

“A Global Framework for Sustainable Resource Management”

Roundtable Discussion during the 30th Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy
Tempus 2, Palais des Nations, Geneva and online
22 September 2021, 17h00 – 18h00 Geneva time

Background

The world’s population is expected to increase to over 10 billion by 2050, and there is a concomitant growth in demand for natural resources. The latter calls for sustainable development that depends on the optimal and responsible production and use of natural resources. There is a need for a coherent framework for natural resource management if the world needs to meet its objectives listed in the 2030 Agenda, Paris Agreement, and progress towards a circular economy. Based on global dialogue and feedback, an 18-point action plan has been recommended by the UN Secretary-General’s Policy Brief, [“Transforming Extractive Industries for Sustainable Development”](#). The core of this call to action is implementing a principles-based, integrated, sustainable resource management framework using tools such as the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) and the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS).

Objective

This session will review the urgency for integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and demonstrate the commitment to the development and implementation of UNFC and UNRMS. Various stakeholders are starting to apply these tools globally to transform the production and use of natural resources along sustainable pathways to deliver good social and environmental outcomes. The session will focus on an exchange of ideas and progress made globally, including on the establishment of International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRMs).

Issues to be explored

- What is the added value of applying UNFC and UNRMS for the management of natural resources?
- What are the challenges and opportunities in managing diverse natural resources?
- How important is the social contract on natural resources in realizing the goals of the 2030 Agenda?
- Why should natural resources in a modern world be managed in an integrated and sustainable manner?
- How important is international collaboration in the sustainable management of natural resources?
- How can the International Centres of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management promote collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and capacity building?

Session Moderator: Slavko Solar, UNECE Sustainable Energy Division, EGRM Secretariat

Keynotes

- Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy on Financing 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Peter Handley, Head of Unit, Energy Intensive Industries - Raw Materials, DG GROW, European Commission
- Karen Hanghøj, Director of British Geological Survey, UK

Panelists

- Igor Shpurov, State Committee on Mineral Reserves (GKZ) and International Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM) Moscow, Russian Federation
 - Ulises Neri, National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico
 - Tunde Arisekola, African Union Commission, African Minerals Development Centre
 - JU Jianhua, Director-General, Department of Mineral Resources Protection and Supervision, Ministry of Natural Resources, China
 - Meta Dobnikar, EuroGeoSurveys, GeoZS, Slovenia
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