



Workplan 2021

The Coalition's work is based around three pillars:

- Strengthening environmental governance and implementing the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Supporting countries in the environmental dimension of UNSDCF and CCA processes
- Monitoring and reporting on the environmental and climate change dimension of SDGs.

| Pillar/Activity | Timeline | Status |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Overall | | |
| Regular meetings of IBC | Approx. every 2 months | Meetings held on 21 April, 17 June and 4 Sept. 2020. Agendas and reports published on the IBC website at https://www.unece.org/runcwelcome/issue-based-coalitions/environment-and-climate-change/calendar-of-activities.html , alongside information on all IBC activities. |
| Identification of RC priorities and expectations through a questionnaire and subregional meetings with RCs and UNCTs | First half of 2020 | Questionnaire issued on 27 February 2020. 13 RCs responded. Meetings held in Central Asia, South-Eastern Europe and, together, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Turkey on 12 May, 28 May and 3 June 2020, respectively. Agendas and reports published on above website. |
| Establishment and operation of corresponding thematic task teams | From mid-2020 | Survey sent to IBC members on leading or contributing to actions, which served as the basis for creating 11 task teams that focus on the key topics for environmental and climate sustainability, June 2020. |

workplan **IBC on Environment and Climate Change**

| Pillar/Activity | Timeline | Status |
|--|-----------------|---|
| Pillar 1: Strengthening environmental and climate change governance and implementing the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda | | |
| Key messages, policy briefs and webinars (per task team), including outreach and training | | |
| Socioeconomic assessments & post-pandemic recovery strategies: recommendations on socioeconomic assessments, followed by more elaborated guidance on strategies | 2020–early 2021 | Co-leads issued a UNEP note on sound management of waste in the context of COVID-19, 11 May 2020. Issue of "Preliminary responses by the Coalition's co-leads to queries posed by Resident Coordinator Offices on the impact of COVID-19 on the environment", 17 June 2020. Issue of "Summary recommendations by the Coalition on COVID-19 recovery", 20 August 2020. Issue of Compendium of measures to green the post-pandemic recovery, 31 January 2021). |
| Climate change & disaster risk reduction: policy brief on coherence between DRR & climate change adaptation; potential actions for COP26. | 2021 | Draft Innovation Brief on Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation for Risk-informed and Climate-smart Development, ready as of August 2021 Compilation of resources in response to the request from Moldova UNCT, June–July 2021 |
| Biodiversity & nature-based solutions: webinars on (i) new IPBES report on Biodiversity and Pandemics: 'Escaping the Era of Pandemics' and (ii) meeting biodiversity targets. | 2021 | Message sent by co-leads on World Environment Day (on biodiversity) on 5 June 2020. |
| Air pollution: webinars for subregions on exchange of experience in one specific sector or specific topic | 2021 | Webinar on Air pollution from domestic heating in Serbia – impacts, challenges and solutions, 26 May 2021. Follow-up actions expected with Serbia UNCT on air pollution from domestic heating. Outreach brief on lessons learned from the webinar Possible second webinar on Air pollution from domestic heating in another country in the region, subject to demand from interested UNRCs |
| Water management: webinars | 2020–2021 | Webinar on the 2020 World Water Development Report on Water and Climate Change, 27 May 2020 Webinar on transboundary water cooperation, based on examples from Drin and Drina river basins, 7 July 2020 Possible webinar on preventing water conflicts through improving transboundary water cooperation in the pan-European region, including presentation of global developments and processes on water |
| Sustainable infrastructure: compendium of existing policy guidance and tools | 2021 | Under design. |
| Sustainable consumption & production: webinar to present to the RCs and the UNCTs the existing guidance, practices and resources for the uptake and implementation of sustainable public procurement | 2021 | Under design |

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| Pillar/Activity | Timeline | Status |
|---|-----------|--|
| Food security & land management: webinar on climate change and food security | 2021 | Under design |
| Environment & youth: establish, maintain a knowledge platform; facilitate opportunities for networking; host specific webinars | 2021 | Under design |
| Environment & gender: offer support to countries in ECA to collect and apply gender and environment data; establish and maintain a knowledge platform; facilitate opportunities for networking; Identify experts, academicians, and analysts as well as think tanks | 2021 | Under design |
| Migration, environment & climate change: information sheet on the European Green Deal; common key messages for RCs; webinars on (i) migration, environment and climate change nexus and (ii) UNFCCC human mobility work programme | 2021 | Under design Common messages have been drafted, as at August 2021 |
| Joint calendar of key regional events | On-going | Postponed given the ongoing disruption of meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic |
| Pillar 2: Supporting countries in the environmental and climate change dimension of UNSDCF and CCA processes | | |
| Individual inputs to CCAs and UNSDCFs | On-going | IBC members have continued their individual inputs, but much has been overtaken by events linked with the COVID-19 pandemic, including the production of socioeconomic impact assessments and recovery strategies. |
| Initiate subregional and/or national consultations with RCs re environmental and climate change dimensions | 2021 | Ongoing |
| Develop menu of advisory services and capacity development services | 2021 | Completed, finalized in August 2021 |
| Agree on operationalizing IBC support | 2020–2021 | Ongoing |
| Policy briefs on integration of environmental and climate change priorities and/or approaches in CCAs and UNSDCFs | | |
| Guidance on Integrating the Environment and Climate Change in Processes for UNSDCFs | 2020–2021 | Mainstreaming guidance and gap analysis launched, 1 July 2021. Capacity-development webinars being designed. |

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| Pillar/Activity | Timeline | Status |
|--|-----------|--|
| Pillar 3: Monitoring and reporting on the environmental and climate change dimension of SDGs. | | |
| Establish website for IBC | 2020 | A website was set up with a calendar of activities (https://unece.org/IBC_Env_calendar-activities) and a collection of resources on COVID-19, the environment and climate change (https://unece.org/covid-19-environment-and-climate-change), to which all IBC members were invited to provide resources |
| Agree hosting arrangements for storing information recommended by IBC | 2020 | By default, above |
| Review other knowledge hubs and agree on framework | 2021 | Not started |
| Review RC questionnaire to determine priority knowledge products | 2020 | Questionnaire issued (see above) and analysed |
| Refine knowledge needs through subregional calls with RCs | 2020 | Subregional meetings held (see above) and outcomes analysed |
| IBC members share knowledge products for uploading on hub and agree on modalities | 2020–2021 | Begun for COVID-19 related products (see link above). Expansion and definition of modalities not started |
| Mobilize resources for the hub | 2021 | Not started |

Abbreviations (except agencies): CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity; CCA – Common Country Analysis; DCO – Development Coordination Office; IBC – Issue-based Coalition; MSMEs – micro, small & medium enterprises; PSG – Peer Support Group; RC – Resident Coordinator; SDG – Sustainable Development Goal; tbd – to be determined; UNCT – UN Country Team; UNSDCF – UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

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Task teams have been established for 11 topics under pillar 1, as identified in the workplan. The membership of the 11 task teams, plus – tentatively – additional ones for pillars 2 and 3, are shown in the table below. Within each task team, co-leads are responsible for leading activities, designed by the task teams and reported on to IBC. Each task team implements activities as it wishes but, normally, products would be developed involving all task team members and would be cleared by all IBC members. Products, such as policy briefs, will be issued through the IBC co-leads to Regional DCO and thus to RCs and UNCTs. The holding of webinars will be coordinated by the IBC co-leads to avoid overloading RCs and UNCTs.

| Topic | Pillar | Co-leads | Contributors |
|---|--------|-------------------------|--|
| Socioeconomic assessments and post-pandemic recovery strategies (build back better, green & circular economy) | 1 | UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO | UNDP, UN Women, UNOPS, WHO, OHCHR, UNDRR, ILO, UNFCCC, UNICEF, IOM |
| Climate change and disaster risk reduction | 1 | UNFCCC, WMO, WFP, UNDRR | UNDP, UNEP, UNOPS, FAO, WHO, OHCHR, UNECE, UNESCO, WMO, UNICEF, IOM |
| Biodiversity & nature-based solutions | 1 | UNEP, UNESCO | UNOPS, OHCHR, UNECE, UNDP, UNFCCC |
| Air pollution | 1 | UNECE, UNEP, WHO | UNDP, UNOPS, OHCHR, WMO, UNICEF |
| Sustainable consumption and production (including decarbonization/carbon neutrality & waste) | 1 | UNOPS, FAO, UNEP | UN Women, OHCHR, UNECE, WHO, UNFCCC |
| Water management | 1 | UNECE, UNESCO | UNOPS, WHO, WMO |
| Food security and land management | 1 | FAO, WFP | OHCHR, WMO |
| Sustainable infrastructure | 1 | UNOPS, UNEP | WHO, UNECE, UNESCO |
| Environment and youth | 1 | UNICEF | UN Women, UNOPS, WHO, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNEP, ILO, UNFPA and IBC Youth |
| Environment and gender | 1 | UN Women | IOM, UNOPS, OHCHR, UNFCCC, UNICEF, UNECE and IBC Gender |
| Migration, environment & climate change | 1 | IOM | UNEP, IBC Migration |
| CCAs and UNSDCFs | 2 | UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO | (all) |
| Monitoring and reporting, data and information | 3 | UNEP, UNESCO, UNECE | FAO, WHO, OHCHR, UNDRR (and all other members requested to contribute) |

At 23 August 2021, revised by the core team