

Chapter 1.2 - Institutional Arrangements

Introduction



The German inventory is generally complete regarding the main pollutants, TSP, particulate matter and CO. National total emissions of these pollutants are considered to be representative and reflect the current emissions situation. Nevertheless, there are some cases where no appropriate method or data is available. It's assumed that these cases do not have a noticeable effect on the national totals and are in the range of its uncertainties.

In terms of heavy metals and POPs, the situation is different due to the low data availability. As additional information, there is a [specific overview on the completeness of the German POP inventory available](#).

Germany does not report any emission data for years prior 1990. Due to the split into GDR and BRD before 1990, there are no consistent data sets covering what is now the reunited country. Germany has no plans to work on emission inventories for the years 1980 to 1989 in the future. However, some summarizing information on the time span 1970 to 1989 is presented below, also comparing these data to the current emission inventory.

Completeness in detail

The completeness of the German inventory as a whole has also been assessed by multiple reviews, both under the CLRTAP and the NECD. These reviews all confirm the good coverage of the German inventory. Where there are small omissions, Germany is working continuously to update and complete its data.

The following sections reflect on a few approaches, by source category, for improving the completeness of the inventory.

Fuel combustion

In principle, all combustion-related activities (1.A) are recorded in full within the National Energy Balance (NEB) of the Federal Republic of Germany. Nonetheless, where it is evident that complete coverage is not achieved for certain sub-sectors (i.e. non-commercial use of wood, waste fuels), the NEB is supplemented with further statistical data, surveys etc. Moreover, there are frequent changes within the NEB, in particular concerning renewable energies. Such changes in fuel and source categories require considerable research work. Insofar, it's not always possible to implement all data in time. However, based on current information, combustion related activity data can be considered complete.

This also applies for the main pollutants, particulate matter and CO. There may be cases, where a further breakdown of activity data and emission factors would be more appropriate to represent any specific technology. In such cases, where the share of a specific technology is very small, the influence of a missing sub-division on the national totals is considered small, too.

In some source categories, separation of combustion-related and non-combustion-related emissions from industry requires further verification. In general, for such categories, avoidance of double counting is an important part of quality assurance.

In terms of heavy metals and POPs, emissions are not yet complete in some sectors due to a lack of appropriate emission factors. Since they may not properly reflect the situation in Germany and in order to avoid inconsistencies within the German inventory as a whole, it is not always advisable to use default emission factors. In addition, fixed default EFs do not reflect the influence of technological developments onto the trends of certain emissions. Nevertheless, many country-specific emission factors (which are highly uncertain) are available for all combustion plants. All key categories are reported.

Industrial processes

In the area of industrial processes, for the application of higher tier approaches some use is made of production data from association statistics and of manufacturers' information. In the interest of the inventory's completeness and reliability those data sets get specific QA/QC procedures. The inventory is considered complete for the main industrial processes.

Agriculture

In the area of agriculture, while survey data from a past research project on management systems in animal husbandry are available, an effort is being made to carry out periodic, representative data surveys, in the interest of the inventory's continuing completeness and consistency.