Fifth meeting
Geneva, 10-11 October 2016
Palais des Nations
Salle V

UNECE

Task Force on Access to Information under the Aarhus Convention

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Filip Aggestam
UNECE Programme on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment
Environment Division

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Sessions of the Working Group 2015-2016

The Working Group agreed at its Sixteenth Session to assess progress on establishing Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and to develop a reporting mechanism under eight thematic areas and a list of 67 data set.

The Seventeenth Session continued this work and presented a reporting mechanism for the review of progress in establishing the SEIS and a draft evaluation report for the EFE Ministerial Conference in Batumi.

Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

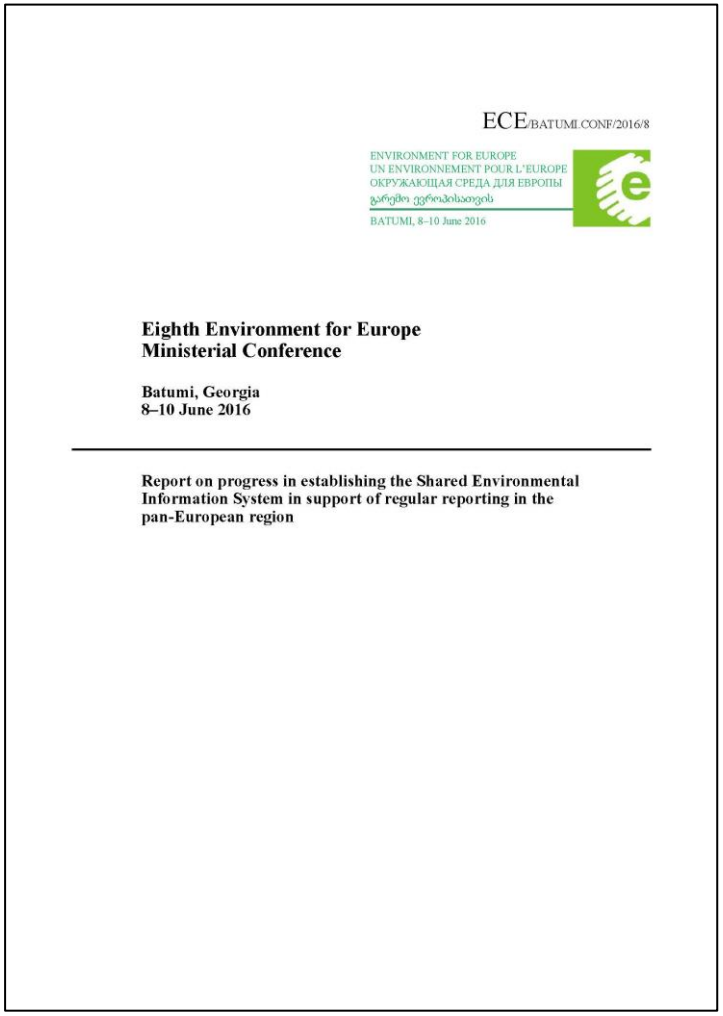
- The Eighth EFE Ministerial Conference opened on Wednesday, 8 June 2016, in Batumi, Georgia.
- The conference held a session on “Keeping the pan-European environment under review” (agenda item 2(B)) on the first day.
- Included a discussion of progress in establishing the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in support of regular reporting in the pan-European region.

Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

- Key findings and policy messages of the European regional assessment of the Sixth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6).
- Adoption of the Batumi Ministerial Declaration on the final day of the conference.

"10. While welcoming progress in developing the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) to support a regular process of environmental assessment, we invite countries to continue their efforts and to further develop their national information systems to have SEIS in place in the countries of Europe and Central Asia by 2021. In this regard, we note the value of UNEP Live and the Group on Earth Observations as global knowledge-sharing platforms. We welcome the launch of the European regional assessment of the Global Environment Outlook, as the regular pan-European environmental assessment. The GEO-6 Assessment for the pan-European region is built on existing national, sub-regional and thematic assessments, including The European environment - state and outlook 2015 report produced by the European Environment Agency in 2015."

Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of selected environmental indicators



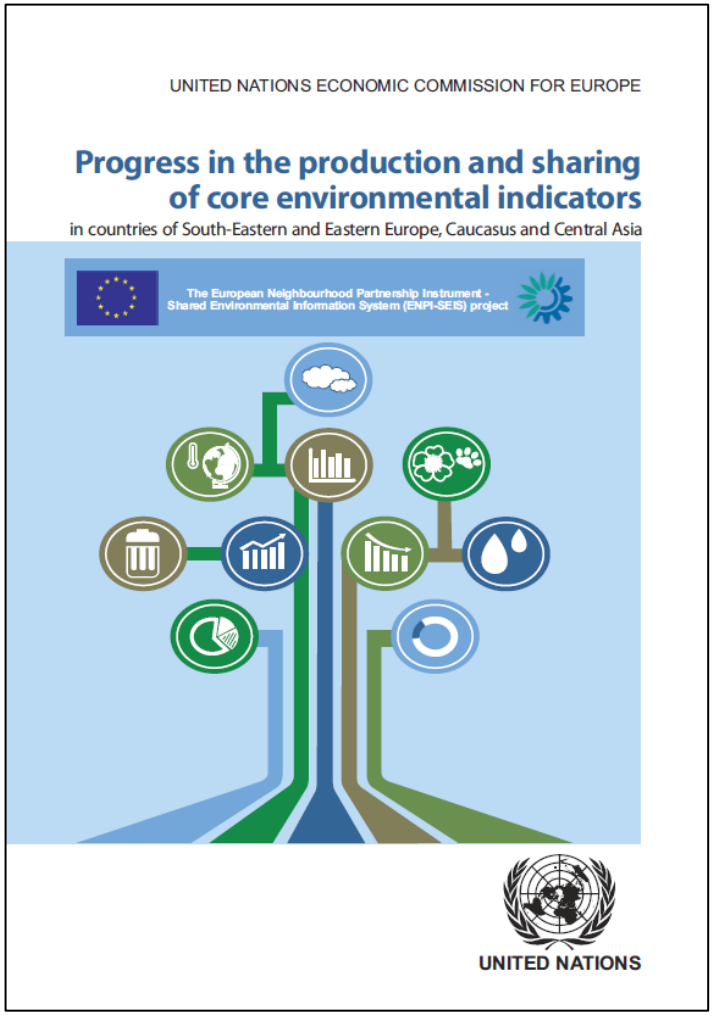
ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/8

ENVIRONMENT FOR EUROPE
UN ENVIRONNEMENT POUR L'EUROPE
ОКРУЖАЮЩАЯ СРЕДА ДЛЯ ЕВРОПЫ
გარემო ევროპისათვის
BATUMI, 8–10 June 2016

Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

Batumi, Georgia
8–10 June 2016

Report on progress in establishing the Shared Environmental Information System in support of regular reporting in the pan-European region



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Progress in the production and sharing of core environmental indicators

in countries of South-Eastern and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

The European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument - Shared Environmental Information System (ENPI-SEIS) project

UNITED NATIONS

Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of selected environmental indicators

The review process…

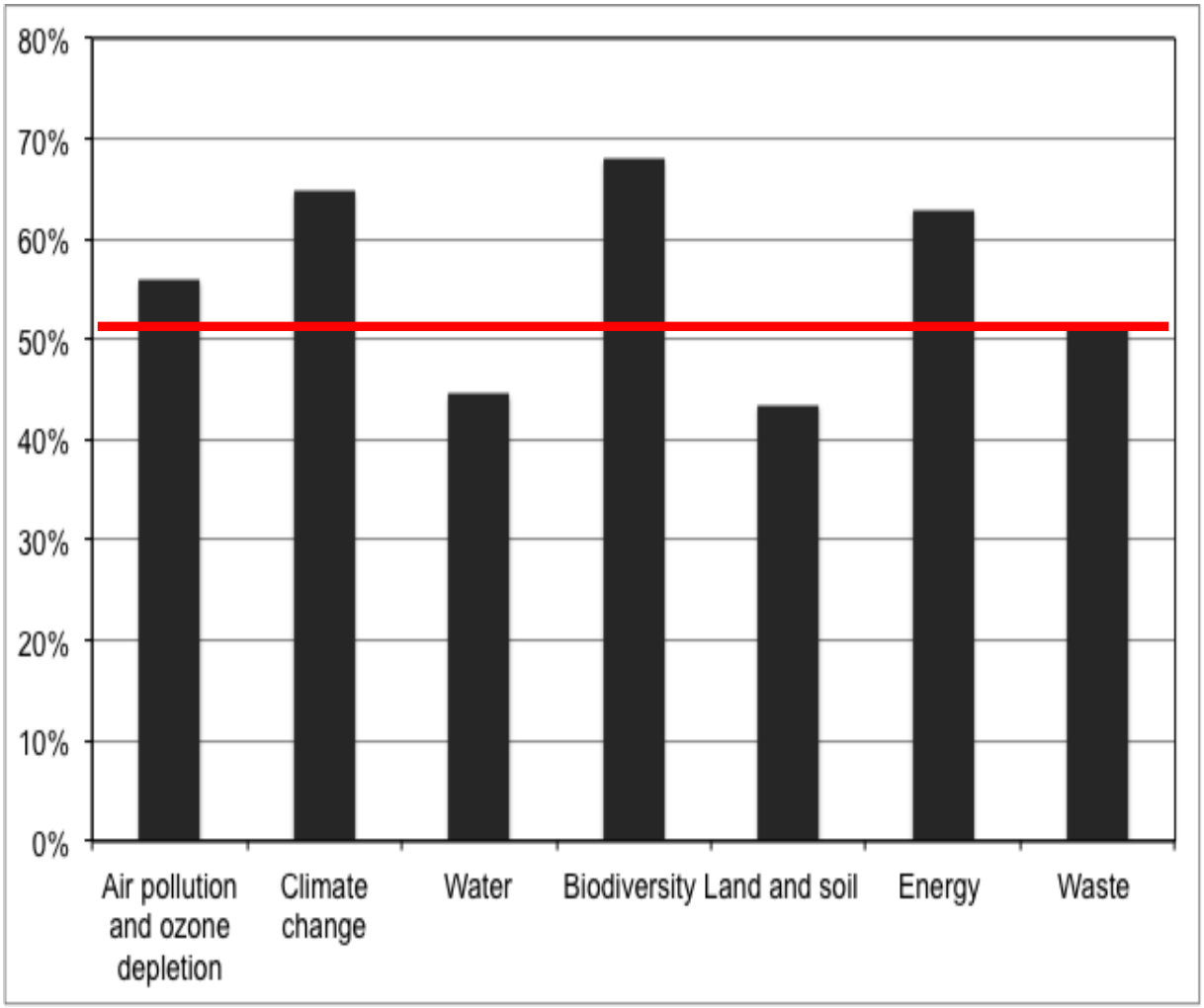
- Desk study conducted in the period between August 2015 and January 2016
- Secretariat collected all relevant information related to each environmental data set available online
- Data sets were rated according to the five criteria for review
  - Online accessibility
  - Update regularity
  - Production methodology
  - Data interpretation and use
  - Data source

Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of selected environmental indicators

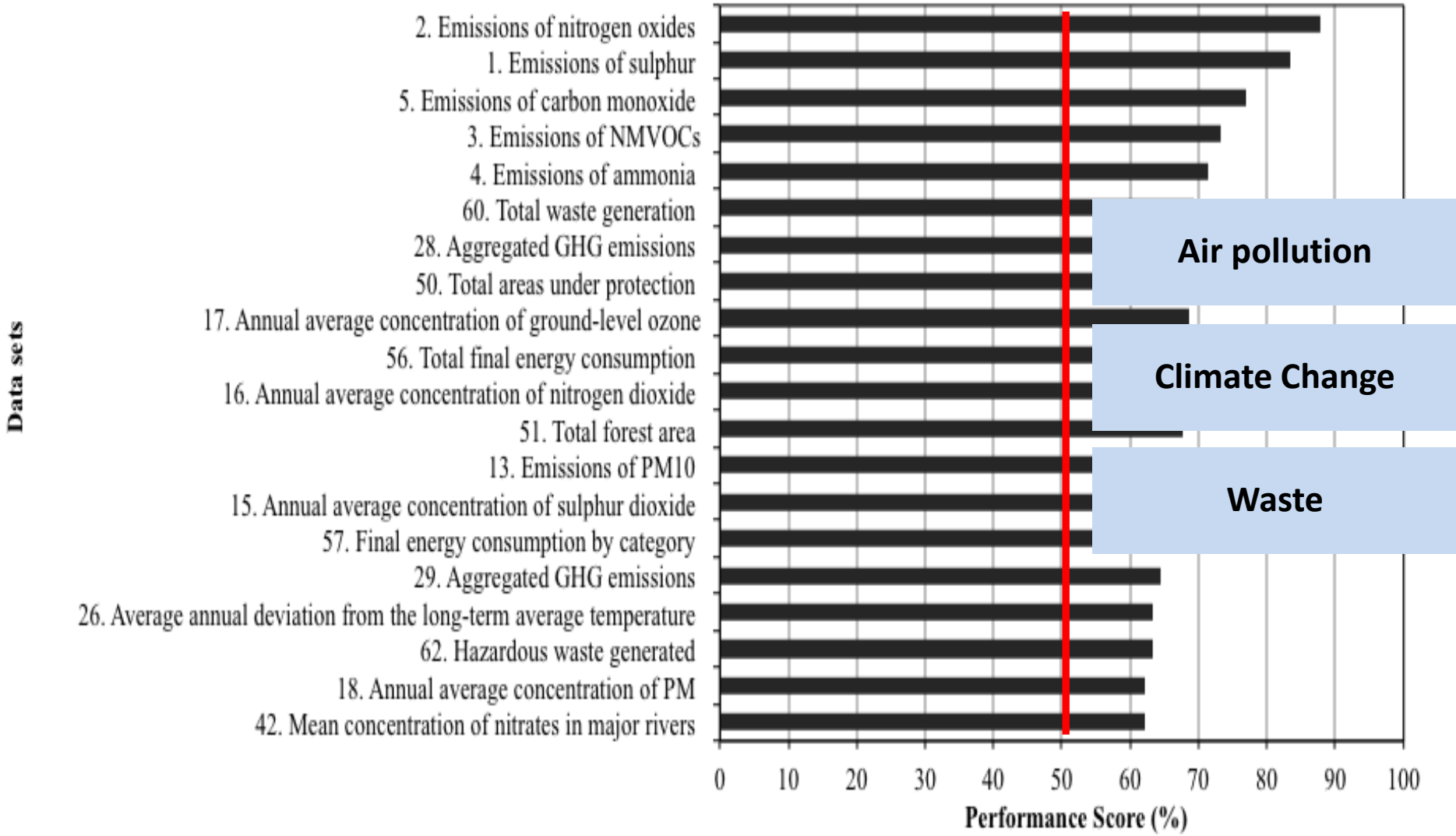
Results

- The 67 data sets and related information has been assessed for **53 pan-European countries**.
- **22 countries** have provided the secretariat with their comments and validated their SEIS status as of January 2016.
- Out of the 67 SEIS-related data sets, **51 per cent** were available across all national websites.

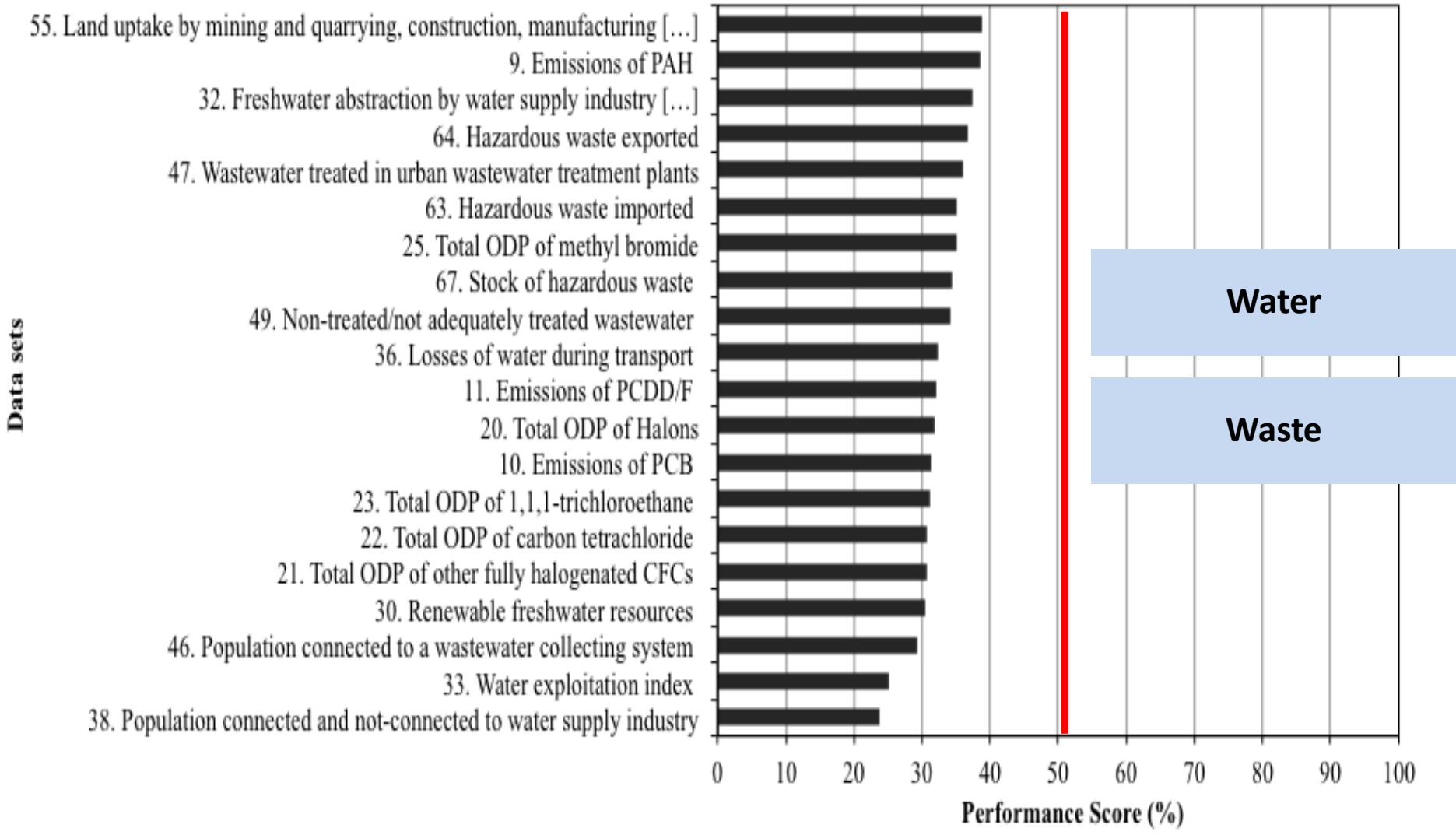
Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of selected environmental indicators

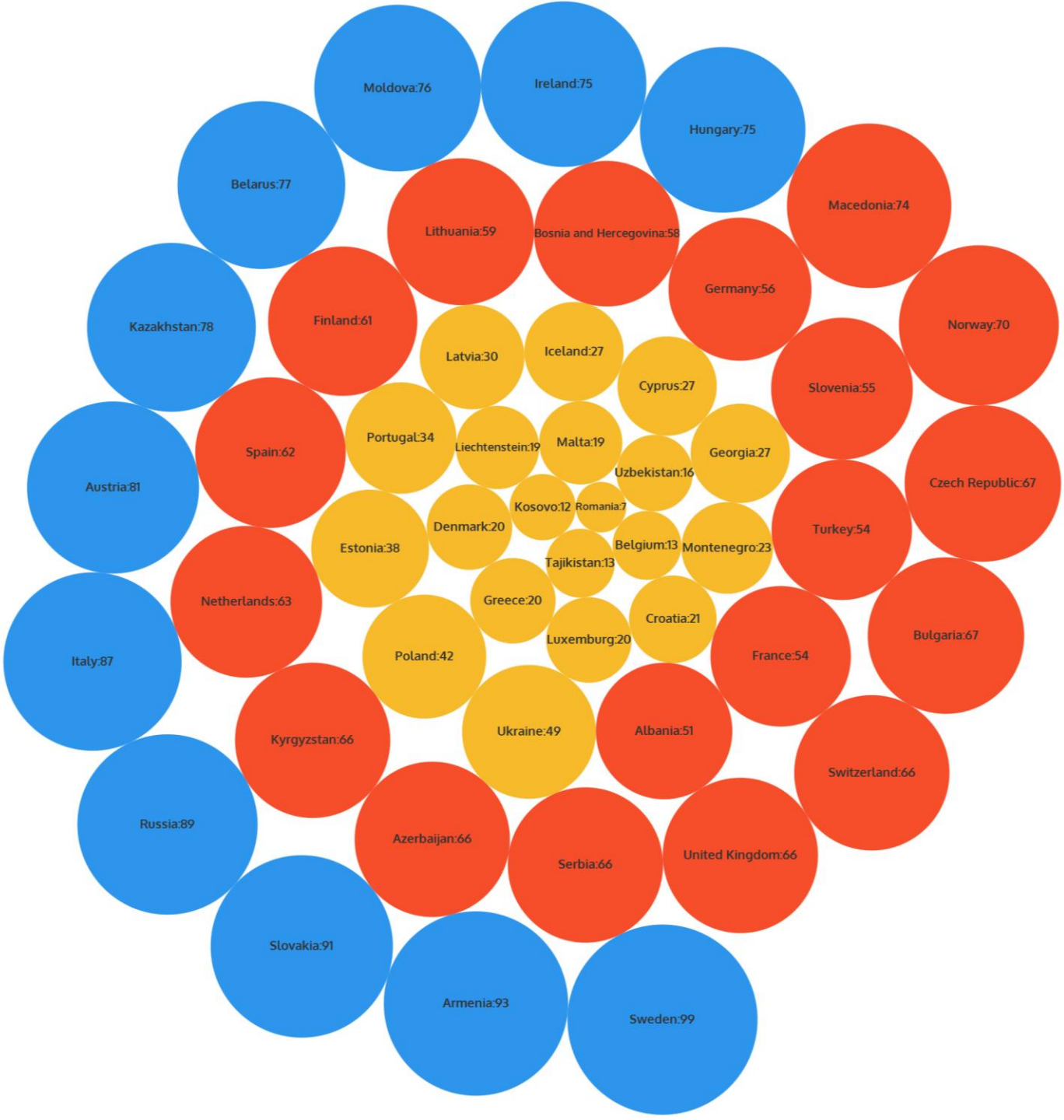


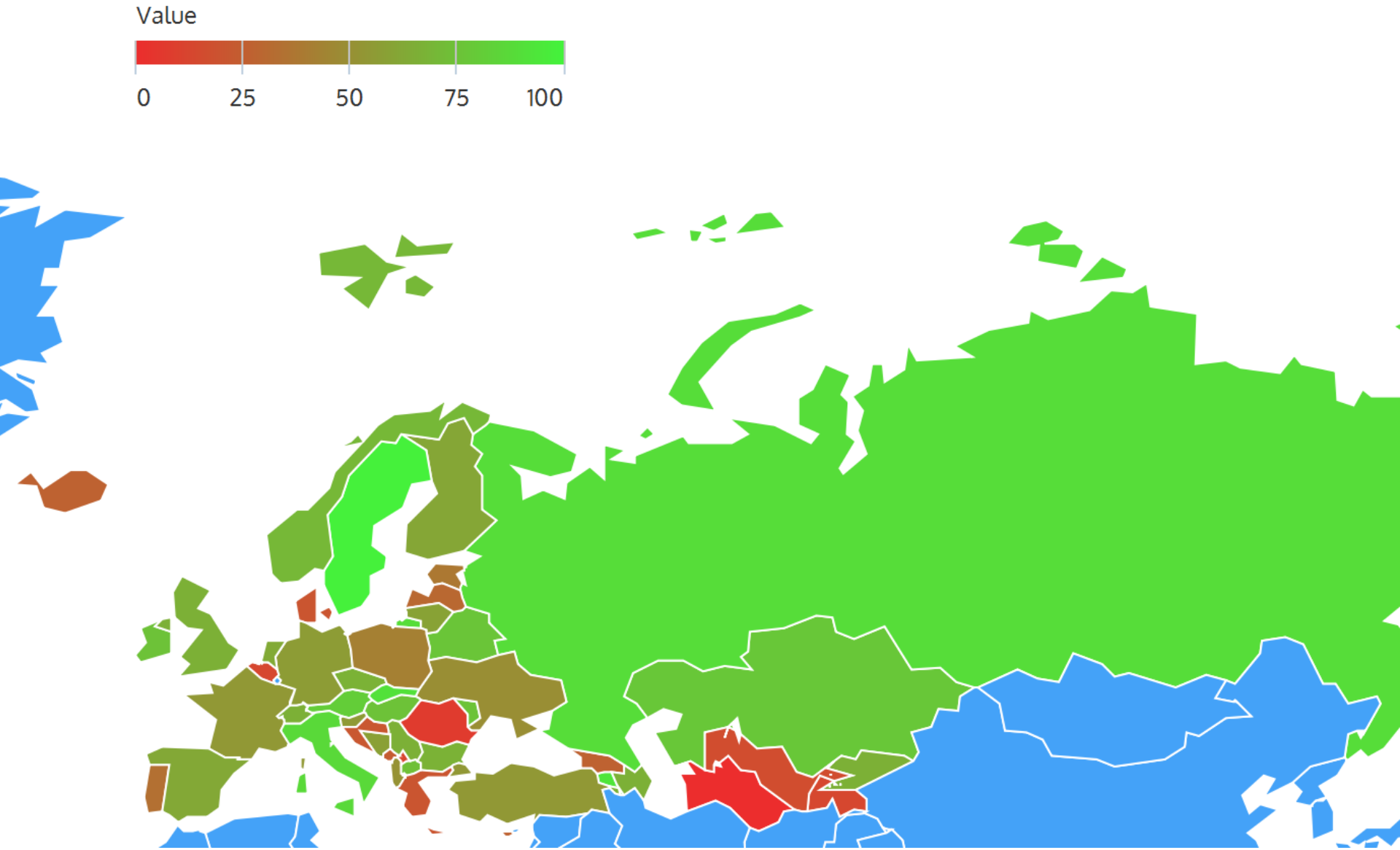
Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of the selected environmental indicators



Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of the selected environmental indicators




Moldova:76
Ireland:75
Hungary:75
Belarus:77
Macedonia:74
Lithuania:59
Bosnia and Hercegovina:58
Germany:56
Norway:70
Kazakhstan:78
Finland:61
Latvia:30
Iceland:27
Cyprus:27
Slovenia:55
Spain:62
Portugal:34
Liechtenstein:19
Malta:19
Georgia:27
Czech Republic:67
Austria:81
Uzbekistan:16
Kosovo:12
Romania:7
Denmark:20
Turkey:54
Estonia:38
Belgium:13
Montenegro:23
Tajikistan:13
Netherlands:63
Greece:20
Croatia:21
Bulgaria:67
Italy:87
Poland:42
Luxemburg:20
France:54
Kyrgyzstan:66
Ukraine:49
Albania:51
Switzerland:66
Russia:89
Azerbaijan:66
Serbia:66
United Kingdom:66
Slovakia:91
Armenia:93
Sweden:99


Value
0
25
50
75
100

Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of selected environmental indicators

Improving the availability and accessibility of SEIS data sets and related information

- Significant progress has been made by the reviewed countries in establishing SEIS.

- Case study examples
  - Belarus
  - Italy

Implementation of the recommendations for the production and online sharing of selected environmental indicators

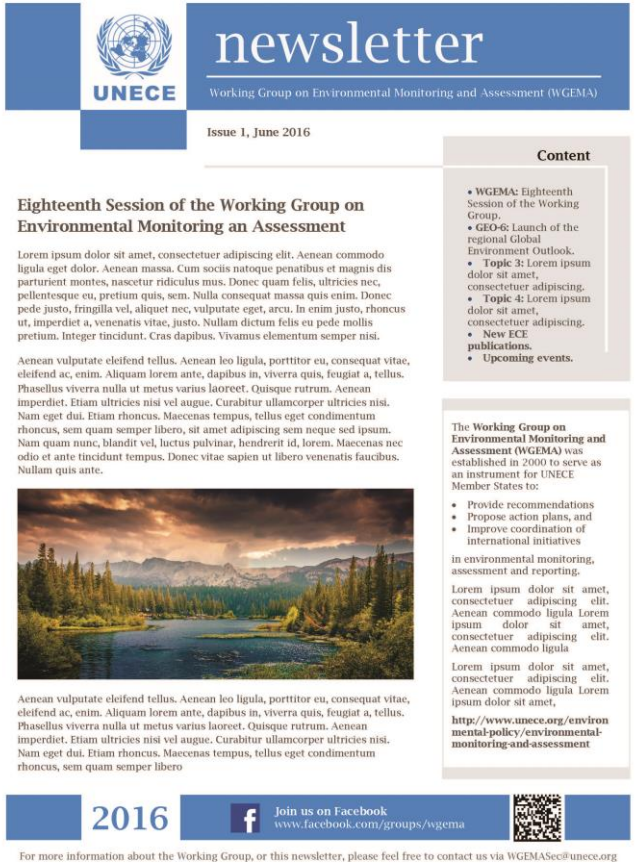
Conclusions

- The drive towards establishing the SEIS and to facilitate data harmonisation has had a positive impact.
  - 32 countries in the pan-European region have improved their SEIS performance score.
  - Only a limited number of countries for which only a few or no data sets could be found online.
- Results have highlighted performance gaps and areas in need of improvements.
  - Updating data sets with more recent content.
- Move beyond evaluating SEIS implementation across thematic areas and data sets to include an assessment of the content (e.g. data quality) as part of the reporting mechanism.

Next steps for the annual SEIS progress reporting: Reviewing the review criteria, SEIS targets and performance indicators.

- Pilot a quality definition and associated quality components, taking into account specificities of the data producer.
- Integrate quality considerations as an inherent part of the self assessment.
- Updating review criteria in parallel with developing the reporting application.
- Develop a simplified quality report as part of the self assessment.

Improving visibility and networking



UNECE

newsletter

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA)

Issue 1, June 2016

Content

- **WGEMA:** Eighteenth Session of the Working Group.
- **GEO-6:** Launch of the regional Global Environment Outlook.
- **Topic 3:** Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing.
- **Topic 4:** Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing.
- **New ECE publications.**
- **Upcoming events.**

Eighteenth Session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring an Assessment

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Aenean commodo ligula eget dolor. Aenean massa. Cum sociis natoque penatibus et magnis dis parturient montes, nascetur ridiculus mus. Donec quam felis, ultricies nec, pellentesque eu, pretium quis, sem. Nulla consequat massa quis enim. Donec pede justo, fringilla vel, aliquet nec, vulputate eget, arcu. In enim justo, rhoncus ut, imperdiet a, venenatis vitae, justo. Nullam dictum felis eu pede mollis pretium. Integer tincidunt. Cras dapibus. Vivamus elementum semper nisi.

Aenean vulputate eleifend tellus. Aenean leo ligula, porttitor eu, consequat vitae, eleifend ac, enim. Aliquam lorem ante, dapibus in, viverra quis, feugiat a, tellus. Phasellus viverra nulla ut metus varius laoreet. Quisque rutrum. Aenean imperdiet. Etiam ultricies nisi vel augue. Curabitur ullamcorper ultricies nisi. Nam eget dui. Etiam rhoncus. Maecenas tempus, tellus eget condimentum rhoncus, sem quam semper libero, sit amet adipiscing sem neque sed ipsum. Nam quam nunc, blandit vel, luctus pulvinar, hendrerit id, lorem. Maecenas nec odio et ante tincidunt tempus. Donec vitae sapien ut libero venenatis faucibus. Nullam quis ante.

Aenean vulputate eleifend tellus. Aenean leo ligula, porttitor eu, consequat vitae, eleifend ac, enim. Aliquam lorem ante, dapibus in, viverra quis, feugiat a, tellus. Phasellus viverra nulla ut metus varius laoreet. Quisque rutrum. Aenean imperdiet. Etiam ultricies nisi vel augue. Curabitur ullamcorper ultricies nisi. Nam eget dui. Etiam rhoncus. Maecenas tempus, tellus eget condimentum rhoncus, sem quam semper libero

The **Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA)** was established in 2000 to serve as an instrument for UNECE Member States to:

- Provide recommendations
- Propose action plans, and
- Improve coordination of international initiatives

in environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting.

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Aenean commodo ligula Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Aenean commodo ligula

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit. Aenean commodo ligula Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,

http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/environmental-monitoring-and-assessment

2016

Join us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/groups/wgema

For more information about the Working Group, or this newsletter, please feel free to contact us via WGEMASec@unece.org

https://www.facebook.com/groups/wgema/

Questions?