

3. ENVIRONMENT

The environment comprises anything that creates natural conditions for the existence of organisms, including human beings, and is a prerequisite for their further evolution. Its components are especially the air, water, rocks, soil, organisms, ecosystems and energy.

Czech National Council Act No. 114/1992 Sb., on Nature and Landscape Conservation distinguishes six categories of especially **protected areas**:

Large protected areas:

- o National parks - large areas unique on a national or international scale, major parts of which are occupied by ecosystems, either natural or affected little by human activity, where flora, fauna and inanimate nature are of extraordinary scientific and educational significance;
- o Protected landscape areas - large areas with harmoniously shaped landscape, characteristic relief, a significant proportion of natural ecosystems of forest and permanent grass stands, a sizeable proportion of tree species and as the case may be, preserved monuments of historical settlements.

Small protected areas:

- o National natural monuments – small-scale natural formations (including those formed by human activity), with deposits of minerals and habitats of endangered species in fragments of ecosystems of national or international environmental, scientific or aesthetic significance;
- o National nature reserves – small-scale areas of extraordinary natural value, natural relief of which with a typical geological structure is tied with ecosystems significant at national or international levels;
- o Natural monuments – the same criteria as for national natural monuments apply. The significance is regional only;
- o Natural reserves – small-scale areas of concentrated natural value with ecosystems typical of and significant for the given geographical area.

Environmental protection expenditure includes investment expenditure on the acquisition of tangible fixed assets and non-investment expenditure related to environmental protection activities. **Tangible fixed assets (TFA)** for environmental protection are the sum expended by reporting units on acquisition of TFA (by purchase or own activities) and the total value of TFA acquired free or by transfer according to relevant legislation or by a change from private use to business. The **non-investment expenditure** for environmental protection includes wages and salaries, payments for rent, energy and other material, and payments for services the main purpose of which is to protect the environment.

Economic benefit from environmental protection activities refers to revenues from sale of environmental protection services, revenues from sale of by-products that originated at activities related to environmental protection and saving from recycling of by-products achieved thanks to measures taken to protect the environment.

Emission refers to a process of discharging xenobiotic substances of various states into the air. Emissions are given in terms of kilograms per hour or tonnes per year.

The amounts of the given pollutants discharged into the air are listed in the **Register of Emissions and Air Polluters (REZZO)**, which keeps records of the following types of polluters broken down by their thermal outputs: REZZO 1 (big stationary polluters), REZZO 2 (medium-size stationary polluters), REZZO 3 (small stationary polluters), and REZZO 4 mobile polluters (especially road and rail motor vehicles, vessels and aircraft).

Waste is any movable thing its owner disposes of or intends to dispose of or has the duty to dispose of, which is classified to a group of wastes listed in Act No. 185/2001 Sb. on wastes (the Waste Act). **Hazardous waste** is waste included in the List of Hazardous Wastes and any other waste exhibiting one or more hazardous characteristics listed in the Waste Act.

Waste management refers to gathering, concentration, collection, purchase, sorting, transport, storing, treatment, use and disposal of waste. The ways of waste management are divided to waste recovery (R-codes), waste disposal (D-codes), and other treatment operations (N-codes).

Municipal waste refers to all wastes generated within the municipality by the activity of natural persons, which is classified to Group 20 of the Waste List, except for waste produced by legal or natural persons holding a business licence. In this publication the municipal waste also includes commercial waste composition of which is similar to municipal waste and which is generated by non-production activities of legal or natural persons holding a business licence.

The area of water supply and sewerage systems embraces activities linked to the administration and operation of these systems, i.e. providing sufficient supply of good quality drinking water and removing sewage water, including its treatment. **Public water supply and sewerage systems** include water supply and sewerage systems established and run in the public interest. **Production of water** includes both invoiced and non-invoiced water. The sum of data for invoiced and non-invoiced water may differ from figures for the total production by amount of water received from or supplied to other organizations.

Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) are buildings and equipment used for treating wastewater in a mechanical, biological and/or another treatment stage. Equipment used for coarse pre-treatment of wastewater (racks, sand traps, oil traps, etc.), cesspools and simple devices with mechanical function, which are not monitored and operated regularly, are not considered to be wastewater treatment plants.

The capacity or WWTPs refers to design capacity (in m³/day). Higher capacity than the design capacity is given where implemented intensification measures have been approved by the water authority.