



Assisting countries in joining and implementing the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe multilateral environmental agreements

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Committee on Environmental Policy

The "Environment for Europe" mid-term review of the Astana Conference main outcomes: multilateral environmental agreements







UNECE MEAs – brief overview

Parties/countries

Adoption of most of MEAs

Development of legal, institutional frameworks and bilateral cooperation agreements

Request for more emphasis and support to implementation and compliance

Progress in the Parties/ countries facing challenges

Opening-up

Review of implementation

Design of dedicated

Further improvements

Early 90-ies

Uneven results across the region

2003

assistance programmes and activities and their implementation

to programmes and activities

now

Assistance in handling new emerging issues

UNECE Secretariat



























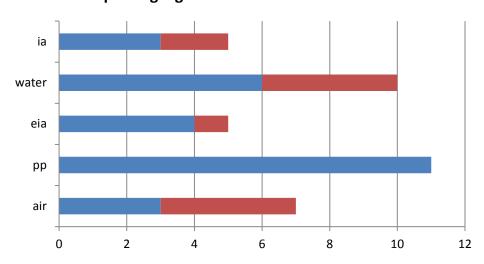






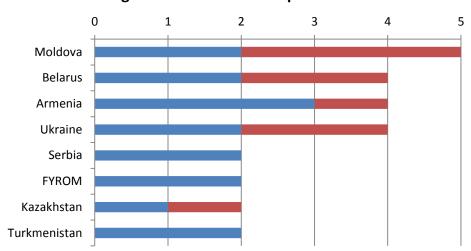
UNECE MEAs – achievements and progress since Astana

Countries having improved/in the process of improving legal and institutional frameworks



for meeting the provision of a specific MEA

Legal and institutional improvements



by a specific country



























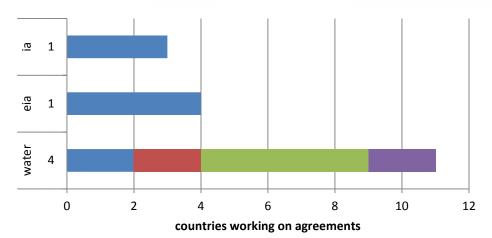






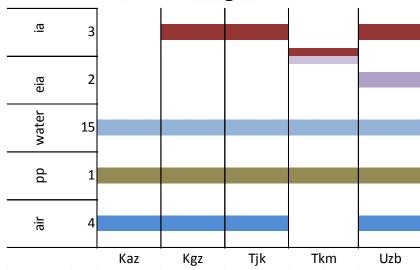
UNECE MEAs – achievements and progress since Astana

Agreements



as established/under discussion/preparation and resulting from UNECE MEAs support work

Awareness-raising in Central Asia



as delivered under UNECE MEAs



































UNECE MEAs – achievements and progress since Astana

Promotion of SEA for achieving green economy (eia) Water adaptation to climate change (water)

Assessment of equitable access to water and sanitation (water)

Particulate matter and black carbon (air) Emerging issues and circumstances

Costeffectiveness for industrial safety (ia)

Promotion of env. and socially responsible investments (pp)

Interrelation between human rights and environment (pp)



























Lessons learned

- Long-term approach to capacity-building delivers sustainable results
- Benchmarks are very useful to track progress but some countries do not have the capacity to apply them

Challenges

 Difficulties with long-term commitments due to short-term financial planning

Way forward

 Steps undertaken to make financing of activities more predictable and sustainable, among others by establishment of partnerships or working out joint approach by MFAs chairs





































Lessons learned

 Awareness and commitment at political level are important prerequisites for implementation and compliance

Challenges

 Insufficient political support in a number of countries

Way forward

- Joint missions to foster awareness at political level
- Promotion of MEAs as tools assisting transition to green economy
- Opening up of the MEAs

































Lessons learned

 Cooperation between relevant line ministries is key to effective and efficient implementation

Challenges

 Lack of cooperation and coordination at both national and international levels in a number of/between some countries

Way forward

 Expansion of sectoral and subject-related partnerships and cooperation to increase coherence in delivery

































Lessons learned

 Regular reporting is important for assessing progress in implementation and compliance

Challenges

 Insufficient follow-up to and reporting on decision of governing bodies or on capacitybuilding or assistance activities

Way forward

- Reporting practices are reviewed to be simpler
- Use of EPRS to assess progress is explored
- Synergies under SEIS are searched



































Lessons learned

 Lack of participation in activities decreases the potential for exchange of knowledge and good practice and weakens the recommendation for the way forward

Challenges

 Lack of participation in some MEAs activities, including from Western, South-Eastern and Central European countries

Way forward

 Expansion of sectoral and subject-related partnerships to increase the impact of work and prevent duplication of efforts































Thank you for attention





























