

# Waste Generation

# What is the indicator?

- Total amount of waste generated during a year
- Per unit of GDP (per capita?)
- By sector
- By negative impact

Issues:           at least 4 different indicators  
                      sector: industrial and municipal?  
                      measurement unit: total waste intensity  
                      vs. municipal waste intensity?  
                      concept of measurement unit

# Relevance

- Measure of pressure
- Driving force
- “shows response to anthropogenic activities”???
- Waste “category”: hazardous, industrial, municipal???
- Decoupling is shown by trends in waste intensity
- Decrease in intensity can still mean growing amounts

# Data collection and calculations

(General remark: this part is never really about data collection and calculation...)

- Main economic activities (ISIC) are not the same as “sectors” (“industrial” and “municipal” are not ISIC categories); “municipal” is not the same as “household”
- “Other economic activities” (agricultural, forestry) not mentioned before – is it included or not?
- Data collection is described briefly for municipal waste but not for “industrial”.

# Problems with data

- Data rarely available for total generation, more available for selected industries or waste types/streams
- Varying waste definitions and varying coverage may cause big differences and affect comparability – importance of METADATA