

# **Environmental Statistics**

# Environmental Statistics

## Environmental Data

### Purpose

Produce objective, reliable and comparable environmental statistics at international level to support the work of the Environmental Policy Committee and, in particular, OECD work on environmental indicators, environmental performance reviews, environmental outlooks and environmentally sustainable development. Collect the best available environmental data in OECD member and partner countries and promote international harmonisation of these data (core set of environmental data).

Contribute to the biennial publication of the OECD Compendium of environmental data and to the update of the OECD System of Information on Resources and the Environment (SIREN) database.

### Objectives and outputs

Provide a strong factual knowledge and quantitative basis for the OECD's analytical work on environment and sustainable development (e.g. outlook and strategy, sustainable development, environmental performance reviews, indicators). Strengthen the capacity of member and selected non-member countries in the field of information management concerning the environment and sustainable development.

Contribute to the international harmonisation of environmental data, definitions and concepts, and the cost-effectiveness of related international work.

The biennial process of data collection and treatment will produce the 2004 "Compendium of OECD Environmental Data".

Review of the OECD questionnaires on the state of the environment and on environmental expenditure and revenues (joint work with Eurostat for European Union, EFTA and EU accession countries; co-operation with UNSD for non-OECD countries): review of definitions and classifications, consistency with European and other international developments, prioritisation of data requests; use of new international data sources.

### Publications

Environmental Expenditure in OECD Countries

OECD Environmental Data Compendium

### Databases

SIREN (System of Information on Resources and the Environment)

## Main Developments for 2004

### General aspects:

Development of a Collaborative Plan of Action on Environmental Data Quality, linked to "OECD Quality Frameworks". Improved data quality in selected areas (continued work).

Draft revision of questionnaire for air (2004), wild life and biodiversity (2004-2005), marine environment (2005-2006).

Greater use of other international data sources that became recently available, in particular at European level, focusing on "data efficiency", "coherence among countries" and "interpretation".

**Data collection:**

Ongoing revision of the questionnaire sections (joint work with Eurostat).

**Data management:**

Project to facilitate the transfer of selected environmental reference series to the new OECD statistical information system OECD.stat.

# Environmental Statistics

## Environmental Indicators

### Purpose

Develop core sets of reliable, measurable and policy-relevant environmental indicators to contribute to: measuring environmental performance with respect to environmental quality, environmental goals and international agreements; integrating environmental concerns in economic and sectoral policies; monitoring progress towards environmentally sustainable development, including decoupling of environmental pressure from economic growth.

### Objectives and outputs

Provide sound, measurable and policy-relevant tools for OECD's work on environment and sustainable development (e.g. outlook and strategy, environmental performance reviews, sustainable development, economic analysis) and support related member and selected non-member countries' efforts: indicators to support policy and performance efforts; indicators to support communication efforts.

Further development of sectoral indicators: agri-environmental indicators (see related activity description), and development of a set of tourism-environment indicators (jointly with the Statistical Working Party of the Tourism Committee).

Development of waste prevention indicators and further development and refinement of indicators to measure decoupling of environmental pressure from economic growth (link to sustainable development; link to material flow analysis).

Expanded use of environmental indicators in the second cycle of country environmental performance reviews, with a focus on environmental decoupling indicators.

### Publications

Indicators for the integration of environmental and sustainability concerns into tourism policies

Indicators for the integration of environmental concerns into transport policies

Indicators to measure decoupling of environmental pressure from economic growth

Key Environmental Indicators

OECD Core Environmental Indicators

### Databases

Environmental indicators

## Main Developments for 2004

### General aspects:

Updated OECD key environmental indicators (KEI); propose a set of sectoral environmental and sustainability indicators for tourism; further development of waste prevention indicators; update and development of environmental decoupling indicators; further development of biodiversity indicators (subject to funding).

# Environmental Statistics

## Environmentally Related Taxes

### Purpose

To provide harmonised information on environmentally related taxes in support of the OECD work on economic and environment policy integration; to monitor and assess the use of economic instruments, draw policy conclusions and develop practical guidelines for their implementation.

### Objectives and outputs

The OECD/EU database on environmentally-related taxes provides many details concerning environmentally-related taxes, fees and charges levied in OECD member countries. The primary focus of the database is on pollution-oriented levies and tax-bases, but levies related to certain categories of resource management have also been included. The tax-bases covered include energy products, transport equipment and transport services, as well as measured or estimated emissions to air and water, ozone depleting substances, certain non-point sources of water pollution, waste management and noise, in addition to the management of water, land, soil, forests, biodiversity, wildlife and fish stocks.

Through co-operation with the European Environment Agency, the coverage of the database has been broadened to include 10 OECD non-member countries affiliated to EEA.

### Databases

Environmentally related taxes

### Main Developments for 2004

#### General aspects:

A complementary database on the use of other economic instruments (tradable permits, deposit-refund systems and environmentally motivated subsidies) and voluntary approaches used in environmental policy has been prepared in co-operation with the European Environment Agency.

This database is also available on the Internet and users can make certain queries into both databases simultaneously. A web-based updating routine common for both databases is under construction.

#### Data collection:

A web-based updating routine is under construction and should become operational early in 2004. Once it is operational, contact persons will be asked to provide updated information on tax rates and tax rules as of 1.1.2004.