



UNEP Live

OUR CHANGING ENVIRONMENT: PLACE BY PLACE

UNEP

UNEP Live:

*For a global interactive platform
With regional applications*

Sylvie Motard

UNEP Regional Office for
Europe

Almaty - 9 June 2014



Access to Environmental Information

- In today's globalizing, increasingly interconnected world, access to reliable, up-to-date information becomes more essential than ever.
- Environmental information that used to be hard to find now features in a growing number of publications, government reports, NGO assessments, and in other forms and sources.
- At the same time, there is a growing need for reliable environmental data and information to be collected, harmonized, verified and made available online, openly shared with a wide range of users.
- The 2012 Rio+20 Outcome Document stressed how important it is to “disseminate and share environmental information... [to] raise public awareness of critical and emerging environmental issues”, and to develop a “science-policy interface” for sustainable development.



UNEP-Live

- Consequently, UNEP – as the UN’s leading environmental authority – is developing the UNEP-Live Platform, which already in prototype form provides access to environmental information in a number of service clusters:
 - *Environment Assessments and Reports;*
 - *Data and indicators;*
 - *Maps/geo-spatial data sets;*
 - *Environmental alerts;*
 - *State of Environment (SoE) "Live“.*
- UNEP-Live is currently moving into its full implementation phase globally. The objectives to be achieved and activities accomplished are as follows:
 - *Building partnerships;*
 - *Harmonisation of data;*
 - *Capacity building;*
 - *Putting in place the basic infrastructure;*
 - *Linking* mandated institutions and their data/information management activities with existing legal and institutional frameworks in Europe.



UNEP-Live Principles:

- Environmental data and information should be *available online*, “*live*” and *easily accessible* to users and decision-makers;
- Environmental information should be *harmonized/standardized* to facilitate sharing;
- Environmental data and information should be accessible categorized by theme (air, land, water...) and geographically (e.g., by country or region), with customized “views” of data also available;
- Environmental data and information should be *validated, verified* and *regularly updated*;
- There should be a functioning *institutional network and infrastructure* for the provision and exchange of data.



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Ecosystem Management



Environmental Governance



Harmful Substances



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MyCountry

Combines the most up-to-date information taken directly from the national provider with UNEP's assessments, reports and analyses

Users can access:

- Country profiles
- Maps and satellite imagery
- Core sets of indicators of environmental performance
- Links to national website
- Access to other data providers
- Simple comparative toolkits
- Search for related publications

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SEARCH

Last updated: 00:00 GMT

Country Profile: Kenya

Summary

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Partnership Opportunities

- Considering the core SEIS principles on the collection and processing of environmental data and information, as well as what has been accomplished since its creation in 2008, it is clear that complementarities already exist between EIONET/SEIS and UNEP-Live, and that there is significant potential for synergies and cooperation between the two.
- Both aim to develop networks for improved data & information management, strengthening existing capacities, improving capabilities for environmental assessment and reporting regionally and globally.
- Both aim to build transparency for access to environmental data.
- Geographically, the two initiatives' mandates also coincide.



“...no one country and no one culture has a monopoly of creative and transformational ideas...the diversity of thinking, of approaching a challenge from a novel perspective, is one of humanity's strengths that we need to harness and harvest far more.”

Achim Steiner

UNEP's Executive Director



Partnerships

- Pathways to partnership can be found in political, legal and institutional frameworks already existing in the various regions and subregions , such as discussions taking place with the ICSD.
- Challenge of a multitude regional frameworks established with similar aims, which could potentially overlap and duplicate each other.
- At the same time, these regional frameworks stem from years of cooperation, and are established by states of their own accord, signifying commitment to maintain these initiatives, provide them with inputs and data, and benefit from their services.
- Engaging with these structures and linking them, with a data and information exchange networks operating in an expanded geographic area would help harmonisation of data and access to data in a broader territorial space..
- For its part, UNEP is engaged in a partnership with such regional structures through its various offices, providing guidance to national governments and facilitating the regional dialogue.



Thank You

Looking forward to finding concrete ways to improve network development, data management and information sharing,
For strengthened governance, policy making and public participation

