



Mainstreaming of environmental accounts activities in Europe

**Anton Steurer – Eurostat E2 – Environment
statistics and accounts; sustainable development**

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Mainstreaming - definition used here

Two main components:

- Get environmental accounts into the mainstream statistical system (no more experiments but regular production with permanent improvement) – achieved in the EU with legal base, part of multi-annual work programme, long-term funding and staff...)
- Get the environmental accounts needs into the other mainstream areas, such as the mainstream national accounts, energy, business, transport, forestry, agriculture..... statistics.

Europe's progress in environmental accounting

- Handbooks and voluntary data collections – updates 2014-5
- European **Strategy** for Environmental Accounts – 2014
- Legal acts:
 - **Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 on European environmental economic accounts** - 3 modules with data transmission obligatory since 2013:
 - Air emissions (14 pollutants x NACE A*64 + households)
 - Environmental taxes (4 types x NACE A*64 + households)
 - Material flow accounts (some 50 categories -> Direct Material Consumption indicator to measure resource productivity)
 - **Regulation No 534/2014 amending 691/2011 in force since 16 June 2014** adds 3 new modules with data transmission obligatory from 2017:
 - Environmental protection expenditure account
 - Environmental goods and services account
 - Physical energy flow accounts

Overview of RE indicators from official statistics

STATISTICS and ACCOUNTS

- *Land cover and land use statistics (and accounts)*
- *Energy statistics (and accounts)*
- *Waste statistics and other waste legislation (Waste Data centre)*
- *Chemicals*
- *Water statistics (and accounts)*
- *Forestry statistics (and accounts)*
- *Environmental accounts*
- *EE SUIOT*

Some INDICATORS

- Land use indicators*
- Protected areas*
- Energy efficiency*
- CO2 early estimates*
- Renewable energy*
- Waste generation (activity/waste category)*
- Waste Treatment (Recycling, incineration...)*
- Municipal Waste generation and treatment*
- Hazardous waste*
- ...*
- Production harmful / toxic chemicals*
- Exploitation of water resources*
- Wastewater treatment*
- Forest surface*
- Resource productivity*
- Domestic material consumption (DMC)*
- Environmental taxes / protection expenditure indicators*
- GHG emissions and air pollution*
- Carbon footprint / RMC*

Next steps – the new European Strategy for Environmental Accounts 2014-2018

The 3rd 5-year strategy after ESEA 2003 and 2008 – adopted by ESSC on 15 May 2014. Main elements:

- Further improve quality of 1st set of modules (air emissions, environmental taxes, material flows)
- Promote uses of available data (e.g. footprints)
- Faster publication & early estimates for EU aggregates
- Implement 2nd set of modules (EPE, EGSS, PEFA)
- **Invest in statistical infrastructure (classifications, cooperation with other statistical areas...)**
- Develop methods/test new modules (water, forests, environmental subsidies, resource management)
- (Assist EEA on ecosystem accounting)
- (Implement climate-change related statistics)

Mainstreaming – current focus

- Environmental taxes – ensure full coherence with national accounts, make national accounts incorporate function code of taxes
- COFOG – ensure better quality for environment heading (05), expand data collection process to cover resource management, new climate related transactions
- Better and faster SUTs and IOTs
- Close cooperation with energy statistics for energy accounts and also air emissions accounts
- Review water and forestry statistics