

Eurostat's plans to promote environmentally-extended input-output analysis

Topic: Eurostat: Updating Supply and Use Tables, further extensions

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Over the past decade, environmentally-extended input-output analysis has bloomed. Concerns over the environment coupled with increasing data availability are the main drivers of this development. The collection of environmental accounts as official statistics has followed suit. It is deemed of great importance that the available environmental accounts should be actively and accurately used. Especially NSIs could make more use of the environmental accounts they produce, for example to support policy making. Also the EU is in need of scientifically sound approaches to analyse environmental pressures and shortages in resources, now and in the future.

This paper describes Eurostat's strategy for promoting input-output modelling with environmental accounts based on official statistics. Eurostat's aim is to promote the use and analysis of environmental accounts by enabling NSIs that currently lack capabilities and resources to undertake these kinds of analyses. Relatively simple calculation methods will be made available as ready-to-use tools, for example to support the analysis of air emissions and material flows from a consumption perspective or to support structural decomposition analysis. The paper elaborates on the ways in which Eurostat works towards providing standardized methods and it presents the tools currently under development to facilitate capacity building within NSIs.