

The “Environment for Europe” mid-term review of the Astana Conference main outcomes



Survey for reporting on promoting the “Environment for Europe” process and the outcomes of its ministerial conferences*

1. Contact information

Please indicate the name, title, organization and country, as well as the contact data of the person who filled in the survey

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* This document has not been formally edited.

2. Progress in promoting the objectives of the “Environment for Europe” process

In the table below, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements and provide an explanation, as appropriate. The boxes can be ticked by double-clicking on the box and choosing “checked” under the “default value” from the popping up window. N/A means not applicable. If you choose N/A, nevertheless please elaborate on your choice.

The EfE process continues to serve as a mechanism to:

(a) Improve the environment throughout the region, contributing to sustainable development which may in turn contribute to poverty eradication, to improving quality of life, and to a safer world

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(b) Enhance the implementation of strengthened national environmental policies

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(c) Support convergence of environmental policies and approaches, while recognizing the benefits from a diversity of approaches to achieve common goals, and the prioritisation of environmental objectives

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(d) Encourage the participation of civil society

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(e) Promote broad horizontal environmental cooperation

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

3. Progress in promoting the political priorities of the “Environment for Europe” process

In the table below, please, provide a brief summary of how your country is progressing in promoting the EfE political priorities, based on commitments already made under the EfE process, including through national policies and relevant partnerships. Please tick the box that best corresponds to the current situation or level of implementation in your country. Provide an explanation, as appropriate. N/A means not applicable. If you choose N/A, nevertheless please elaborate on your choice.

The progress (in your country) on EfE political priorities may include:

<p>(a) Improvement of environmental governance, including strengthening environmental institutions and implementation of policy instruments <i>(by your country)</i></p> <p>– improvement of environmental governance:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> accomplished / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>Economic recession has resulted in the weakening of environmental institutions and their capacity to monitor environmental pressures and implement regulations.</p> <p>– strengthening environmental institutions:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> accomplished / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>... Despite some positive trends, not as much ecological modernization has taken place in Eastern and Central Europe as expected. In some cases, ecological subversion could be observed, including intentional dismantling of environmental institutions and suppression of environmental issues and interest organizations.</p> <p>– implementation of policy instruments:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> accomplished / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	<p>(b) Streamlining the implementation by your Government of commitments made to existing UNECE legally-binding and legally non-binding instruments</p> <p>Overall assessment:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> accomplished / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Air Pollution Convention and its Protocols</p>	<p>– Status <i>(more than one box can be ticked)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>

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	<p>– Implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Formal reporting (national implementation reports)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Water Convention</p>	<p>– Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Protocol on Water and Health</p>	<p>– Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Formal reporting (national implementation reports)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Industrial Accidents Convention</p>	<p>– Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>

	<p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal reporting (national implementation reports) <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Protocol on Civil Liability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>) <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Espoo Convention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>) <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal reporting (national implementation reports) <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>

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<p>Protocol on SEA</p>	<p>– Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Formal reporting (national implementation reports)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Aarhus Convention</p>	<p>– Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Formal reporting (national implementation reports)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Protocol on PRTRs</p>	<p>– Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> signed / <input type="checkbox"/> ratified/acceded/approved / <input type="checkbox"/> in the process of ratification/accession/approval / <input type="checkbox"/> not foreseen / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>– Implementation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>

	<p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal reporting (national implementation reports) <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Strategy for ESD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>) <p><input type="checkbox"/> adopted / <input type="checkbox"/> actively participating / <input type="checkbox"/> not engaged / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal reporting (national implementation reports) <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>THE PEP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status (<i>more than one box can be ticked</i>) <p><input type="checkbox"/> adopted / <input type="checkbox"/> actively participating / <input type="checkbox"/> not engaged / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reporting (responding to THE PEP survey on progress in the attainment of the Amsterdam Goals) <p><input type="checkbox"/> never submitted / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> submitting regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>(c) Enhancing efforts in environmental monitoring</p>	

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<p>Overall assessment in your country:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Production of indicator-based state-of-the-environment reports</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> never produced / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> producing occasionally / <input type="checkbox"/> producing regularly / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>Latvia is producing its environmental indicator reports every 4 years. However reports are poorly communicated both to public and decision makers therefore have little impacts on policy development and implementation.</p>
<p>Enterprise environmental monitoring and reporting</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>(d) Ensuring implementation of the UNECE Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Programme</p> <p>Overall assessment of your country’s role:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not active / <input type="checkbox"/> active as donor / <input type="checkbox"/> active as reviewed country / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Participation in the EPR process as a reviewed country in the future</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not interested / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Participation in the EPR process as a donor country (in-kind and/or providing financial support)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not interested / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> on-going / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Implementation of EPR recommendations by the reviewed country</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> accomplished / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>(e) Raising public awareness on environmental issues</p> <p>Overall assessment in your country:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>	

<p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...MoE of Latvia and many other CEE countries have used</p>	
<p>Ensuring public access to environmental information</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Ensuring public participation in environmental-decision making</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Ensuring public access to environmental justice</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>(f) Promoting linkages between environmental policy, economic and social well-being and competitiveness</p> <p>Overall assessment in your country:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Mainstreaming the environment into economic development</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>... There is a dominant believe that environmental protection means reducing economic welfare and as the result of economic recession in many countries of the region economic development priorities are prevailing putting environmental concerns off the priorities of the government. One of the main political and economic policy goals in the region is to stimulate GDP growth. The frame of mind behind strategies to reach this goal is the approach - ‘let the economy grow, and we’ll take care of environmental concerns later’. This inevitably will lead to increasing environmental pressures.</p>
<p>Implementing environmental policies through economic/market instruments (e.g. phasing out subsidies, introducing environmental taxation, payment for ecosystems</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...Market instruments are widely used in most of the countries of the region. However, in many cases they poorly developed and do not trigger the necessary changes in reducing environmental pressures. There are multiple reasons behind that: taxes and fees in many cases are under-priced; collection of taxes are poorly managed etc.</p> <p>Energy prices in many countries of the region are still determined by the government under certain rules taking into account the costs of the companies’ concerned and social factors in the country, but ignoring environmental concerns.</p>

<p>services, etc.)</p>	<p>Some examples from the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hungarian Government has declared several times its commitment to the implementation of a distance- and pollution-based road toll for trucks. However, in reality, its measures for practical implementation have been controversial as government in many ways try to postpone implementation of legislation. • The Netherlands is planning to abolish its NOx emissions trading system on 1 January 2014 because the system proved to be ineffective and created a substantial administrative burden. There are also ongoing discussion about efficiency and need for restructuring of EU ETS. • In Slovakia annual subsidies for renewable energy installations will be cut by up to 20%, according to a draft law tabled by the Slovak government in December 2012. There is also a plan to limit the subsidies for photovoltaic (PV) and hydropower installations. The government explains that without these changes, the Slovak economy could be seriously damaged due to increased electricity prices for end-users. • The Spanish government has announced a reduction in financial support for renewable energy, which will further discourage investment in a sector already hit by a temporary 35% reduction in tariffs and a 7% tax on generation. In the same time higher energy taxes were introduced following the approval of fiscal measures by the country’s parliament before Christmas. All forms of electricity production will be subject to a flat tax of 7 per cent, as opposed to 6 per cent in the initial proposal.
<p>Implementing environmental policies through regulatory/normative instruments (e.g. norms, standards, bans, etc.)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Implementing environmental policies through information based/voluntary instruments (e.g. labelling, etc.)</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> not started / <input type="checkbox"/> initiated / <input type="checkbox"/> in progress / <input type="checkbox"/> well-implemented / <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>

4. Progress in strengthening the implementation of outcomes of the Astana EfE Ministerial Conference

In the table below, please, provide a brief summary of how your country is progressing in implementing the commitments made at the Astana Conference. Please tick the box that best corresponds to the current situation or level of implementation in your country. Provide an explanation, as appropriate. N/A means not applicable. If you choose N/A, nevertheless please elaborate on your choice.

The main outcomes of the Astana Conference include:

(a) Ratifying and implementing the relevant multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) (by your country)

Please provide additional information, as relevant, that was not provided under section 3(b) (up to 250 words):

...

(b) Implementing the Astana Water Action (by your country)

not started / initiated / in progress / well-implemented/ not foreseen

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(c) Promoting a green economy (by your country)

...

not started / initiated / in progress / well-implemented/ not foreseen

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

See comments above.

It's should be mentioned that there are many initiatives promoting green economy in the region. According to Global Green Economy Index (www.dualcitizeninc.com/ggei2012.pdf) many countries of the region are performing very well in regard to green economy, Denmark and Germany topping the list. However, in all the countries brown economy is still dominating.

Promoting the Green Bridge Partnership Programme (by your country)

not started / initiated / in progress / well-implemented/ not foreseen

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(d) Ensuring implementation of the third cycle of environmental performance reviews (EPRs) (by your country)

not foreseen / active as donor / active as reviewed country / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(e) Establishing a regular process of environmental assessment (RPEA), including developing a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) (by your country)

not started / initiated / in progress / SEIS developed / RPEA established

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

(f) Participation in the continued work of the Environmental Action Programme Task Force (EAP Task Force), including on the sustainable management of water and water-related ecosystems, and on greening the

economy: mainstreaming the environment into economic development (*by your country*)

not foreseen / active as donor / active as beneficiary / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

Participation in strengthening the contribution of Regional Environmental Centres (RECs) in both promoting green economy and better environmental governance at the local, national, subregional and regional levels (*by your country*)

not foreseen / active as donor / active as beneficiary / N/A

Please elaborate (up to 250 words):

...

5. Thematic priorities of the “Environment for Europe” process for the Eighth Ministerial Conference

In the table below, please indicate thematic priorities that might be addressed at the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference, including a brief justification note for each proposed priorities. Please also indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the proposed several themes, as well as organising a high-level segment on MEAs and the proposed theme. Please kindly note that the idea to organize a high-level segment on MEAs emerged from the discussion at the informal meeting of representatives of governing bodies of MEAs and CEP (Geneva, 27 February 2013).

<p>First thematic priority (an “established” theme of importance to the entire region, e.g. the Astana Conference addressed the “established” theme sustainable management of water and water related ecosystems)</p> <p><i>Please propose a theme: ...</i></p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Second thematic priority (an “emerging” theme of importance to the entire region, e.g. the Astana Conference addresses the “emerging” theme greening the economy: mainstreaming the environment into economic development)</p> <p><i>Please propose a theme: ... Implementation of the 10 Year Framework of Programs</i></p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Enhancing the work on greening the economy and the mainstreaming of environmental concerns into the economic</p>	<p>A possible “emerging” theme for the Eighth Ministerial Conference to follow up on the Astana EfE and Rio+20 Conferences commitments</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...Most of the countries in the region has experience economic recession which has led in many cases to weakening environmental policies. It’s important to work towards new</p>

development	economic development models which take into account social wellbeing and environmental boundaries.
Promoting a sustainable consumption and production	<p>A possible “emerging” theme for the Eighth Ministerial Conference to follow up on the Rio+20 Conferences commitments</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>... The 10 Year Framework of Programs was adopted at Rio+20 and the General Assembly and UNEP is tasked as Secretariat to (finally) implement this initiative, which could be beneficial to everyone,. Each country has been invited to nominate national 10YFP focal points, which is an especially important development as we now have someone within each government to engage on this, rather than trying to find out who might be interested (e.g., the Marrakech Task Force leaders). It also implies there will be a certain monitoring and reporting on progress.</p>
“Greening” International Financial Institutions (IFIs) policies	<p>A possible “emerging” theme for the Eighth Ministerial Conference to follow up on the Rio+20 Conferences commitments</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
Resilience and Change	<p>A possible “emerging” theme for the Eighth Ministerial Conference to encompass the need for disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, emergency preparedness and contingency planning to be ready for both environmental and demographic change in the coming years, i.e., the expected increase in extreme weather events due to global warming, but also to the foreseen changes in demographics (aging populations and south-north migration), in particular in urban areas)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Organizing a high-level segment on assessing the progress in establishing a regular process of environmental assessment and developing the SEIS across the region</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Organizing a high-level segment on UNECE MEAs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	

<p>Role of public participation in effective implementation of MEAs</p>	<p>A possible theme for a possible high-level segment on UNECE MEAs (of relevance to all UNECE MEAs)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Need to develop new structures or frameworks to address emerging themes, such as green economy, giving the on-going crisis that affected all countries in the UNECE region</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Greening the economies</p>	<p>Elaboration of subregional roadmaps (e.g. EU, SEE, Central Asia, Caucasus, Eastern Europe)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>... There are regional differences in regard to green economies which should be addressed and taken into account developing such a frameworks.</p> <p>Elaboration/harmonization of regional eco-standards for products and production processes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>Other (<i>please suggest demand-driven frameworks/structures</i>)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Strengthening implementation of ESD</p>	<p>Mainstreaming ESD into technical and vocational training to meet future labour market demand</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>Mainstreaming ESD into teachers/educators’ training</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p> <p>Implementing an ESD school plan in every school (i.e. addressing campus management,</p>

	<p>curricula and community interaction)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Strengthening environmental considerations in other social and economic sectors</p>	<p>Sustainable urban development (e.g. bringing together the relevant activities under THE PEP, Environment and Health process, and green building)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>

6. Format of the Eighth EfE Ministerial Conference

In the table below, please, indicate/propose an interactive format for the next Conference. Provide an explanation, as appropriate.

<p>Interactive format for the Conference (for a more productive ministerial participation)</p> <p><i>Please propose an interactive format(s) to stimulate the work of the Conference:</i></p> <p>...</p> <p><i>Please elaborate (up to 250 words):</i></p> <p>...</p>	
<p>Parallel thematic round-tables</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate:</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>Interactive discussions e.g. similar to “BBC Question Time”</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate:</i></p> <p>...</p>
<p>[please propose an interactive format]</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> strongly agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat agree / <input type="checkbox"/> somewhat disagree / <input type="checkbox"/> strongly disagree</p> <p><i>Please elaborate:</i></p> <p>...</p>

7. Any other issues you consider important

[please include any issues relevant to the scope of this survey that you may wish to address ...]

Please elaborate:

...