

2.7 Eco-innovations with innovative enterprises

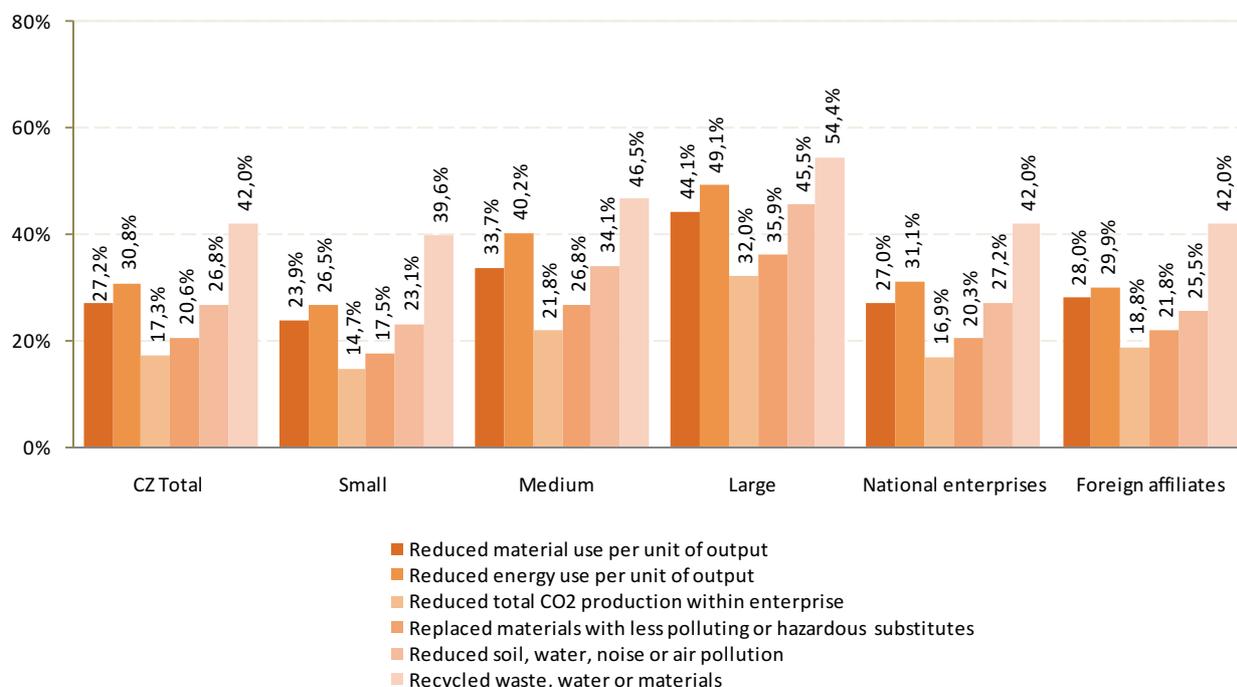
2.7.1 Eco-innovations associated with the production of goods or services within the enterprise

In the period 2006–2008, innovative enterprises in the Czech Republic most frequently focused on innovation in the recycling of waste, water and materials. The share of enterprises that introduced this type of innovation reached 42 % of the total number of innovative enterprises. The second most commonly introduced eco-innovation was reducing energy use per unit of output (30.8 % of innovative enterprises). The form of eco-innovation to have been introduced least often by innovative enterprises was reduction of total CO₂ production within enterprise (17.3 %).

The relationship between the size of enterprises and their eco-innovations reveals the following pattern: the larger the enterprise is, the greater the initiative to introduce eco-innovation is. The order of different kinds of eco-innovations as a percentage of innovative enterprises is the same for all size-classes. Recycled waste, water or materials ranked first as an eco-innovation introduced by 54.4 % of large innovative enterprises, 46.5 % of medium-sized enterprises and 39.6 % of small enterprises.

Both innovative foreign affiliates and national enterprises showed the same proportion (42 %) of eco-innovation associated with recycling waste, water and materials. National enterprises were focused on reducing energy use per unit of output (31.1 %) more than foreign affiliates (29.9%). By contrast, foreign affiliates put more emphasis on reducing total CO₂ production within the enterprise (18.8 %) than national enterprises (16.9 %).

Figure 2.72: Eco-innovation associated with the production of goods or services within enterprise by type, size-class and ownership (as a percentage of innovative enterprises); 2006–2008



The largest share of innovative enterprises which introduced eco-innovations associated with reduction of material use per unit of output was recorded in the sector of “electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” (38.2 %) and in “manufacturing” (37.3 %). Most enterprises in “electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” tried to reduce their total CO₂ production within the enterprise (56.8 %). Innovative enterprises in “construction” tried to replace dangerous materials with less polluting or hazardous substitutes with the proportion of 32.5 %, which is the highest percentage for this type of eco-innovation. The highest share of innovative enterprises which introduced recycling waste, water or materials was in “electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply” (60.5 %).

“Financial and insurance activities”, “real estate activities” and “information and communication” were some of the sectors with the lowest proportions of introduced eco-innovations associated with the production of goods or services within the enterprise.

For more details see Figure 2.73.

Figure 2.73: Eco-innovation associated with the production of goods or services within enterprise by type and NACE (as a percentage of innovative enterprises); 2006–2008

