



Air pollution abatement and the

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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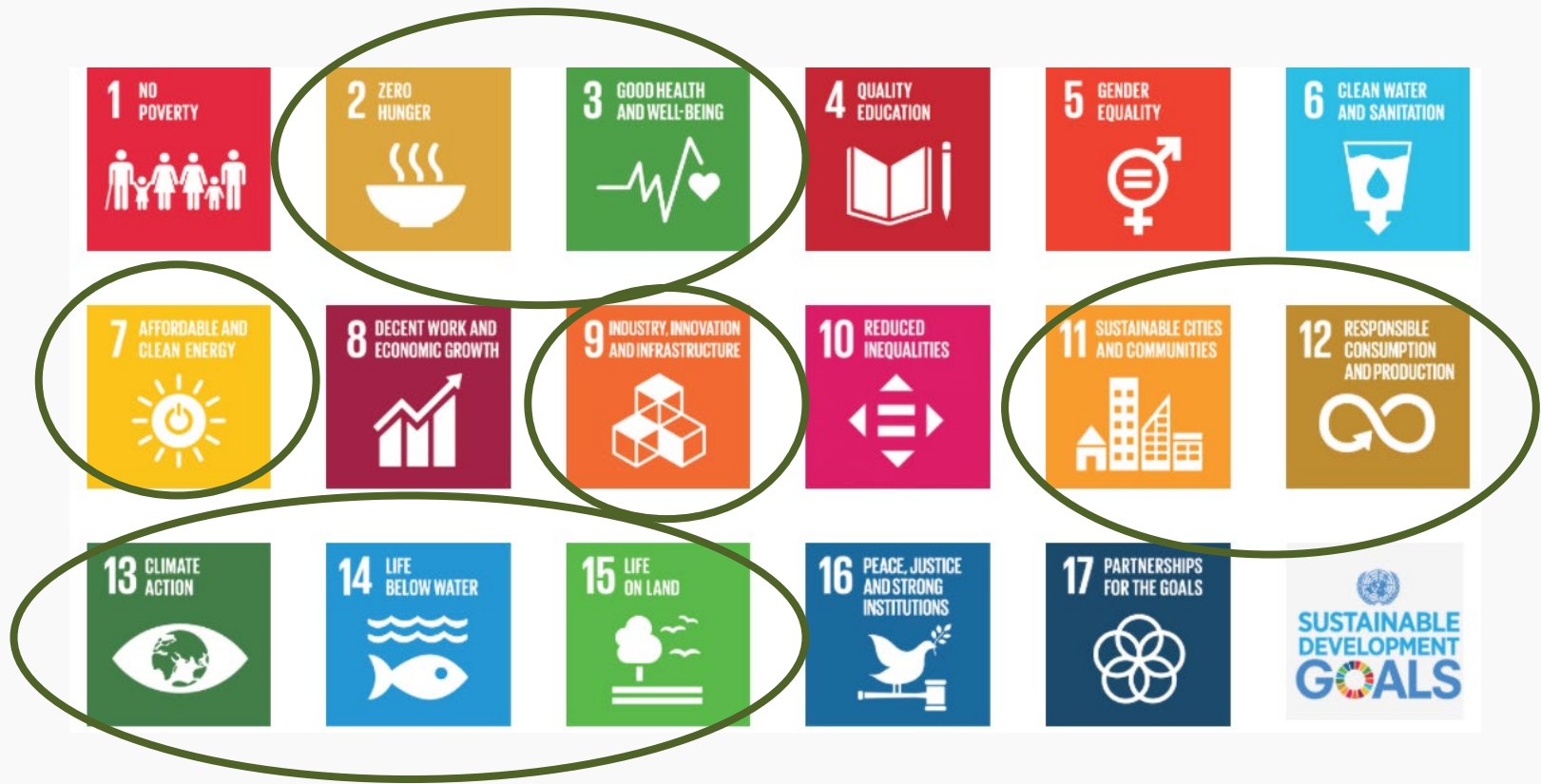
UNECE and the SDGs



- Connecting countries – convening power
- Platform for cooperation
- Multisectoral approach
- Transboundary focus
- Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

The Air Convention and the SDGs

The Air Convention supports Parties in implementing the SDGs, notably Goals 2, 3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.



2 ZERO HUNGER

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Target 2.4: By 2030, ensure **sustainable food production systems** and implement **resilient agricultural practices** that

increase productivity and production, that help **maintain ecosystems**, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively **improve land and soil quality**

Work under the Air Convention

- Targets for ammonia and nitrogen oxides
- Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen work on developing technical and scientific information and encouraging coordination of air pollution policies on nitrogen in the context of the nitrogen cycle
 - Nitrogen emissions abatement
 - Sustainable nitrogen management
 - Impacts on soil quality
 - Promotion of sustainable agriculture



Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Target 3.4: By 2030, reduce by one third **premature mortality from non-communicable diseases** through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being

Target 3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce **the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air**, water and soil pollution and contamination

Work under the Air Convention

- Targets for a number of air pollutants
- Work under the Task Force on Health assesses health effects of long-range transboundary air pollution and defines priorities for guiding future monitoring and abatement strategies
 - Improved air quality
 - Reduced morbidity and premature mortality related to air pollution, the world's largest environmental health risk for non-communicable diseases



Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Target 7.a: By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and **promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology**

Work under the Air Convention

- Emission limit values for air pollutants help in stimulating investment in clean technologies, including in the energy sector
- Task Force on Techno-Economic Issues work on database of information on control technologies for air pollution abatement and their costs
 - Greater investment in clean technologies, incl. in the energy sector
 - Identification of technologies to reduce air pollution, through enhanced international cooperation



Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Target 11.4: Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

Target 11.6: By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita

environmental impact of cities, including by paying **special attention to air quality** and municipal and other waste management

Work under the Air Convention

- Targets for a number of air pollutants
- International Cooperative Programme on Effects of Air Pollution on Materials, including Historic and Cultural Monuments evaluating the effect of major pollutants on the atmospheric corrosion of important materials
 - Improved air quality at the national and city level
 - Less degradation of historic buildings and monuments by air pollution

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Target 12.2: By 2030, achieve the **sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources**

Target 12.4: By 2020, achieve the **environmentally sound**

management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly **reduce their release to air**, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

Work under the Air Convention

- Targets for a number of pollutants and releases of chemicals to air
- EMEP provides scientific support, informs policy developments and helps countries in monitoring progress in reducing air pollution
- International Cooperative Programme on Waters assessing the degree and geographical extent of the acidification of surface waters
 - Reduction of air pollution
 - Reduction of effects of air pollution on other natural resources, such as water



Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

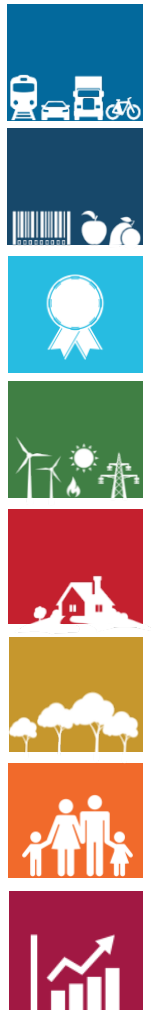
Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning

Work under the Air Convention

- Targets for the broader spectrum of short-lived climate pollutants under the Gothenburg Protocol
- Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution assesses the intercontinental transport of air pollutants across the Northern Hemisphere and interactions between greenhouse gases and air pollution.
 - Reduction of short-lived climate pollutants and precursors
 - Understanding of interactions between greenhouse gases and air pollution



Support to countries in the implementation of and accession to the UNECE Conventions



Status of ratification

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UNECE MEAs		Air Pollution					Water			Industrial Accidents		Espoo			Aarhus				
		Conv.	EMEP Protocol	Heavy Metals Prot.	POPS Prot.	Gothenburg Prot.	Conv.	Amendm.	Prot. Water & Health	Conv.	Prot. Civil Liability	Conv.	1st Amend.	2nd Amend.	SEA Prot.	Conv.	Amend.	PRTR Prot.	
Central Asia	Kazakhstan	█					█	█		█		█			█				
	Kyrgyzstan	█									█				█				
	Tajikistan														█			█	
	Turkmenistan						█									█			█
	Uzbekistan						█	█								█			
Caucasus	Armenia	█	█	█	█	█			█	█	█			█	█			█	
	Azerbaijan	█					█	█	█	█	█				█				
	Georgia	█	█						█	█				█	█	█		█	
Eastern Europe	Belarus	█					█	█	█	█	█	█			█				
	Republic of Moldova	█		█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█		█	█	█	█	█	
	Russian Federation	█					█		█		█				█				
	Ukraine	█	█	█	█		█		█		█			█	█			█	

UNECE Technical cooperation



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UNECE employs three types of technical cooperation services for accession to and implementation of MEAs:

- Capacity building for the implementation of the UNECE legal instruments;
- Advisory services to support countries on policy and legislation related issues;
- Specific technical cooperation projects/programmes in areas where the UNECE has a mandate and expertise

Capacity-building activities for assisting countries to implement UNECE legal instruments through:

- workshops, seminars
- Peer learning events and training funded by Regular Programme on Technical Cooperation



Advisory services to assist countries in implementation of and accession to UNECE multilateral environmental agreements through:

- review of national legislation vis-à-vis provisions of MEAs (recommendations, concept note)
- legal drafting (amendments, secondary legislation)
- assistance to legal working group
- awareness raising among decision-makers, parliamentarians
- linking technical/expert level with the decision-makers level

Field projects to support implementation of MEAs

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Projects and programmes, including those with a multisectoral and/or subregional focus

- National level, country-specific, tailor made projects (from developing project proposals to implementation)
- Fund raising efforts
- Transboundary water cooperation projects
 - Kazakhstan's transition to a Green Economy Model
 - Sustainable Use of water resources in the Drin and Dniester River basin

Principles of technical cooperation



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- Demand driven. We provide technical assistance upon requests from Governments, either individually or in groupings (transboundary aspects)
- Cooperation and partnership. We work in closely with other organizations and stakeholders to enhance synergies and avoid duplication
- Focused on the countries with economies in transition
- Linked to UNECE's normative work

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Thank you for your attention.

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<http://www.unece.org/env/welcome.html>

