

Namibia's Environment Statistics Compendium

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Introduction

In modern societies, we are ever more aware of the environmental issues we face e.g.;

- Global warming
- Depletion of rivers and oceans,
- Despoliation of forests,
- Pollution of land,
- Poor air quality and;
- Environmental health issues, etc.

Introduction Con'....

At the most fundamental level it is necessary to monitor what is happening in the environment

- By collecting data to describe the changing scene.
- More importantly, it is crucial to formally describe the environment with sound and validated models;
- And to analyze and interpret the data we obtain in order to take action.

Environment Statistics, What it is?

- Still a relatively **new** statistical domain;
- covering a wide range of information;
- Is interdisciplinary in nature and;
- Provides information about:
 - The state, changes and impact of environmental conditions,
 - The quality and availability of environment resources,
 - The impact of human activities and natural events on the environment.

ES-Examples

- Drinking water supply, quality
- Pollution (air, marine, soil)
- Waste management, sanitation
- Human health (water-related diseases)
- Natural events and disasters
- Climate change (precipitation, temperature)
- Diversity and population of selected species
- Public spending on environmental protection
- Designation of protected areas
- Production and trade of minerals

Data Sources

Compiled by many different institutions, using different collection techniques:

1. Statistical surveys e.g. censuses/sample-population/household/agriculture surveys
2. Administrative records of government and NGO's (responsible for natural resources)
3. Remote sensing and thematic mapping
4. Monitoring systems (e.g. stations to monitor air pollution, water quality or climate)
5. Scientific research and special projects

Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) 2013

- ES requires an appropriate framework to guide its development, coordination and organization.
- First published in 1984 by UNSD
- Revised and endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission at its 44th session in 2010
 - Took into account the increasing prominence of environmental sustainability issues and concepts as well as the work on SDGs.
- ❖ Tool for organising the content and production of environment statistics
- ❖ **Recommended for use by countries at all stages of development.**

ES Compendium

A collation of existing data sourced from the activities of both government and non-governmental entities that are involved in monitoring, controlling or promoting awareness about issues affecting Namibia's environment

1. Environmental Conditions and Quality

- Covers information relating to meteorological, geographical, biological as well as physical and chemical characteristics of the environment and their change over time.

2. Environmental Resources and their Use

- This entails the living and non-living constituents of the Earth, which together comprise the environment that may provide benefits to humanity. Environmental resources include non-energy and energy minerals, land, soil resources, biological and water resources.

3. Residuals

- Residuals are solid, liquid and gaseous substances that are discarded, discharged or emitted directly into the environment, or captured, collected, treated or reused. Residuals comprise the following main groups: emissions, wastewater and waste.

ES Compendium cont'

4. Extreme Events and Disasters

- contains statistics regarding the occurrence and impact of extreme events and disasters on human wellbeing and the infrastructure. It consists of two subcomponents: Natural Extreme Events and Disasters.

5. Human Settlements and Environmental Health

- contains statistics on the environment in which humans live and work, particularly with regard to living conditions and environmental health. They are important for the management and improvement of conditions related to human settlements, safe water, sanitation, and health, particularly in the context of rapid urbanization, increasing pollution, environmental degradation, disasters, extreme events and climate change.

6. Environmental Protection, Management and Engagement

- organizes information on environment protection and resource management expenditure with the aim of improving the environment and maintaining the health of ecosystems. Statistics about environmental governance, institutional strength, enforcement of regulations and extreme-event preparedness are also considered.

7. Tourism

- Tourism is one of the most important activities in Namibia, contributing significantly to the economy. However, this key sector also exerts significant pressure on scarce resources such as land, reefs, water and energy. In addition, it also generates a large amount of waste. The indicators under this theme seek to measure and quantify the environmental and social implications such as accommodation, transportation and employment

Conclusion

- For, Namibia
- Not all aspects were covered
- Future plans to regularly produce environmental reports to supplement existing statistics
- The main goal
 - Establish and Strengthen Environment Statistics in Namibia

“Environment Statistics for Development”

Thank You!