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ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

THEME 8 – 3/2000

ENVIRONMENT

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Environmental Protection Expenditure by EU Institutions

In 1997, 8.2% of the total Budget of the European Institutions was attributed to environmental protection

by Inger Öhman

Protection of the environment is one of the major challenges of the European Institutions. The increasing share of EU budget dedicated to environment protection is a clear indication of the increasing political importance of this topic within the EU. As a result of an analysis of the EU budget, this document indicates the financial resources allocated to environment protection, including breakdown by environmental domain and by destination.

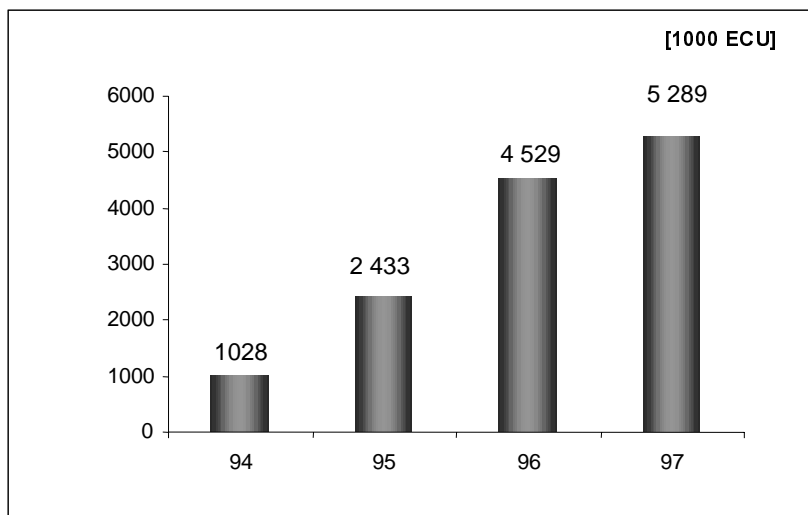


Figure 1: EPE by the European Institutions

Environmental Protection Expenditure (EPE) accounted for 2.1%, 4.9%, 7.4% and 8.2% of the total operational budget * for years between 1994 and 1997. These amounts include transfers allocated to Member States, non-allocated expenditure transferred to Commission bodies, e.g., the Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the European Environmental Agency (to a lesser extent) and transfers to extra-EU countries.

During the period 1994-97 the amount allocated to environmental protection has increased significantly, showing a mean annual growth rate of 51%. The yearly percentage changes of 137%, 86% and 17% show that the strongest percentage increase occurred over the period 1994/95. The largest increase in absolute terms was in the period 1995/96.

**Administrative and staff costs are not included in this part of the Budget that represents approximately 95% of total EU-Budget.*



90% of EPE was allocated to Member States

[1000 ECU]

Member States received the largest share of EPE. Values range from 92% at the start of this period (1994) to 88% at the end (1997).

Member States plus non-allocated expenditure form Intra-EU EPE. 95% of the total EPE was allocated to Intra-EU.

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Member States	947 293	2 259 217	3 603 771	4 695 376
Intra EU Non-allocated	24 451	82 581	570 762	429 975
Intra EU	971 744	2 341 798	4 174 533	5 125 351
Extra EU except AC	55 839	90 681	306 865	114 448
Applicant Countries (AC)	731	813	47 737	48 891
Extra EU	56 571	91 494	354 602	163 339
TOTAL EPE	1 028 315	2 433 292	4 529 134	5 288 690

Table 1: Destinations of Total EPE: Intra-EU and Extra EU

The proportion of intra-EU non-allocated expenditure varied over these years. 1996 showed the highest value, 13.7% of total expenditure. At the start of the period non-allocated EPE was around 3%.

Extra-EU EPE (5% of total EPE) refers to transfers allocated to third countries.

In 1996 extra-EU EPE recorded its highest value, 8% of total EPE.

In 1996 the European Union accorded priority to the development of co-operation with the countries of central and eastern Europe.

Applicant Countries have been estimated separately within the extra-EU group.

Over this period only around 1% of EPE has been allocated to Applicant Countries. The mean annual growth rate was nevertheless 186%.

Components of EPE: Core and Non-Core expenditure

[1000 ECU]

Core EPE is the expenditure that is addressed to the 'traditional' environmental domains covered by the CEPA, the classification used by economic environment statistics (see Methodological Notes). CEPA includes the following environmental domains: 'Air & Climate', 'Wastewater', 'Waste', 'Biodiversity & Landscape', 'Soil & Groundwater', 'Radiation', 'Research & Development', 'Other activities'.

In 1994 Core-EPE was 86% of the expenditure, in 1995 only 79%, while in 1996 and 1997 the proportion stabilised at around 86%.

Non-Core expenditure is included in other policy fields, ie., 'Energy', 'Transport', 'Agriculture', 'Civil Protection', 'Consumers Protection' and 'Urban Areas'.

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Core	889 363	1 913 402	3 899 621	4 544 678
Current	448 548	887 594	2 274 990	2 605 043
Capital	440 815	1 025 808	1 624 632	1 939 635
Non Core	138 952	519 890	629 513	744 012
TOTAL EPE	1 028 315	2 433 292	4 529 134	5 288 690

Table 2: Components of EPE: Core and Non-Core EPE

[1000 ECU]

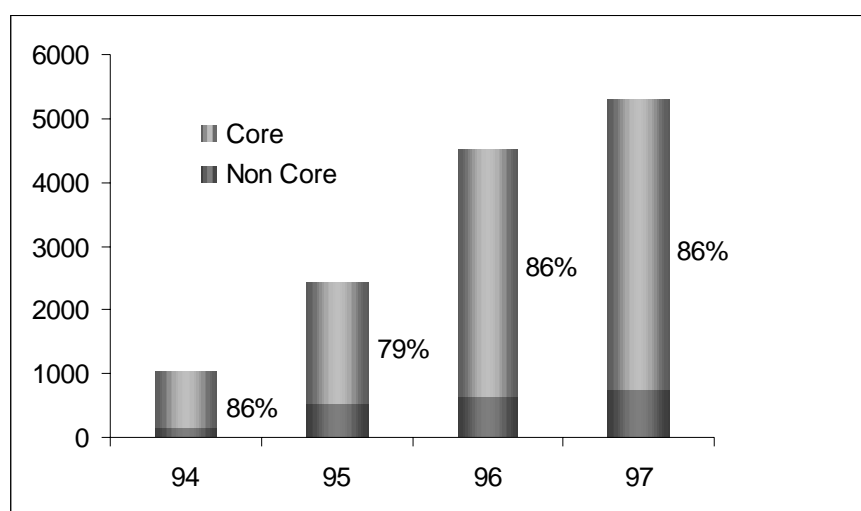


Figure 2: Core and Non-Core EPE

'Biodiversity & Landscape' received 1/3 of Core EPE

Over the total period 1994/97 the predominant domains in Intra-EU Core EPE were 'Biodiversity & Landscape', 'Wastewater', 'Soil & Groundwater' and 'Air & Climate'. In 1994 the first domains were 'Air & Climate' and 'Biodiversity & Landscape' with 25% and 24% respectively while 'Wastewater' reached 17%.

[1000 ECU]

	1994	1995	1996	1997
Current	393 297	808 623	1 939 836	2 448 236
Capital	440 815	1 025 808	1 624 605	1 939 623
Intra EU	834 112	1 834 431	3 564 442	4 387 859
Current	55 251	78 971	335 153	156 807
Capital	0	0	27	12
Extra EU	55 251	78 971	335 180	156 819
TOTAL EPE	889 363	1 913 402	3 899 621	4 544 678

Table 3: Core EPE: Current and capital transfers by destination

Relevant components in these domains are LIFE Natura and other budget lines such as EAGGF, ERDF, Rechar, Resider and the Cohesion Fund.

During 1997 "Research & Development" reached its highest proportion over this period, i.e.10%.

Capital transfers are predominant in the following domains: 'Air & Climate', 'Wastewater' and 'Waste'.

The majority of these transfers are used for the acquisition or production of assets (equipment). They can be used for the production of equipment goods that might include technology for the prevention of atmospheric pollution or the building of wastewater and waste treatment plants. In all other domains current transfers are predominant or exclusive.

In 'Soil & Groundwater' 'Biodiversity & Landscape', 'Research & Development' and 'Other Activities', transfers are typically current. Their uses are more diffuse and not necessarily addressed to the acquisition or production of assets.

Extra-EU expenditure amounts to 4% of Core EPE. Current transfers are predominant. Nevertheless during 1996 and 1997 capital transfers have also been registered.

For Extra-EU, the predominant domains over the period 1994/97 are 'Research & Development', 'Other Activities', 'Biodiversity & Landscape' and 'Radiation'.

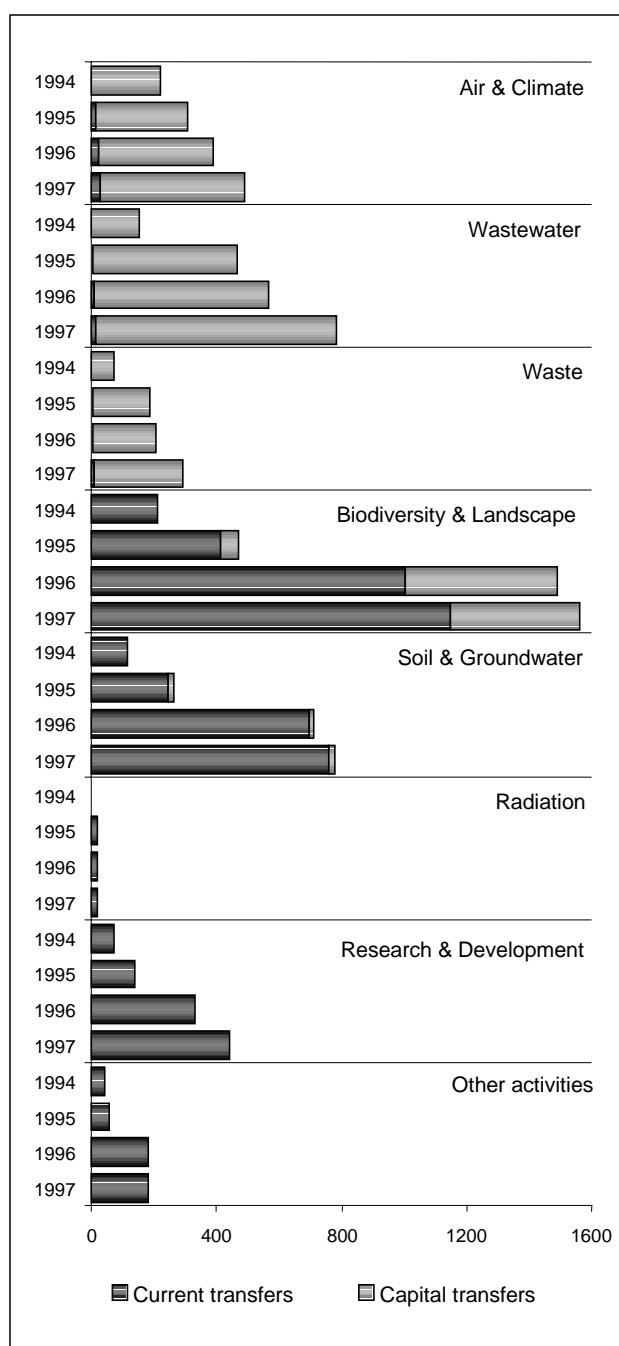


Figure 3: Profile of Core EPE by Environmental Domain: current and capital transfers

‘Transport’ was the main proportion of Non-Core EPE

The predominant shares of Non-Core EPE in Intra EU are those of ‘Transport’, ‘Agriculture’, and ‘Energy’ all of which showing similar values. Major components of ‘Transport’ are managed through the Cohesion Fund and other community measures on sustainable mobility. At the start of the period ‘Agriculture’ and ‘Energy’ were the only recipients.

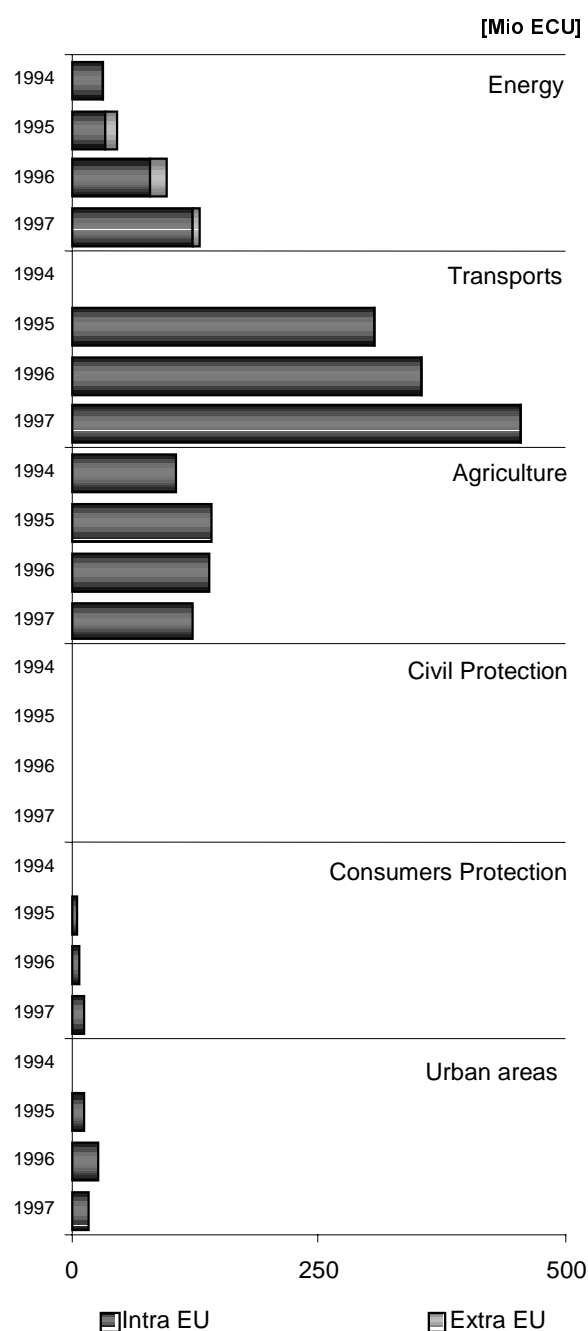


Figure 4: Non-Core EPE by objective

[1000 ECU]

	Total	Intra -EU	Extra-EU
Total 97	744012	737492	6521
Energy	129859	124709	5150
Transports	455938	454868	1070
Agriculture	124797	124797	0
Civil Protection	747	747	0
Consumers Protection	13764	13463	301
Urban Areas	18909	18909	0
		0	0
Total 96	629513	610091	19422
Energy	97633	79420	18213
Transports	354703	353925	778
Agriculture	140693	140693	0
Civil Protection	1114	1114	0
Consumers Protection	8342	7911	431
Urban Areas	27029	27029	0
Total 95	519890	507367	12523
Energy	47203	35263	11940
Transports	307401	307209	192
Agriculture	143809	143809	0
Civil Protection	1040	1040	0
Consumers Protection	5902	5511	391
Urban Areas	14533	14533	0
Total 94	138952	137632	1475
Energy	32498	31177	1475
Transports	0	0	0
Agriculture	105094	105094	0
Civil Protection	1360	1360	0
Consumers Protection	0	0	0
Urban Areas	0	0	0

Table 4: Destinations of Non-Core EPE

Over the period some 99% of Non-Core expenditure went to the EU economic territory, of which approximately 99% has been allocated to Member States.

‘Energy’ took the predominant share (95%) of Non-Core EPE in Extra-EU. It reached 5%, 25%, 19% and 4% of total Non-Core in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997, respectively.

Other predominant objectives for Extra EU EPE were ‘Transport’ and ‘Consumer Protection’.

Core EPE by Member State

Amounts of 810, 1 756, 3 001 and 3 959 million ECU were allocated to Member States in 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 respectively.

[1000 ECU]

	1994	1995	1996	1997
EU-15	809 683	1 756 342	3 000 628	3 959 205
B	13 121	20 366	27 180	54 591
DK	7 184	10 382	14 708	32 046
D	190 395	333 188	381 853	492 169
EL	54 882	102 588	152 884	226 904
E	110 038	564 761	537 550	743 548
F	137 973	168 710	236 337	377 056
IRL	40 912	107 809	141 797	222 126
I	48 893	138 156	219 340	548 824
L	732	4 851	6 774	12 905
NL	9 159	15 206	20 280	61 514
A	239	5 003	553 192	276 841
P	71 243	201 971	234 616	334 270
FIN	34	3 267	270 812	164 079
S	235	5 856	48 083	106 599
UK	124 643	74 227	155 223	305 734

The countries with the highest increases are the new Member States, i.e. Austria, Finland and Sweden. This was due to the compensation which these countries were to receive under the Act of Accession.

For the Cohesion Fund countries, i.e., Greece, Spain, Ireland and Portugal, only Spain and Ireland were above the EU annual growth rate, with 61% and 53% respectively. For these countries the strongest increase was recorded during 1994/95. This was due to the full implementation of the Cohesion Fund in 1995.

Transfers to the other Member States do not show any specific pattern. Over the period only a few countries have exceeded the EU increase rate. These are Luxembourg, Italy and The Netherlands with 105%, 83% and 61% respectively.

The United Kingdom, Germany and France recorded the smallest annual growth rates, 25%, 27% and 29% respectively.

Table 5: Core EPE by Member State

All countries showed a strong increase in the amount of transfers allocated to environmental protection. 49% is the mean annual growth.

The strongest yearly increase for EU-15 occurred in 1994/95 (117%). In 1995/96 and 1996/97 it rose by 71% and 32% respectively. This indicates a slowdown in the trend of relative increase consistent with present stringency applied to public budgets.

Figure 5 illustrates the proportion over the total period of Core EPE received by each Member State. Spain (21%), Germany (15%), Italy and France (10%) closely followed by Portugal and Austria (9%) receive the largest proportion of transfers allocated to environmental protection.

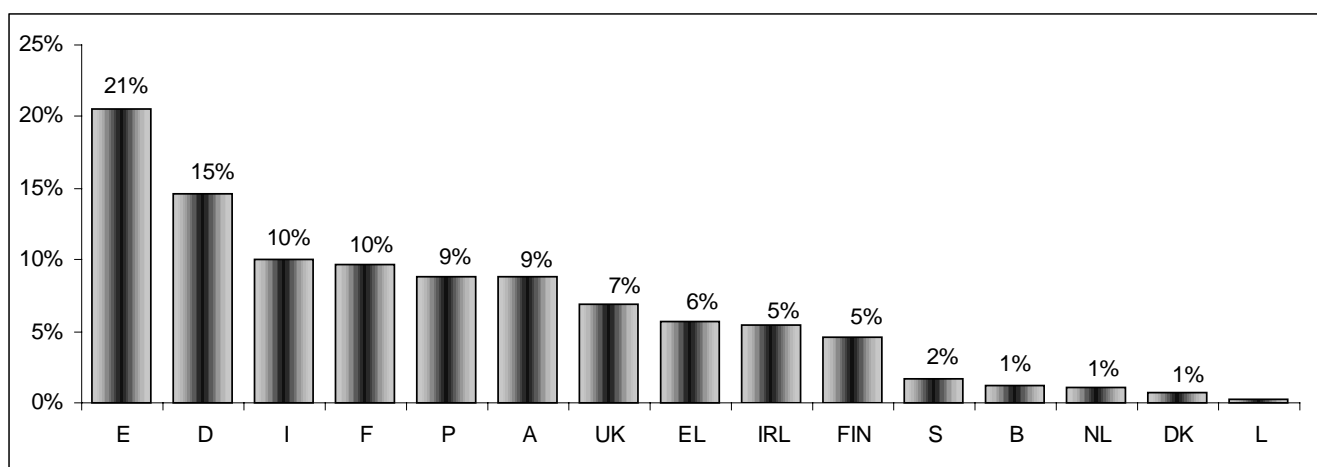


Figure 5: Core Intra-EU EPE: percentage by Member State over the period 1994-97

Breakdown per environmental domain by Member State

The analysis of the breakdown of core EPE by environmental domain and Member State has been made on the basis of the average values over the period 1994/1997, due to the unevenness of yearly patterns.

Comparisons between countries are impaired by the fact that Member States have different situations relating to geographical conditions, economic development, environmental regulation and culture leading to different environmental problems and actions.

For Denmark, Germany, France, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Austria, Finland and Sweden the primary domain was 'Biodiversity & landscape', exceeding 30%.

For the remaining countries this domain was lower than 20% and ranked in second or third position.

'Wastewater' was most important in Greece, Spain and Portugal and second in several other countries.

'Soil and Groundwater' is the second domain in Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Finland and Sweden.

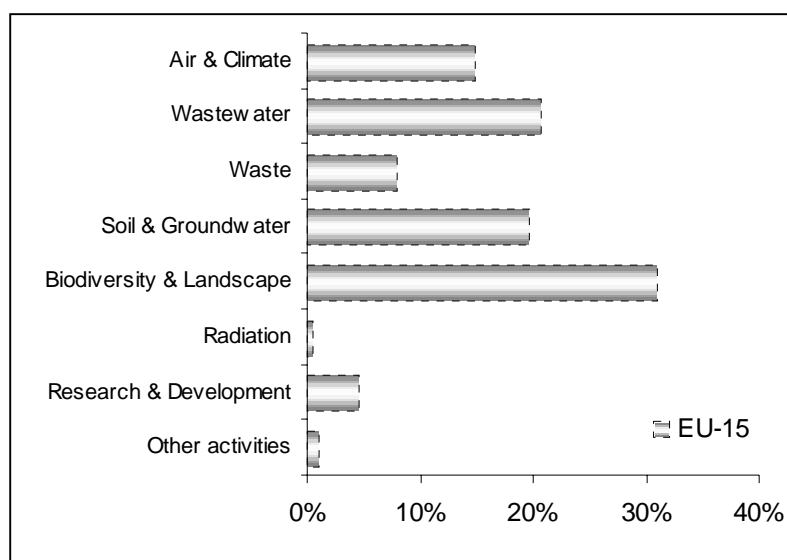


Figure 6: Core EPE by Environmental Domain 1994-1997

'Air and climate' alternated in several positions, and, although accounting for only 15% of the total was still the first domain for Belgium, Luxembourg and the UK.

'Waste' alternated between third and fourth position in four countries, Spain, Luxembourg, Greece and Portugal.

'Research and Development' accounted for 5% of total transfers. It reached its highest value in Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands and the UK.

Germany, France and Italy showed a common pattern concerning the first three domains, i.e., 'Biodiversity & landscape', 'Soil and Groundwater' and 'Wastewater'.

The Cohesion Fund countries, with the exception of Ireland, had 'Wastewater' as the primary domain and 'Biodiversity & landscape' as the second domain.

The table below shows the values by Member State for the latest year over the period.

[1000 ECU]

	Air & Climate	Waste-water	Waste	Soil & Ground-water	Biodiversity & Landscape	Radiation	Research & Dev'tment	Other activities
EU-15	488 303	780 461	292 138	776 867	1 201 557	16 720	372 245	30 914
B	10 629	7 310	3 905	1 219	4 508	3 366	20 899	2 754
DK	4 067	2 431	1 086	2 819	9 269	77	11 326	971
D	68 576	35 799	15 666	141 104	162 369	2 735	62 517	3 403
EL	33 541	128 154	24 031	4 571	27 418	203	7 072	1 914
E	118 808	277 541	94 214	22 243	206 253	169	21 594	2 728
F	47 356	66 605	20 309	74 331	90 645	4 151	70 769	2 890
IRL	12 995	66 296	5 331	48 875	85 008	56	2 070	1 494
I	48 830	32 636	14 715	184 374	231 391	567	35 048	1 262
L	3 308	1 547	878	2 144	2 249	1 695	191	893
NL	7 534	4 822	2 713	6 281	9 070	270	28 661	2 162
A	2 331	1 002	752	129 930	136 190	56	6 237	344
P	48 611	110 604	79 241	24 687	66 869	31	2 995	1 231
FIN	4 327	2 935	883	67 469	79 767	101	8 359	238
S	2 936	2 506	1 220	41 377	47 425	52	10 386	697
UK	74 453	40 273	27 196	25 442	43 126	3 191	84 121	7 932

Table 6: Core EPE by Environmental Domain and Member State in 1997

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

EPEA the Environmental Protection Expenditure Account Core Expenditure

The European System for the Collection of Economic Information on the Environment (SERIEE) was designed as an environmental satellite account. Satellite accounts are developed to expand the analytical capacity of National Accounts in order to study selected areas of economy. Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts (EPEAs) are being developed by Member States under Eurostat co-ordination.

Budgetary Analysis

Budgetary analyses are developed to supply information for National Accounts (ESA 1995) which is the conceptual basis for the production of these accounts in the European Union. To evaluate the expenditure of central government the majority of Member States produce a budgetary analysis, based on a functional approach (expenditure by purpose), of the public budgets, thus providing reliable estimates.

CEPA

CEPA is the single European Standard Statistical Classification of Environmental Protection Activities that gives the definition and scope of EPE. CEPA is structured by purpose of expenditure in terms of environmental aspects.

Sources and estimations

The main sources for this study were the 'Final adoption of the general budget of the European Union for the financial year' and the yearly 'Financial Report' of the European Communities. The budgetary analysis has been

The expenditure classifiable in CEPA by environmental domain has been called core expenditure. It includes the following groups: 'air & climate', 'wastewater', 'waste', 'soil & ground-water', 'biodiversity & landscape', 'radiation', 'research & development' and 'other activities'.

Non-Core expenditure

In official information produced by the Commission environmental concerns are included in policies supported by a few budget lines that could not be classified within CEPA. This type of expenditure, rather than being presented by a total, has been divided by policy objective, i.e., 'energy', 'transports', 'agriculture', 'civil protection', 'consumers protection' and 'urban areas'.

Intra-EU

This is the term used to refer to the sum of the economic territories of Member States plus the 'economic territory' of the European Union Institutions (extraterritorial enclaves located in several Member States).

Member States

Member States correspond to the sum of the economic territory of each Member State and excludes non-allocated expenditure.

Non-allocated expenditure

This is the proportion of the expenditure addressed to any agency of the EU Institutions and included in the EU Budget.

produced on the basis of the payment budget (actual spending). This ensures consistent accounting procedures with the National Accounts. Only the operational budget 'Budget B' has been used for this analysis.

This expenditure cannot be allocated to a Member State.

Extra-EU

Within the external action of the European Union, allocations are made in favour of third-countries. The sum of the economic territories of these countries is called Extra-EU.

Applicant Countries

Within the economic territory outside the European Union (extra-EU) the proportion of the expenditure addressed to Applicant Countries has been separated. Applicant Countries are Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovenia and Cyprus.

Capital transfers

Capital transfers involve the acquisition or disposal of an asset, or assets, by at least one of the parties of the transaction. Whether made in cash or in kind they should result in a commensurable change in the financial or non-financial assets shown in the balance sheets of one or both parties to the transaction.

Current transfers

Are unrequited payments which contribute to the financing of environmental protection activities. They include mainly subsidies, current transfers to households and current international cooperation.

The selection of budget lines was based on the definition of environmental protection expenditure included in SERIEE while the breakdown by environmental domain is based on CEPA.

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➤ Data bases

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