

Paper waste and recycling

Dimension - Environment

Associated Key Factor:

Attitudes and implementation of principles relating to sustainable development

Data Source:

European Recovered Paper Association

http://www.erpa.info/statistics/recycling_rates_2000.htm

<http://www.erpa.info>

General Availability:

Reporting unit: per cent
Reporting level: national
Reporting period: annually
Data available from 1998 to 2000

Data Source:

European Topic Centre on Waste and Material Flows

<http://waste.eionet.eu.int/>

General Availability:

Reporting unit: 1000 tonnes
Reporting level: national
Reporting period: annually
Data available from 1983 to 2001

The indicator:

Indicates how much waste paper and cardboard is produced and which quantities are recycled.

Description

Means percentage of recovered paper utilisation compared to the total paper consumption. The recycling rate definition used by the industry differs from the one introduced in the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (94/62/EC). The latter does not take into account the recycling of converting losses (clippings, shavings, etc.). Furthermore, the calculation used by the industry only takes into account the recycling taking place within Europe. In other words, recovered paper collected in Europe but exported outside Europe to be recycled there does not contribute to the recycling rate as calculated in connection with the European Declaration.

How is it measured?

Based on surveys, information gathered from by waste dumps and recycling companies.

What are the advantages of the indicator?

The indicator can be helpful, if the material flows of recycling and waste processing are set into relationship with the production of new articles.

What are the disadvantages of the Indicator?

It is not clear to what extent the creation of waste and recycling create transport.

What is the policy relevance of the indicator?

Policies regarding material flows in an economy have an influence on the development of transport demand. Therefore these materials flows should be considered when applying policies regarding minimum recycling shares.

The Indicator is relevant for the following pathways of the FORESIGHT FOR TRANSPORT exercise: