



Classification of environmental activities

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Questions for the LG

- 1. Structure integrated classification: discuss relative merits of the 2 proposals**
- 2. Energy storage: is it environmental activity?**
- 3. Construction of energy-efficient buildings: it is environmental activity?**

Background

1) SEEA CF Research Agenda

Conceptual issues

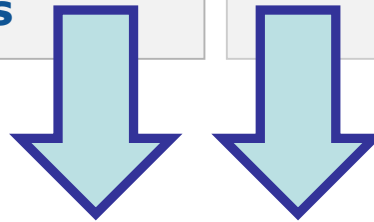
- **3. Definition of resource management and structure of the resource management expenditure accounts**

Implementation issues

- **1. Implementation issues related to classifications**

2) Experience from ongoing data collections in Europe

Guidance to compilers on boundary cases and scope



Eurostat Task Force on the classification of environmental activities

+ debate in the 2018 meeting of London Group

Three topics selected for LG discussion

- 1. Structure integrated classification**
- 2. Energy storage**
- 3. Construction of energy-efficient buildings**

Topic 1: Structure of future classification environmental activities

Whether to keep environmental protection (EP) and resource management (RM) separate or combined

EP & RM separate (‘small revision’)	EP & RM combined (‘large revision’)
EP part will remain largely unchanged as in CEPA	No constraints regarding structure
RM part will be substantially revised from CReMA	Distinction EP - RM confuses users
Some continuity with past	Existing time series will be lost
Existing time series may be preserved	Current separation EPEA – ReMEA will be lost

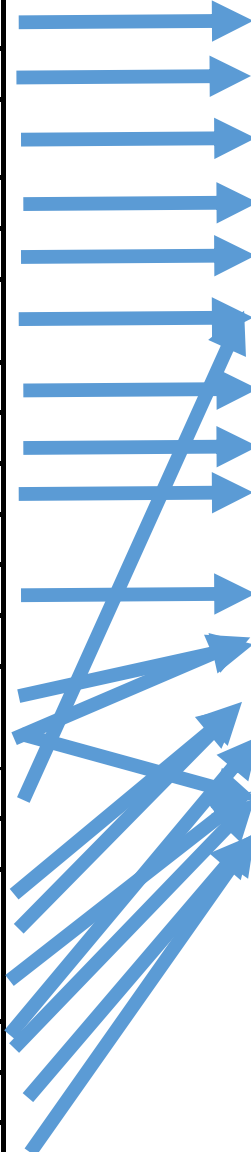
Proposal EP & RM separated

CURRENT

EP
1. Protection of ambient air and climate
2. Wastewater management
3. Waste management
4. Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater and surface water
5. Noise and vibration abatement
6. Protection of biodiversity and landscapes
7. Protection against radiation
8. R&D for EP
9. Other EP activities n.e.c. and indivisible
RM
10. Management of water
11. Management of forest resources
11A. Management of forest areas
11B. Minimisation intake forest resources
12. Management of wild flora and fauna
13. Management of energy resources
13A. Production of energy from renewable sources
13B. Hear/energy saving and management
13C. Miniminsation intake fossil energy resources as raw material
14. Management of minerals
15. R&D for RM
16. Other RM activities n.e.c. and indivisible

NEW

EP
1. Protection of ambient air and climate
2. Wastewater management
3. Waste management
4. Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater and surface water
5. Noise and vibration abatement
6. Protection of biodiversity and landscapes
7. Protection against radiation
8. Environmental research and development
9. Other environmental protection activities
RM
10. Water management
11. Sustainable forest management – natural and cultivated forests
13. Management of energy resources
14. Mineral management
15. Material recovery
16. Research and other activities (*)

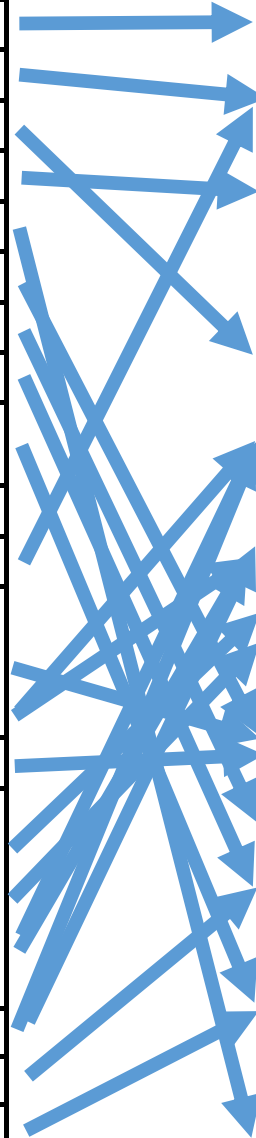


Proposal EP & RM merged

CURRENT

NEW

EP
1. Protection of ambient air and climate
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16. Other RM activities n.e.c. and indivisible



1. Protection of ambient air and climate
2. Wastewater management and activities aimed at reducing inland water input
3. Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater, surface and marine water
4. Waste treatment, recovery and minimization of material use
4.1 Waste management
4.2 Recycling/Recovery
4.3 Minimizing of the intake of forest, fossil and mineral resources
5. Energy: Renewable energy and heat/energy saving and management
6. Protection, maintenance and management of inland and marine biodiversity, flora and fauna
7. Protection against radiation (excluding external safety)
8. Research and development
9. Other environmental protection and resources management activities
10. Noise and vibration abatement

Some considerations

- Intricate in
 - **Recycling/recovery**
 - **Minimising intake of forest, fossil and mineral resources**
 - **Energy (renewables, savings, management)**
 - **Protection, maintenance & management of biodiversity, flora and fauna**
- Categories at level 1
 - **Are the topics relevant to users?**
 - **Number of categories (exigency for compilers)**
- Split EP & RM
 - **Relevance to users vs maturity of statistics**
 - **Added clarity vs break with the past**

Questions for the LG

1. Discuss the relative merits (strengths and weaknesses) of the 2 proposals:

- EP & RM separated
- EP & RM combined

Topic 2: energy storage

- The case of pumped-storage hydropower stations
 - **They store energy**
 - **They balance out peaks in supply and demand of energy**
- Is this an environmental activity? Choose one:
 - a) **Yes, it is energy production**
 - b) **Yes, it is energy storage**
 - c) **No, it is not environmental**
- Important precedent for: smart electricity grids, (large) batteries, hydrogen and compressed-air storage, etc.

Questions for the LG

2. Energy storage:

- **Is it environmental activity?**
- **Where does it belong in the classification?**

Topic 3: energy efficient buildings

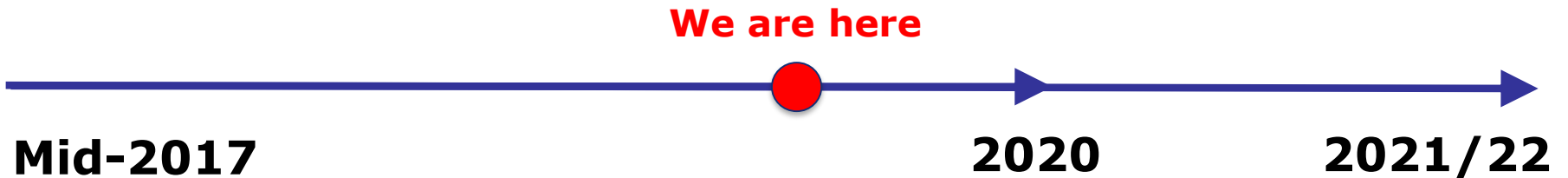
- 2 situations:
 - **energetic refurbishment of existing buildings**
 - **construction of new energy-efficient buildings**
- First one is clearer
- Second one is more controversial
 - **Moving benchmark of what's 'nearly zero-energy buildings'**
 - **Energy efficient buildings is getting the new standard**
 - **construction (of new buildings) dwarfs other environmental activities (circa 6% GDP vs 2% GDP)**
 - **Full costs vs. extra costs?**

Questions for the LG

3. Construction of energy-efficient buildings: it is environmental activity?

- *Do you have a practice in your country?*
- *What is your view?*

Timeline



Short-term objective – clarification of existing classifications (borderline cases, explanatory notes)

Long-term objective – assist develop a proposal for an integrated classification system

Questions for the LG

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Where
- 3. Construction of energy-efficient buildings: it is environmental activity?**

Thank you!



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