

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS)

This documentation is valid for the reference period:

2008-2013

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Executive Summary

The objective of „Environmental Goods and Services Sector“ is the comprehensive presentation of the output generated with environmental goods, technologies and services as well as the associated employment according to a concept of Eurostat¹.

For this purpose an annual evaluation has been carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management since 2009 (reporting year 2008). Thematically it is connected to the work on eco-industries² of Statistics Austria.

Data are based on the following Eurostat definition³: „The environmental goods and services sector consists of a heterogeneous set of producers of technologies, goods and services which are spread across all industries. Environmental goods shall prevent or at least minimise, treat, measure and research environmental damages. *Resource depletion shall be avoided to a large extent by the use of resource efficient goods, technologies and services or at least minimised as well as measured, controlled and researched.*“ The main purpose of these goods, technologies and services must be environmental protection.

This standard-documentation refers to the period 2008 to 2013 for which only output generated with environmental goods, technologies and services and the related employment (in persons) were calculated.⁴ The concept of Eurostat also intends the calculation of environmental gross value added, exports as well as employment in full time units. At national level these data will be calculated starting in 2017 (as from reporting period 2014). Reference is made to the relevant standard-documentation.

Goods, technologies and services are broken down into groups of environmental protection or resource management activities. Environmental protection activities are based on the [CEPA](#) classification, resource management activities on the CReMA classification. Data are available one year after the end of the reporting period (t+1); more specifically for 2008 to 2013. EGSS is a part of the environmental accounting system and therefore complies with the criteria of national accounts. Data collection runs across all industries and relates different environmental media. In doing so, different views of the results are relevant. Data are shown by the following breakdowns:

- Results are presented by goods (adapted goods and connected products), technologies (end-of-pipe and integrated technologies) and services (including ancillary activities).
- Data are shown by environmental domain by means of [CEPA](#) classification (Classification of Environmental Protection Activities and Expenditure⁵) as well as CReMA classification (Classification of Resource Management Activities). CReMA was specifically developed for the breakdown of resource management activities.
- In addition data are distinguished between private industries and the general government sector whereby private industries are classified according to the classification of economic activities ÖNACE 2008 and the product classification ÖPRODCOM at 2-digit-level, respectively.

The Eurostat methodology was first implemented by several Member States like Austria in 2009.⁶ In subsequent years a database of harmonised information on economic activities related to environmental protection and resource management was created. For this purpose the first data collection was carried out among all Member States in 2011. In 2014 a legal basis in form of a regulation⁷ entered into force. Hence, data on EGSS are collected obligatorily throughout Europe and reported to Eurostat starting with 2017 (years under review 2014 and 2015). This

¹) Eurostat, 2009, manual EGSS, and 2016, EGSS handbook.

²) Latest version: Petrovic, 2009.

³) Eurostat, 2009, manual EGSS.

⁴) See also the relevant standard-documentation.

⁵) Eurostat, European nomenclature of environmental domains

⁶) Wegscheider-Pichler, 2009.

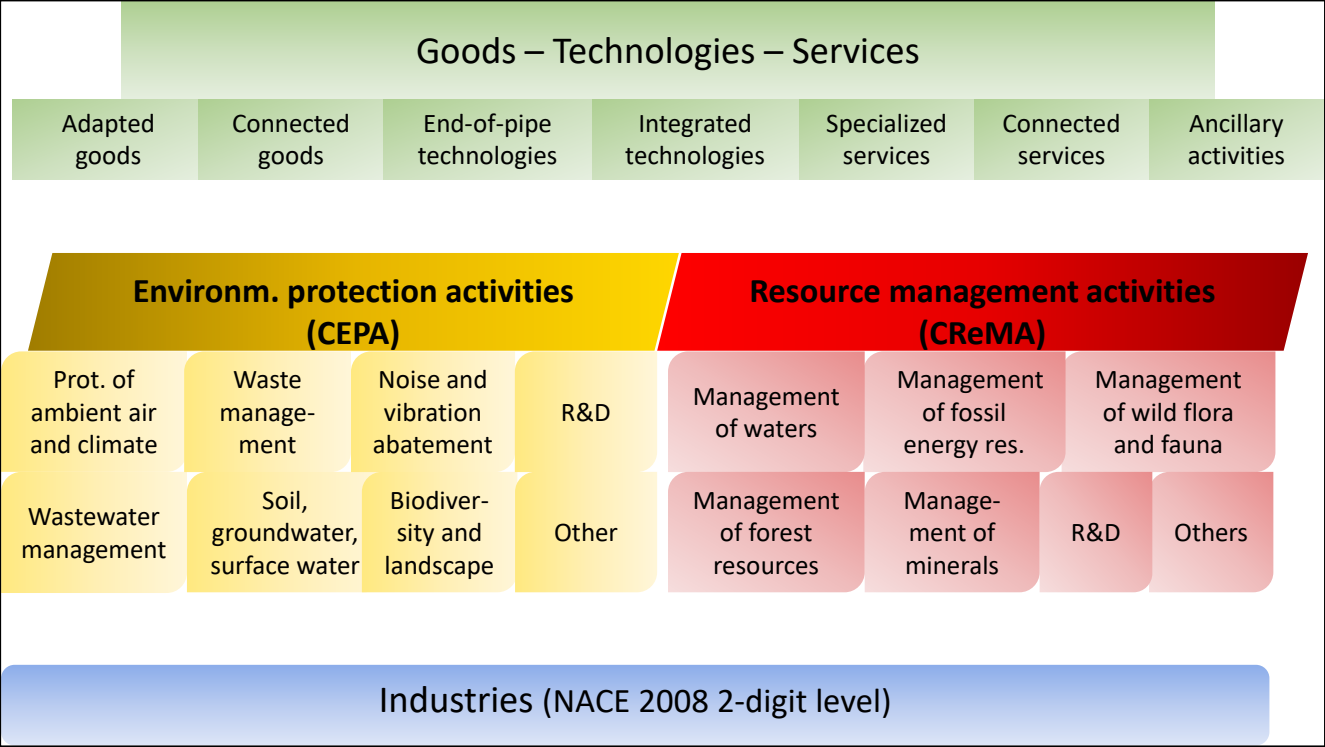
⁷) Regulation (EU) No. 538/2014,

standard-documentation refers to the period 2008 to 2013 for which this regulation was not yet valid.

The EGSS manual contains comprehensive guidelines and recommendations for data collection. In general different methods are proposed and a combination of them recommended, as appropriate. Accordingly, Austria uses a mix of methods, preferring supply side data, i.e. data of producers. In a few cases also demand side data are used for data calculation. If these data are not available at all or not in the required scope or level of detail, internet research, specialist literature as well as expert estimations are used. Data applied for the calculations are inter alia production data of short term statistics, data of structural business statistics, information on organic farming from the Green Report and environmental protection expenditure accounts. In addition data of companies specialised in environmental technologies and goods are taken into account.

At national level rough estimations of environmental employment in wholesale and retail were carried out until 2012. At international level environmental trade was not taken into account to avoid double counting. Since 2013 employment data for public transport activities are calculated at national level in addition to the data according to Eurostat. At international level public transport activities are not taken into account as by definition they do not belong to the scope of EGSS.

Figure 1: Different breakdowns of the environmental goods and services sector



Environmental Goods and Services (EGSS) 2008-2013 – Main Features	
Subject matter	Presentation of the output generated with environmental goods, technologies and services as well as associated employment according to a Europe-wide consistent concept
Population	All environmentally relevant goods, technologies and services
Type of statistics	Accounts with small share of primary statistics
Data sources/Survey techniques	<p>Basic statistics of Statistics Austria; e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term statistics in manufacturing • Structural business statistics • Environmental protection expenditure accounts • Austrian energy balances • Business register <p>Other data sources; e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social insurance associations (employment data) • Green report (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management) • Reports (e.g.. Innovative energy technologies in Austria, housing subsidies in Austria) • Company reports • Voluntary survey by telephone among approx. 100 companies of environment industry on their environmental share of output and employment.
Reference period or due day	Calendar year
Periodicity	Annual
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Voluntary
Main legal acts	<p><u>National legal act:</u> Contract with Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.</p> <p><u>EU legal act:</u> not valid for the period reported</p> <p>Regulation (EU) No. 691/2011 of the European Parliament and the Council of 6 July 2011 on European environmental economic accounts was added by a module on EGSS in 2014 (Regulation (EU) No. 538/2014) but this regulation is not relevant for the considered period.</p>
Most detailed regional breakdown	Austria; federal provinces (2008 – 2013t) by means of separate order
Availability of results	T + 1 year preliminary results, t + 2 years final results
Other	-