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EEA needs for climate change statistics

Reliable greenhouse gas emission data and indicators continue to be essential for policymakers to track progress to agreed emission reduction targets and analyze effectiveness of policies. Energy production and use statistics should have high accuracy, be available at national and also sub-national scales (such as cities) and be timely available for compilers of greenhouse gas inventories. Also other statistics are required such as on transport, industry, agriculture, land use and forestry. Managing adaptation to climate change provides new challenges. Increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events will require better seasonal data, for example in agriculture and forestry accounts and in the water sector. It will also require new geo-spatial statistics and indicators across scales, for example at river basin level, and for ecosystem functional units and services. For cost benefit analyses of mitigation and adaptation strategies new economic valuation approaches are needed for accounting ecosystem services in physical and monetary terms. Especially on costs of adaptation methodologies and data are needed on cost-effective measures. Statistical offices can help improving the required basic data and corresponding frameworks such as environmental accounting.