

## ANNEXE 5: RAMEA Project Overview

NAMEA, or "National Accounting Matrix including Environmental Accounts", is an environmental accounting framework developed in the Netherlands at the end of the 1980s. It consists of a conventional national matrix presentation of monetary accounts augmented by the input of natural resources and ecosystem inputs and residual outputs in physical terms. It forms the basis for the Air Emissions inventory by Industry within the environmental accounts compiled by Eurostat and is used nationally by at least eleven member states.

The NAMEA matrix records physical consumption of natural resources and emissions of unwanted residuals, such as air, waste and water emissions and fossil fuel consumption, linked to the economic activities related to their production / consumption. It is a hybrid matrix composed of monetary values in the economic section (NAM) and physical values in the environmental one (EA). A simplified structure at national level is illustrated in the Figure below.

NAM					EA				
Economic activities and household consumption	Economic Aggregates				Environmental pressures: pollution		Environmental pressure: intake of natural resources		
	Production	Value Added	Employment	Final Consumption	Atmospheric Emissions	Water Emissions	Fossil Fuels	Minerals	Biomasses
Agriculture									
Industry									
Services									
Household consumption: • transport • heating • other									

*Figure 1 - Structure of a National Accounting Matrix including Environmental Accounts*

The project aims to produce four mutually comparable tools based on a NAMEA-type matrix at a regional level, which can be used to inform the evaluation process leading to policy-making, building regional capacity in understanding the issues of sustainable consumption and production and thereby improve the sustainability of regional government.

The RAMEA tool will be a user-friendly tool for non-specialists, capable of aiding policy makers better explore and understand the:

- Relationships between the regional production structure and the relationship between economic Value Added and the resulting environmental pressures;
- Relationships between the imports and exports of environmental emissions relating to the regional economic sectors, to the rest of the country and the rest of the world (i.e. to the relationships between the geographical trade-offs of a region and the environmental pressure it exerts to the outside world);
- Environmental pressures of different policy scenarios / options;
- Comparisons between the economic performance and environmental profiles of the partner Regions.