



International questionnaires on the environment

Rosstat/UNECE/UNEP/OECD workshop on environment-related SDG indicators

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- **Monitoring progress through indicators is essential for policy development, implementation and evaluation**
- **Monitoring progress at international level requires**
 - Harmonised measurement frameworks: definitions, classifications, methodologies
 - Harmonised reporting processes and formats, including questionnaires
 - Effective and cost-efficient international cooperation
- **International questionnaires on the environment**
 - Multilateral Environmental Agreements: UNFCCC, Basel Convention, ...
 - UN agencies
 - European Union
 - OECD
- **Provide important inputs into monitoring environment-related SDGs**



The OECD questionnaire on the state of the environment

- **Major tool for harmonised data collection at international level**
 - Regular since 1980 (biennial)
 - → Core set of harmonised environmental data for use in international work
- **Regular use in OECD work**
 - Environmental indicators, green growth indicators
 - Policy analyses and integration
 - Country reviews
- **Holistic approach**
 - Pressure-state-response (PSR) model
 - Nine questionnaire sections: air, inland waters, marine environment, land, forest, wildlife, waste, noise, expenditure and revenues
- **Complemented with data from other sources**
 - OECD databases: Policy Instruments; Fossil fuel subsidies; ODA; ...
 - Data from earth observation: land cover, air pollution



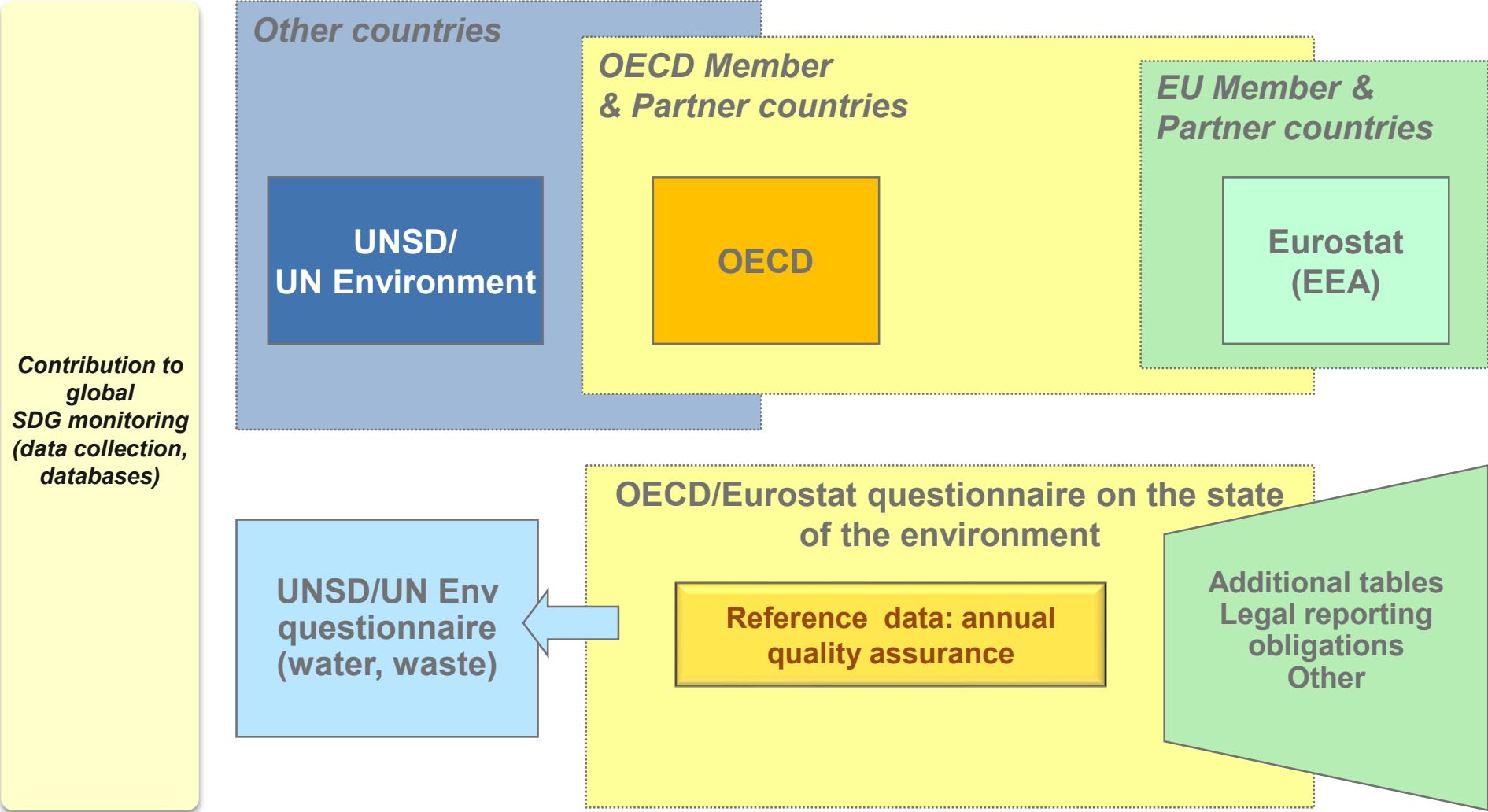
- **Streamlined data collection process since 2010**
 - Focus on priority areas: air, water, waste, expenditure
 - Annual quality assurance (AQA) of environmental reference data
 - Biennial collection for other and more detailed data
 - Greater use of other international sources for other topics
- **Reference data for annual quality assurance**
 - Annual emissions of air pollutants and GHG: for countries not reporting under MEAs; other countries (validation only)
 - Freshwater resources and abstractions → water stress
 - Wastewater treatment (connection rates)
 - Depletion and growth of forest resources
 - Animal and plant populations
 - Generation, treatment and disposal of municipal waste



- **International coherence**
 - Use of international definitions, classifications
 - Alignment with accounting principles (SEEA)
- **Regular revisions**
 - Policy needs
 - International and national developments
- **Cost-efficient international cooperation**
 - Close cooperation and joint work with Eurostat, UNSD, UNEP
 - Cooperation with Convention Secretariats and other IGOs
- **Data validation**
 - Close interaction with countries
 - Joint with Eurostat for common member countries
- **Links to data collection for the SDGs: waste, water**



Data collection via questionnaire: a layered approach at international level





Recent developments and ongoing work

- **Increasing number of international data collections**
 - SDG related: e.g. FAO on water and irrigation (Aquastat)
 - Growing demand for annual updates
- **Waste questionnaire (OECD, UNSD, Eurostat)**
 - Consolidate and further improve data (work with countries)
 - Review coherence with SDG indicators: small adjustments
 - Expand the data collection to better respond to emerging information demands, i.e. circular economy
- **Water questionnaire (OECD, UNSD, Eurostat)**
 - Consolidate and further improve data (work with countries)
 - Review coherence with accounting principles (SEEA)
 - Review coherence with SDG indicators: small amendments
 - Coordinate with FAO: common questionnaire, coordinated collection process
- **Annual quality assurance → expand scope**



Thank you!