RESOURCES SAVED IN OPERATIONS

Indicator Phrasing

English: total amount of [specify the resource and unit] saved during [specify the time frame] thanks to the implemented environmental mainstreaming measures

French: montant total de [préciser la ressource et l'unité] économisé pendant [préciser la période] grâce aux mesures d'intégration des questions environnementales mises en œuvre

Spanish: cantidad total de [especifique el recurso y la unidad] ahorrada durante [especifique el plazo] gracias a las medidas de integración medioambiental aplicadas

Portuguese: quantidade total de [especificar o recurso e a unidade] poupadas durante [especificar o período de tempo] graças às medidas de integração das questões ambientais implementadas

Czech: celkové množství [uveďte zdroj a jednotku] ušetřené během [uveďte časový rámec] díky zavedeným environmentálním opatřením

What is its purpose?

This indicator measures the extent to which an organisation (or one of its branches or a specific project) adjusted operations to use less of a particular resource, such as electricity (for lighting, air conditioning, heating), water, fuel (for vehicles, generators), gas (for heating), water, waste or packaging materials.

How to Collect and Analyse the Required Data

To **determine the indicator's value**, it is necessary to calculate how much of a given resource was saved (i.e. not used) during a defined period thanks to the introduced environmental mainstreaming measures. This means that you need to know the following:

  - the original resource consumption (before measures were introduced);

  - the reduced resource consumption; and

  - whether the change was influenced solely by the introduced measures or if other factors influenced the reduction.

The methods required to get this data will vary significantly depending on the resource you are measuring, how and where it is used, etc. It is not within IndiKit's scope to provide guidance on all the resources and contexts. However, below you will find some **practical recommendations** that will make it easier for you to make reliable calculations:

  - **Prioritise resource** reductions which are likely to achieve the most prominent environmental benefits. For example, reducing the use of electricity or the amount of work-related travel is likely to have a greater impact than reducing printing to save paper.

  - When deciding on which resources to measure, **take into account how difficult it is** to do so, to

avoid placing an undue burden on the responsible staff. For example, measuring reductions in electricity / water / gas consumption can be relatively easy if meters are available. The same applies to measuring the reductions in the amount of fuel used by vehicles.

- **Be very careful about attribution**: For example, decreased electricity use in the office might be caused by more efficient use, but it might also be due to fewer people working in the office. Similarly, reduced use of vehicles can result from staff organising work better (or having more meetings online) or because their work during the given period demanded less travel. Keep in mind that it is not about measuring reductions in general but reductions resulting from introduced measures.

- **Report on the alternatives**: For example, if you replaced plastic packaging with paper, you must report the amount of plastic saved *and* the amount of paper used. Similarly, switching from paper towels to hand dryers will save paper but use more electricity; this must be accounted for.

Important Comments

1) This indicator focuses only on the **operations** of an organisation (or its branch or an individual project), not on the results of project activities. Take advantage of [this guidance](#) if you need to measure the extent to which project activities reduce the use of a particular resource.

2) Your environmental mainstreaming efforts will likely aim to reduce the consumption of several types of resources, so you might need to **use this indicator multiple times**, each time for a different resource.