

 **UNECE** Current state and development
of the Shared Environmental Information
System implementation



Gaps and actions

Preliminary findings

- Armenia
- Georgia

- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- North Macedonia

Nickolai Denisov based on country-level analysis by
Alexander Shekhovtsov and Anela Rodic

IDENTIFIED GAPS

In all or most countries

- Absence of regular monitoring of selected media / issues (bio, waste, water, land)
- Lack of modern / internationally accepted methods in environmental monitoring
- Insufficient development of automated environmental monitoring systems
- Incomplete databases, partially in hard copies, in a number of state agencies
- Incomplete production or presentation of indicators as per UNECE standards

In several countries

- Depreciation of instruments and equipment for environmental monitoring
- Incomplete waste accounting or difficulties with it
- Some of the existing indicators are not accessible on-line / interactive
- No unified / single-entry platform for environmental indicators
- Lack of local-scale environmental information
- Absence of recent / regular state-of-the-environment (SoE) reports

IDENTIFIED GAPS

Indicators are not fully used for SoE reporting or for reporting to MEAs

Lack of language diversity of SoE or SDG-related reports and documentation

Lack of frameworks or mechanism for the 'nationalisation' of global SDG environmental indicators

Some information is provided to users on a paid-for basis, or access to it is restricted

Problems with inter-agency data exchange

Lack of coordinating framework for SEIS implementation and planning

In single countries

Data from automated monitoring are not used for indicator production

Indicators are not regularly updated

National indicators are missing for some of the global SDG environmental indicators

Lack of coordination between responsables for UNECE environmental indicators and the nationalization of global SDG indicators

Use of environmental information in official decision-making is not systemic

SUGGESTED LONG-TERM ACTIONS

In all or most countries

- Supply monitoring networks and laboratories with modern technical and analytical equipment
- Allocate funds to accelerate the (full) implementation of automated environmental monitoring
- Develop an effective system of accounting and reporting for waste indicators
- Create complete environmental databases in state bodies, use modern technologies / software
- Increase the number of UNECE environmental indicators being developed
- Fully use the UNECE environmental indicators to develop nationalized SDG indicators

In several countries

- Develop and implement specific (currently lacking) types of monitoring
- Ensure full compliance with SEIS quality criteria for indicators' production and presentation
- Publish online / ensure full interactive access to the UNECE environmental indicators
- Adopt legislation on the regular preparation of SoE reports

SUGGESTED LONG-TERM ACTIONS

Provide translation of key environmental publications to English / national languages

Improve the production of ecological information at the local level

Create / strengthen a national framework for reporting environmental SDG indicators

Provide open and transparent access to environmental information

Improve interagency cooperation in the fields of data exchange, official protocols, IT systems

In single countries

Increase the use of automated data for the generation of environmental indicators

Set and meet specific deadlines for the annual updating of environmental indicators

Increase the use of environmental indicators in SoE reports and reports to MEAs

Ensure communication and coordination between the producers of UNECE and SDG indicators

Designate lead organization, create an interagency framework and a road map for SEIS

Use environmental data and information in official decision-making

SUGGESTED SHORT-TERM SUPPORT

| AM | GE | KZ | KG | TJ | BH | NM |

MONITORING AND DATA MANAGEMENT

* Provide methodological assistance and training to collecting, storing and digitising data

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[(*)] Assist with building specific types of environmental monitoring

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ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS

* Assist the further development of indicators in compliance with SEIS quality criteria

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[*] Assist the development of interactive platforms / services for environmental indicators

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* Provide methodological assistance to monitoring and reporting on environmental SDGs

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(*) Support the development of additional (e.g. green growth) indicators from existing data

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ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

(*) Provide assistance to developing legislation on regular SoE reporting

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[*] Support the regular preparation of indicator-based SoE reports and reports to MEAs

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INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* Assist in developing national SEIS implementation frameworks and road maps

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KEY: * Possible through the UNDA project (*) Partial / case-by-case support [*] Through cooperation with project partners