet includes more than 300 institutions in 39 European countries
- EEA work is targeted at EU institutions,
   EEA member countries, civil society
   organisations and the general public





## Key messages from our latest 5-year report in 2015

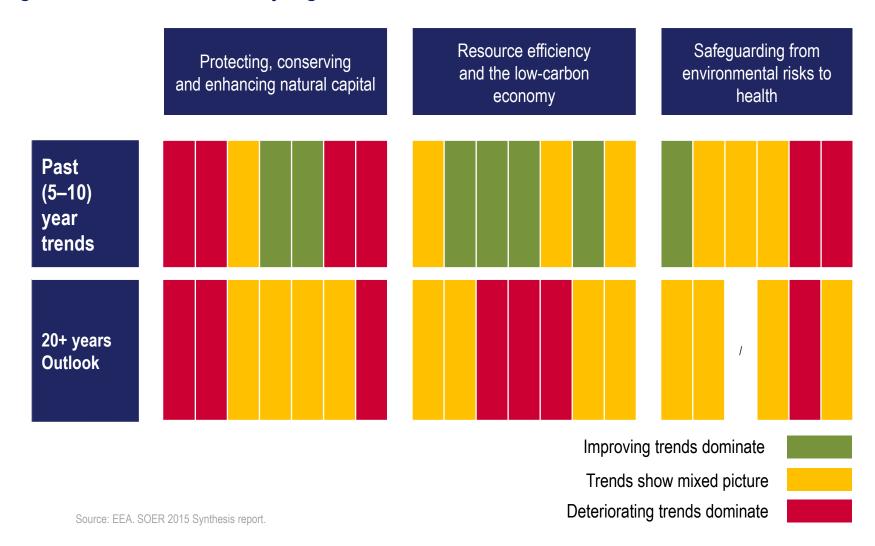


SOER 2015 concluded that the outlook for Europe's environment in coming decades is worrying.

Achieving the EU's 2050 vision of "living well within environmental limits", will require "fundamental transitions, in key systems of production and consumption, most notably, food, energy, mobility and housing as well as fiscal and finance systems that drive them."

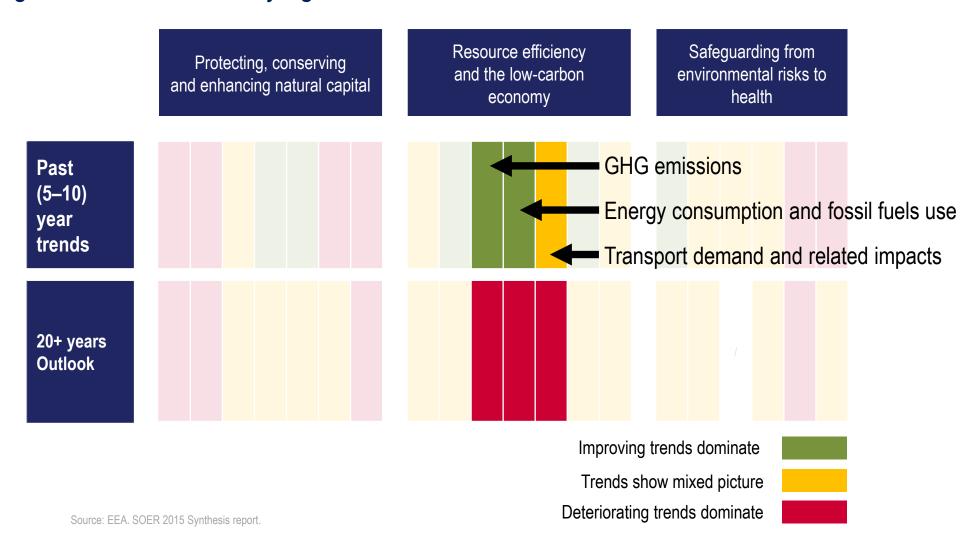
### **SOER 2015 conclusions**

Efficiency improvements have not secured long-term resilience and the long-term outlook is worrying

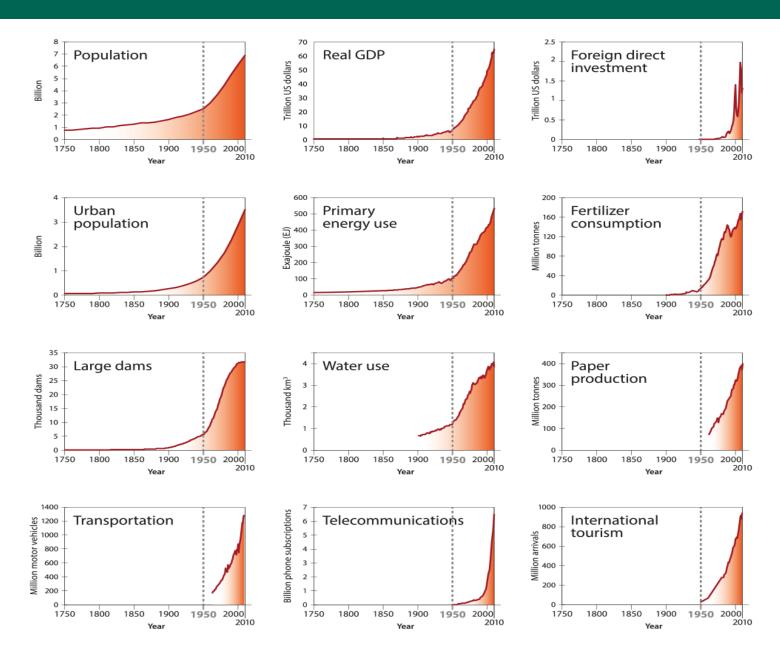


### **SOER 2015 conclusions**

Efficiency improvements have not secured long-term resilience and the long-term outlook is worrying



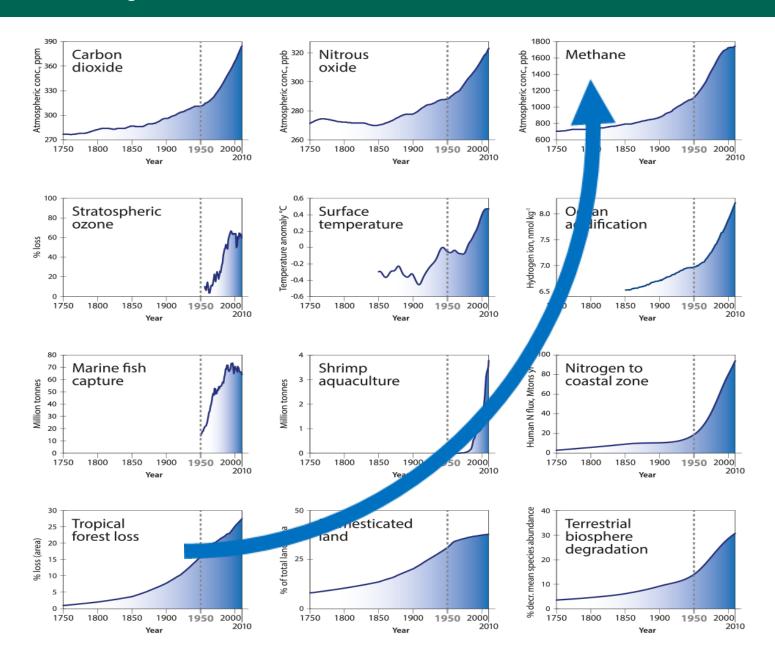
### Global socio-economic trends



Globalisation of unsustainable systems of production and consumption



## **Earth system trends**



Expectations / policy promises

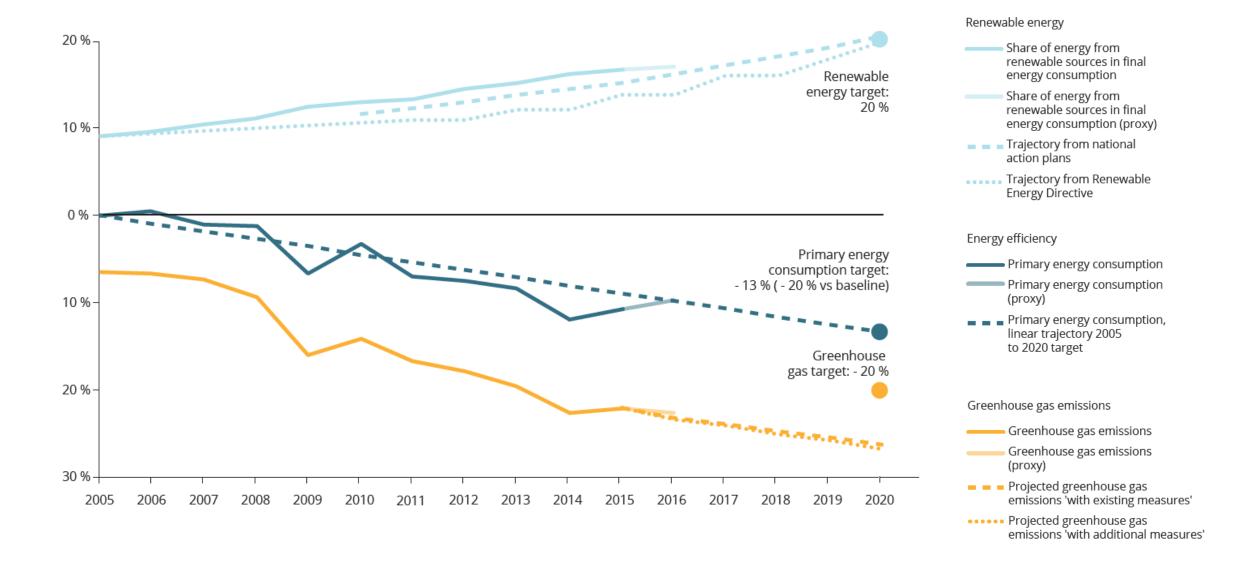


OR

How credible?
How feasible?
What sort of policies and knowledge?

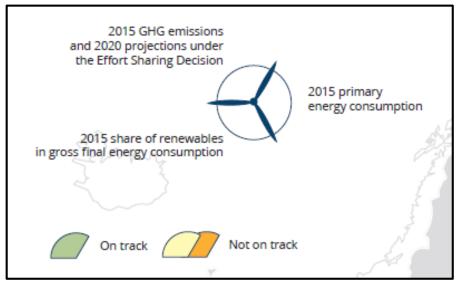


## We are broadly on course to achieve the 2020 targets

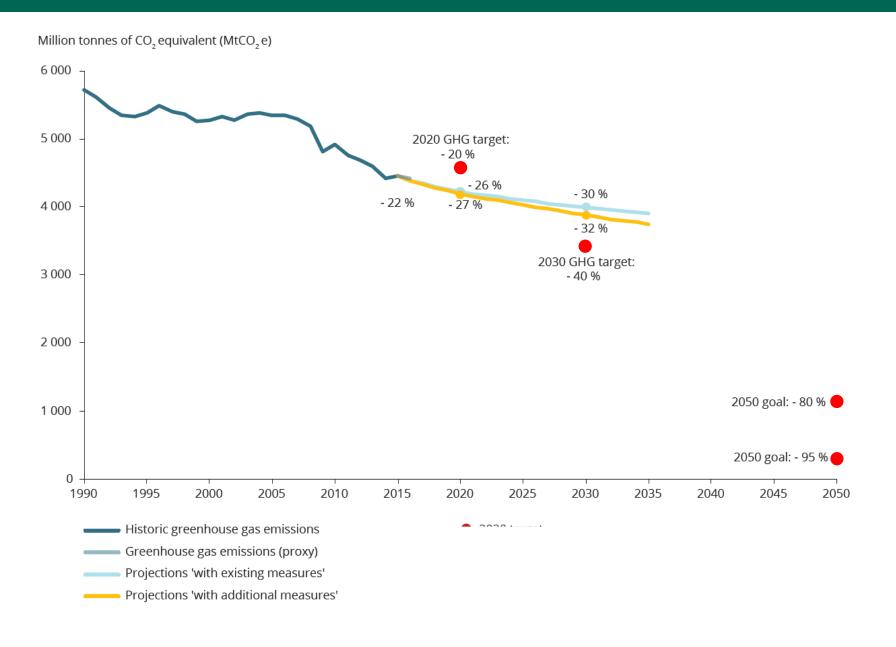


## We are broadly on course to achieve the 2020 targets





## Achieving the 2050 goals remains a major challenge



## What role for the power sector?

Vision for 2050 implies a fundamental transformation

The power sector is at the heart of all decarbonisation plans, requires steep sectoral GHG emission reductions:

- by 48–66% by 2030
- by 90–98% by 2050 (compared to 2005)

The **Energy Union** fosters the progressive integration of energy infrastructures and markets to support decarbonisation, but ...

... long lifetimes of power plants and tied up capital

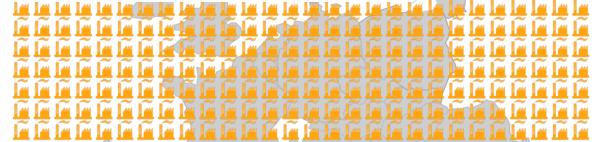


## We face significant lock-ins to established systems

Total overcapacity: 278 – 347 units

 $(56 - 69 \, \text{GWe})$ 

Up to 190-240 gas-fired units could be stranded assets



Up to 110-150 coal-fired units could be stranded assets

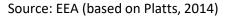




If existing and planned units were operated according to extended lifetimes...

1/3 of the capacity of all coalfired and gas-fired units, respectively, would be in excess in 2030, and thus at risk of becoming stranded

1 Unit = 200 MWe



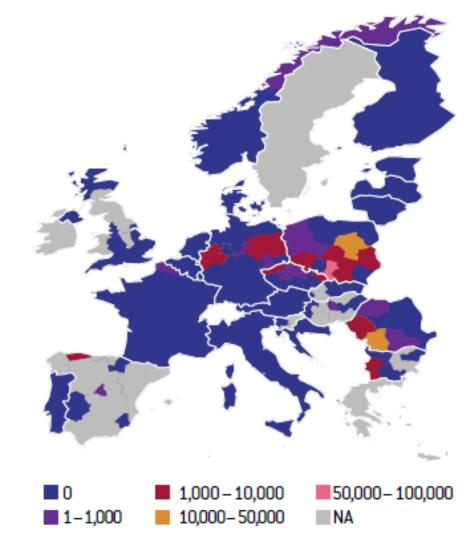


## Transitions impact livelihoods and communities

Coal mining employment in EU countries and regions

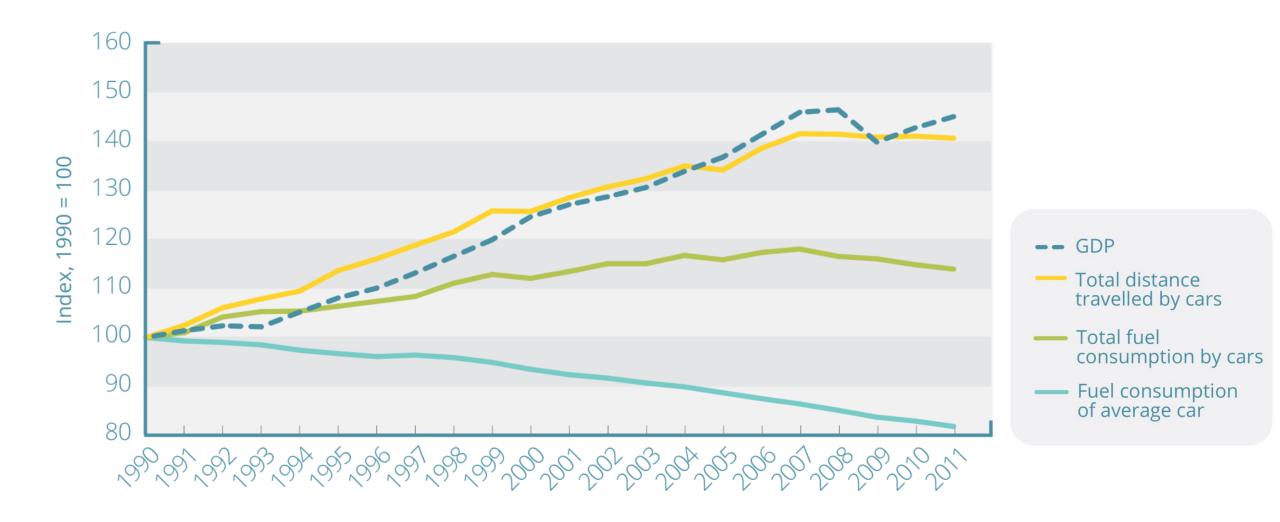
"Taking into account the imperatives of a just transition of the workforce and the creation of decent work and quality jobs in accordance with nationally defined development priorities"

Paris Agreement, 2015



Source: Bruegel based on Eurostat (2017).

## Rebound effects limit the impact of efficiency gains







# Challenges for established governance approaches

IEA/IRENA, 2017: CO<sub>2</sub> prices in the 66% 2°C scenario (USD/tonne CO<sub>2</sub>)

	2020	2030	2040	2050	Annual % increase 2020-2030	Annual % increase 2020-2050
<b>OECD</b> countries	20	120	170	190	19.6	7.8
Major emerging econ's	10	90	150	170	24.6	9.9
Other regions	5	30	60	80	19.6	9.7

Rockström et al. (2017) estimate the need for \$400 /tonne CO<sub>2</sub> by mid-century

#### **Political reality**

- Highest annualised growth rate in diesel tax rates in EU-15 (1995-2015): Sweden 2.5%
- Highest annualised growth rate in petrol tax rates in EU-15 (1995-2015): Greece <1%</li>



# Sustainability transitions

#### **Transitions**

= **fundamental shifts in the systems** that fulfil societal needs, through profound changes in *dominant* structures, practices, technologies, policies, lifestyles, thinking ...

... in line with the sustainable development ambitions and objectives embedded in the **Sustainable Development Goals** 



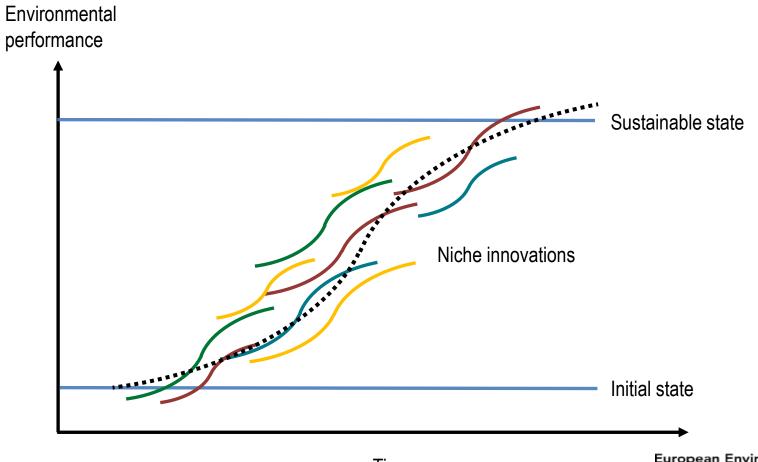






# Rethinking how we meet societal needs

Systemic change involves multiple innovations – entailing a fundamental rethinking of how to perform societal functions

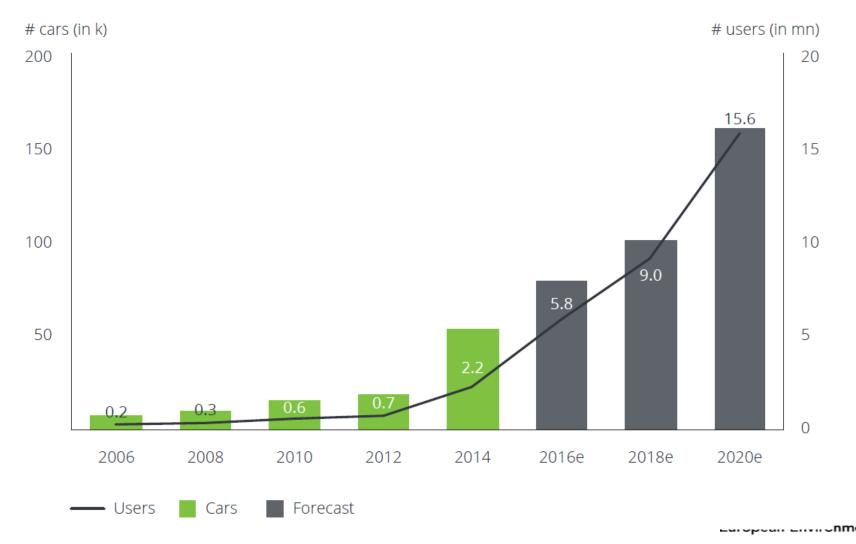


Source: Loorbach



## Niches and policies that can create change

Car sharing market development in Europe (2006–2020)

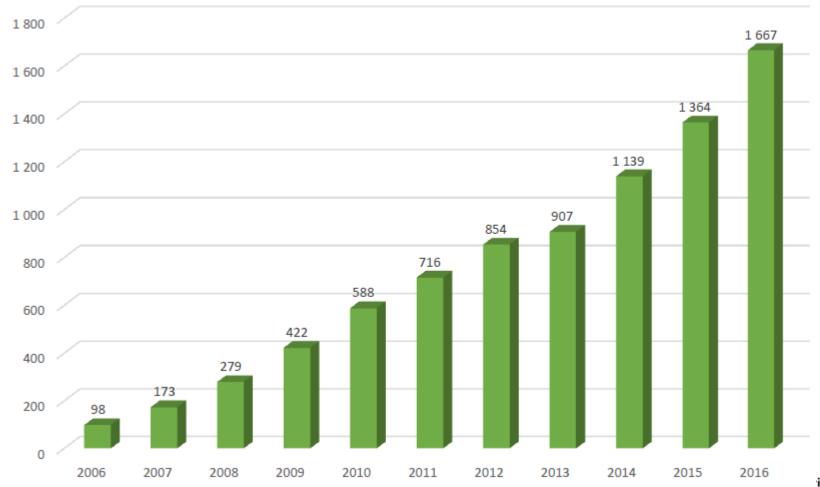




Source: Monitor Deloitte

## Niches and policies that can create change

### EU-28 electric bike sales (2006–2016)







# Policy mixes for systemic change

#### Directionality, credibility

- Visions and pathways
- Long-term targets
- Scale and speed
- Foresight

Environment and sectoral policies, e.g.

- Carbon pricing

'windows

stments occur in req

- Strict regulation
- Removing barriers (e.g. subsidies)

Regime

Coordination across sectors, scales

- Policy coherence and consistency

cape developments put pressure on ex

- Mission-oriented innovation

visions.

- Polycentric governance
- Stakeholder platforms, networks

Welfare, education policies

- Compensating losers
- Offsetting inequities
- Retraining

Innovation policies, e.g.

- R&D
- Experiments
- Network building
- New entrant support

Industrial policy, e.g.

- Specific visions
- Market creation
- Adoption subsidies
- Backing winners

basis of expectations and

Time

Source: Geels



## Opportunities for polycentric governance

- Polycentric governance is proliferating, notably in climate governance
- COP15, Paris Agreement and the US withdrawal

Immediately after Trump's announcement, 900 American businesses, 300 mayors and numerous universities announced that they were 'still in' the Agreement and willing to do what it takes to ensure the US delivers on its pledge, at least on emissions if not finance.

Jordan et al., 2018

#### Polycentric governance depends on:

- overarching rules goals, visions, targets, etc.
- monitoring and evaluation for trust, learning and credibility

