



ISIC Rev.4

Section E

United Nations Statistics Division



ISIC Section E

Water supply; sewerage,
waste management and
remediation activities



Why this section?

- ☐ A continuous request and need that ISIC reflect better environment-related activities
 - Should new detailed categories be introduced to facilitate the compilation of “Environmental Activities”?
 - What is the scope of “Recycling” in ISIC Rev.3?
 - ☐ Cause for confusion, since the general use of the “recycling” is much broader than what was intended in ISIC 3



Structure of ISIC 4 section E

- 36 "Water collection, treatment and supply"
- 37 "Sewerage"
- 38 "Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery"
- 39 "Remediation activities and other waste management services"

Affected ISIC 3.1 categories

- 37 "Recycling" (in "Manufacturing")
- 41 "Collection, purification and distribution of water" (in "Electricity, gas and water supply")
- 90 "Sewage and refuse disposal, sanitation and similar activities" (in "Other community, social and personal service activities")



Scope of Section E

- Section E represents an improvement in the treatment by ISIC of environment-related activities:
 - A new section that brings together important environment-related activities
 - Reflects better the way the industries are organized in these areas
 - Very useful for analytical purposes
 - More detail introduced (divisions, groups, classes)



Scope of Section E (2)

- Not all environment-related activities can be grouped in ISIC
 - What are “environment-related activities”?
 - CEPA (Classification of Environmental Protection Activities and Expenditure) has initially been considered as guidance, but was not appropriate for an industry classification



Water collection, treatment and supply; sewerage

- Divisions 36 and 37 represent the two complementing areas of activities of water cycle – therefore important to have them together from an environmental point of view
- A survey showed that activities of div. 36 and 37 are in half of all cases (countries) carried out by the same unit
 - Most countries are still able to statistically separate the data
 - Due to the importance of these two activities, they were not combined at the division level
- Note: Division level is the minimum requirement for international comparability



Changes / improvements in Section E

- Recycling removed from Manufacturing
 - Activity transforms waste into other forms of waste
 - No “new” goods are being produced
 - While waste is an (unintended) by-product of manufacturing processes, the concept of “waste manufacturing” does not exist, i.e. in manufacturing, waste cannot be the primary output
- Activities are grouped in a more analytically useful way
 - Former division 90 was grouped in a section with a variety of activities (Recreation, Hairdressing, membership organizations, ...)
- Activities included in former division 90 are better recognized in more detailed divisions, groups and classes



Terminology and scope

- The terms “environment”, “sanitation”, “recycling” are not used in the titles and notes
 - To avoid misinterpretation due to varying common use of these terms

- The scope of the section is not intended, can not and does not cover the entire spectrum of environmental type activities
 - There is not enough specialization in environmental areas to be reflected in an activity dimension
 - Could possibly be covered in a product dimension (SEEA)



Changes to ISIC structure

For Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities:

	ISIC Rev.3.1	ISIC Rev.4
Sections	0 (3)	1
Divisions	3	4
Groups	4	6
Classes	4	8

Note: ISIC Rev.3 division 90 covers also other activities.



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Division 36

☐ Scope:

- Water collection
- Water treatment (such as purification, desalination for water supply purposes, irrigation)
- Water supply
 - ☐ Distribution; not simple transport



Division 37

- Scope: Operation of sewerage systems and sewage treatment facilities
 - Collecting and transporting human waste water, rain water, waste water from industries
 - Treatment of waste water
 - Maintenance and cleaning of sewers and drains



ISIC Rev.4				ISIC Rev.3.1
38			Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities, materials recovery	
	381		Waste collection	
		3811	Collection of non-hazardous waste	9000*
		3812	Collection of hazardous waste	9000*
	382		Waste treatment and disposal	
		3821	Treatment and disposal of non-hazardous waste	9000*
		3822	Treatment and disposal of hazardous waste	9000*
	383	3830	Materials recovery	3710, 3720



Division 38

- ☐ 381 scope:
 - Collection of hazardous and non hazardous waste
- ☐ 382 scope:
 - Treatment and disposal
 - ☐ Dumping, burial, ploughing-under of refuse
 - ☐ Treatment, disposal of radioactive waste from hospitals
 - ☐ Waste treatment by composting plants
 - ☐ Treatment and disposal of toxic and contaminated waste
 - ☐ Treatment disposal by incineration or combustion
 - Including electricity production by waste incinerators
- ☐ Distinction between hazardous and non-hazardous is based on specialization of the process, not based on actual type of waste collected
- ☐ But: Collection, treatment, disposal of waste water is in 3700!!



Division 38

☐ Group 383 scope:

- The same scope as former division 37 (ISIC Rev 3.1 3710 + 3720)
- Separating, sorting, and processing waste and scrap in order to recover secondary raw materials
 - ☐ The input waste stream can take many forms:
 - Household waste
 - Industrial waste
 - Used cars and machinery etc.
- The input – waste and scrap – is unfit for direct use in an industrial process
- The output – secondary raw materials – is an intermediate good, fit for direct use in an industrial manufacturing process



Division 39

□ “Remediation activities and other waste management services”

- Covered in division 90 of previous version of ISIC, but not explicitly mentioned in class 9000

□ Includes:

- Decontamination of buildings, plants, mine sites, soil, surface or ground water
- Toxic material abatement (asbestos, lead etc.)
- Specialized pollution-control activities



How many units are affected?

ISIC Rev.4	ISIC Rev.3.1	Units	Employees
3600	4100	2372	45043
3700	9000	1926	34255
3811	9000	2519	65810
3812	9000	40	1809
3821	9000	2648	44145
3822	9000	100	4141
3830	3710	841	6723
3830	3720	1818	18429
3830	9000	25	1174
3900	9000	294	1870
E	Other	202	1649

□ Source: Destatis