



UNFC in the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics

United Nations Statistics Division

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IRES Background

- The International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES) have been approved by the UN Statistical Commission in 2011
- IRES has been the result of a coordinated process involving UNSD, InterEnerstat, Oslo Group on Energy Statistics, Expert Group on Energy Statistics
 - InterEnerstat represents 20+ agencies working on energy statistics



IRES Background

- Includes **SIEC** (Standard International Energy Product Classification)
 - First internationally agreed classification for energy products
 - First set of agreed definitions
 - Improves comparability of energy statistics
 - Total: 70 products
- SIEC does not cover underground deposits of energy resources, but the energy products extracted from them



IRES scope

- Energy statistics addressed in IRES covers the flows of energy products within an economy
 - Includes production, transformation, use, trade etc.
 - Does not include resources, i.e. “not yet produced” energy products
- Basic statistics is used to compile Energy Balances



IRES data items

- IRES describes data items for energy statistics
 - General data items
 - Specific data items for certain energy products
- Data items related to energy reserves are limited to opening and closing stocks
 - Included in IRES only as items used for SNA and SEEA, not energy statistics itself



IRES data items

- Since data items on reserves are not crucial for (core) energy statistics, IRES references the definitions provided in UNFC and SEEA
 - SEEA reference was chosen, since that is the most likely application of such data
 - UNFC references needed for definitions
- References cover:
 - Breakdown of mineral and energy resources
 - Categorization of resources



5. Data items on mineral and energy resources

6.88. Data items on mineral and energy resources are important for the assessment of their availability in the environment, as well as for the assessment of their depletion. This information is often used in the compilation of asset accounts in the SNA, as well as in the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Energy (SEEA-Energy). This section is based on the work that has been carried out in the preparation of SEEA-Energy.

6.89. The mineral and energy resources relevant for energy statistics and accounts are a subset of the resources defined in the SEEA Central Framework and comprise the following:

Table 6.1: Mineral and energy resources relevant for energy¹

Oil resources
Natural Gas resources
Coal and peat resources
Uranium and other nuclear fuels

6.90. The United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources (UNFC 2009) provides a scheme for classifying and evaluating these resources according to three dimensions, namely, their economic and social viability, the field project status and feasibility, and the geological knowledge about these resources. SEEA-Energy groups the detailed categories of UNFC into three aggregated classes characterizing the commercial recoverability of the resources as follows:²

Table 6.2: Categorization of mineral and energy resources relevant for energy

Class A: Commercially recoverable resources
Class B: Potentially commercially recoverable resources
Class C: Non-commercial and other known deposits

6.91. The data items on mineral and energy resources consist of the items presented below covering the opening and closing stock levels of the energy resources by type of resources (oil resources, natural gas resources, etc.) and by type of characteristics (commercially recoverable, etc.).

Item number	Data item
8.1	Opening stocks of mineral and energy resources (by type of resources and by type of characteristics)
8.2	Closing stocks of mineral and energy resources (by type of resources and by type of characteristics)

¹ See SEEA-Energy, Table 2.5.

² See SEEA-Energy, Table 5.1 for the definition of these categories in terms of UNFC 2009.



Energy balances

- Describe the detailed flow of energy products in an economy
 - Primary production
 - Transformation
 - Use
 - Consider interaction with other economies (imports/exports) etc.
- All flows for all 70 product categories (SIEC)
 - Suitably aggregated



IRES data collection

- IRES now forms the conceptual and definitional basis for energy statistics data collection
- At UNSD
 - Data collected annually from 228 countries and territories



For further information

- Website

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/energy>

- Email

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