United Nations Statistics Division's updates on activities related to the production and sharing of environmental statistics and indicators

Environment Statistics Section
United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

Prepared for the Eighteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators
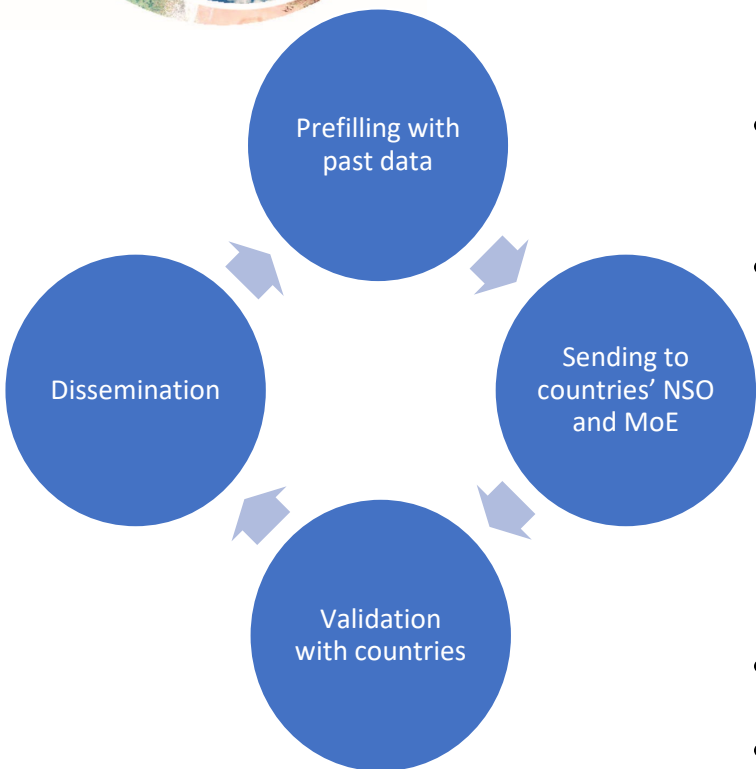
18 October 2021

Outline

1. **Status of UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics and JTF on Environmental Statistics and Indicators Members' contributions to it**

   i) Waste Statistics

   ii) Water Statistics

2. **Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators**

All work can be found at: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/

UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics

Prefilling with past data

Sending to countries' NSO and MoE

Dissemination

Validation with countries

- Since 1999, UNSD has collected waste data 10 times biennially, from about 170 UN member states.

- Questionnaire are sent to National Statistical Offices and Ministries of Environment.

- Questionnaires are not sent to Eurostat and OECD members and candidate members.

- Response rate typically hovers around 50% (2018: 52%; 2020: approaching 50%). **9/12 JTF members responded in 2020.**

- Among JTF members, this Questionnaire is sent to: **Armenia**, **Azerbaijan**, **Belarus**, **Georgia**, **Kazakhstan**, Kyrgyzstan, **Republic of Moldova**, **Russian Federation**, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, **Ukraine** and **Uzbekistan** (12 countries).

- No imputation, no estimation.

- Outputs are: the UNSD Environmental Indicator Tables, Country Snapshots, and Country Files.

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UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics: disseminated outputs

- **UNSD environmental indicators**: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/qindicators Time series, or most recently available data for selected variables provided by countries. Disseminated after completion of collection cycle.

- **Country files**: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/country_files Individual country data on water and waste. Disseminated periodically during collection cycle. E.g. all nine countries here who provided data to UNSD for the 2020 Questionnaire all have their data in the public domain here.

- **Country snapshots**: https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/snapshots/ Individual country data spanning many environmental themes.

- **Tailored queries**: Per solicitation from key users.

UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics
Waste

- R1: Generation of waste by source / Образование отходов по источникам

- R2: Management of hazardous waste / Обращение с опасными отходами

- R3: Management of municipal waste / Обращение с муниципальными отходами

- R4: Composition of municipal waste / Состав муниципальных отходов

- R5: Management of municipal waste — City data / Обращение с муниципальными отходами — Данные по городам

- R6: Electronic waste / Образование электронных отходов и их сбор

Статистическое управление Организации Объединенных Наций (СУООН) и Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде
Вопросник по статистике окружающей среды 2020 года

Раздел: Отходы

Содержание	
Руководство	Введение, порядок заполнения, описание таблиц
Определения	Список определений
Таблица R1	Образование отходов по источникам
Таблица R2	Обращение с опасными отходами
Таблица R3	Обращение с муниципальными отходами
Таблица R4	Состав муниципальных отходов
Таблица R5	Обращение с муниципальными отходами — Данные по городам
Таблица R6	Образование электронных отходов и их сбор
Таблица R7	Дополнительная информационная таблица

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and United Nations Environment Programme
QUESTIONNAIRE 2020 ON ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

Section: WASTE

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Guidance	Introduction, Steps to Follow, Description of Tables
Definitions	List of Definitions
Table R1	Generation of Waste by Source
Table R2	Management of Hazardous Waste
Table R3	Management of Municipal Waste
Table R4	Composition of Municipal Waste
Table R5	Management of Municipal Waste — City Data
Table R6	Electronic Waste Generation and Collection
Table R7	Supplementary Information Sheet

UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics
Water

- W1: Renewable freshwater resources / Возобновляемые пресноводные ресурсы

- W2: Freshwater abstraction and use / Забор и использование пресной воды

- W3: Water supply industry (ISIC 36) / Предприятия водоснабжения (МСОК 36)

- W4: Wastewater generation and treatment / Образование и очистка сточных вод

- W5: Population connected to wastewater treatment / Население, обеспеченное системами очистки сточных вод

UNSD

ООН окружающая среда
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде

Статистическое управление Организации Обединенных Наций (СУООН) и Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде
Вопросник по статистике окружающей среды 2020 года

Раздел: Водные ресурсы

Содержание	
Руководство	Введение, порядок заполнения, описание таблиц и таблица перевода единиц
Определения	Список определений
Таблица W1	Возобновляемые пресноводные ресурсы
Таблица W2	Забор и использование пресной воды
Таблица W3	Предприятия водоснабжения (МСОК 36)
Таблица W4	Образование и очистка сточных вод
Таблица W5	Население, обеспеченное системами очистки сточных вод
Таблица W6	Дополнительный информационный листок

UNSD

UN environment programme

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and United Nations Environment Programme
QUESTIONNAIRE 2020 ON ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

Section: WATER

TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Guidance	Introduction, Steps to Follow, Description of Tables and Conversion Table
Definitions	List of Definitions
Table W1	Renewable Freshwater Resources
Table W2	Freshwater Abstraction and Use
Table W3	Water Supply Industry (ISIC 36)
Table W4	Wastewater Generation and Treatment
Table W5	Population Connected to Wastewater Treatment
Table W6	Supplementary Information Sheet

UNSD

Interest from stakeholders in country data collected via the UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics

Hottest current interest is mostly via Sustainable Development Goal-related mandates from key stakeholders shown below and on next slide

Indicator 11.6.1 (Tier II): Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities.

- Custodian agencies: UN-HABITAT, UNSD
- Metadata [link]

Indicator 12.4.2 (Tier II): Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment.

- Custodian agencies: UNEP, UNSD
- Metadata [link]

Indicator 12.5.1 (Tier II): National recycling rate, tons of material recycled.

- Custodian agencies: UNEP, UNSD
- Metadata [link]

…and also continued interest from academia, researchers, journalists, etc.

Interest from stakeholders in country data collected via the UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics

- Indicator 6.3.1 (Tier II): Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater safely treated
    - Custodian agencies: WHO, UN-HABITAT, UNSD
    - Metadata [link]

- Indicator 6.4.1 (Tier I): Change in water-use efficiency over time
    - Custodian agencies: FAO. Partners: UNEP, IUCN, UNSD, OECD, Eurostat
    - Metadata [link]

- Indicator 6.4.2 (Tier I): Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources
    - Custodian agencies: FAO. Partners: UNEP, IUCN, UNSD, OECD, Eurostat
    - Metadata [link]

Continued efforts to collaborate with countries

- Due to reduced international travel, UNSD makes effort to collaborate virtually

- Country consultation on UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics: Video call where UNSD made itself available for any questions or concerns countries who had not yet responded to the Questionnaire may have. About 15 countries attended together with key user stakeholders (World Health Organization, UN-HABITAT).

- Bilateral calls between a country NSO and UNSD on technical issues pertaining to the UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire on Environment Statistics (bound by language constraints)

Citations to Questionnaire and countries' contributions to it by international agencies

- United Nations, UN Water, UN-HABITAT, World Health Organization: **Progress on Wastewater Treatment – 2021 Update** Progress on Wastewater Treatment – 2021 Update | UN-Water (unwater.org)

- United Nations University: **The Global E-waste Monitor, 2020**. http://ewastemonitor.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/GEM_2020_def_dec_2020-1.pdf

Climate Change Statistics Mandates

2016: Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics to the 47th session of the Statistical Commission.
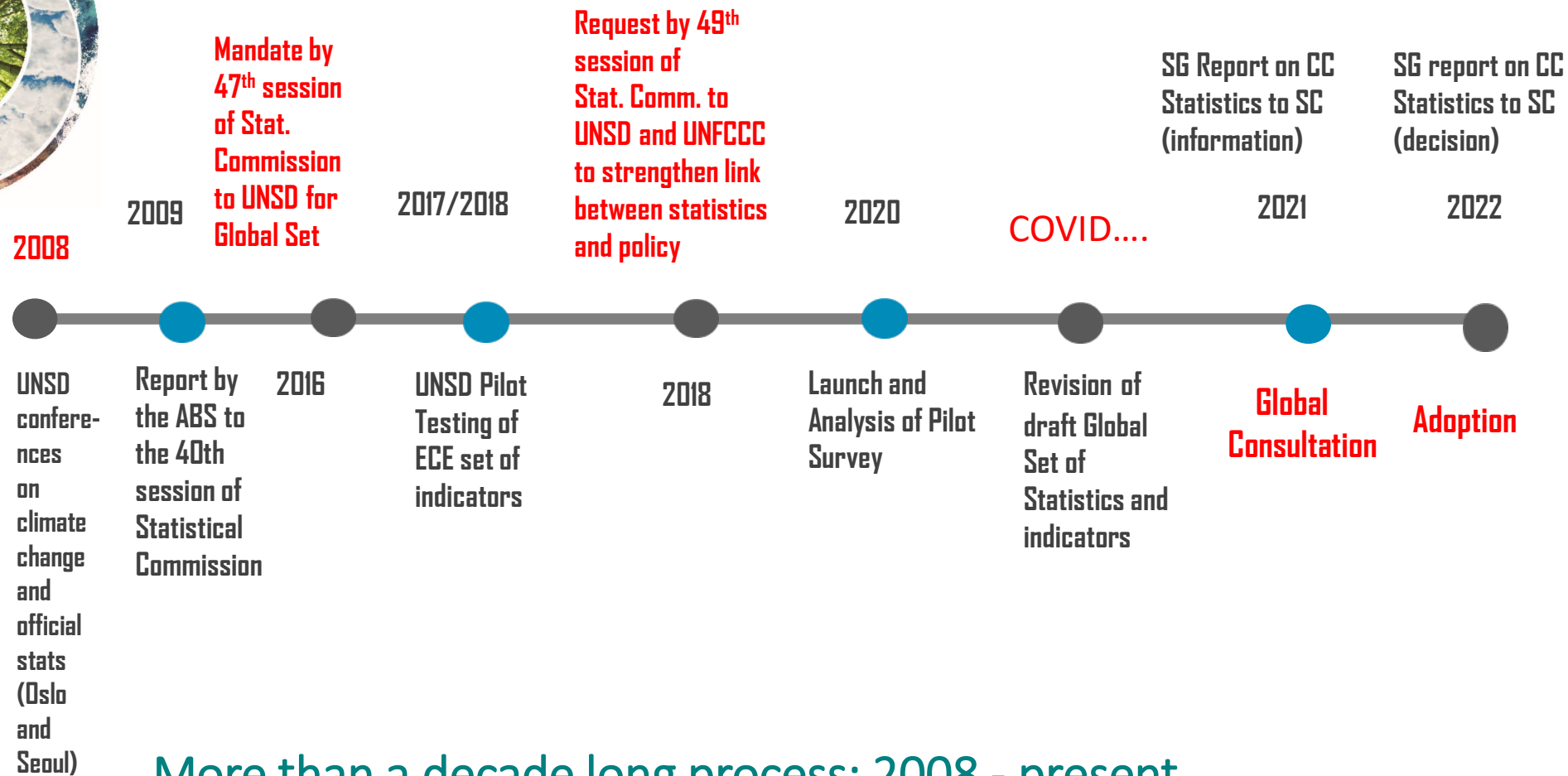
- UNSD, in collaboration with UN-ECE, prepared the Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics to the 47th session of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2016/15)

- Main decision: UNSD to review and consider UN-ECE set of climate change-related statistics and indicators as a basis for developing a global set of climate change statistics and indicators, applicable to countries at various stages of development.

2018: Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics to the 49th session of the Statistical Commission in 2018

- UNSD, in collaboration with UN-ECE and UNFCCC, prepared the Report of the Secretary-General on Climate Change Statistics to the 49th session of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2018/14)

- Main decision: UNSD and UNFCCC to strengthen the link between statistics and policy, for example, by: (i) undertaking joint initiatives in the development of climate change statistics and indicators; (ii) encouraging joint capacity building efforts and trainings with other partners, and (iii) exploring ways to encourage NSOs to be more involved in the preparation of data submissions to the UNFCCC secretariat, for supporting the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange_docs_conf.cshtml

UNSD

Background to UNSD work on development of Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators
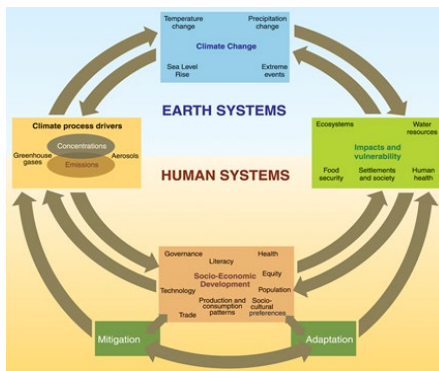

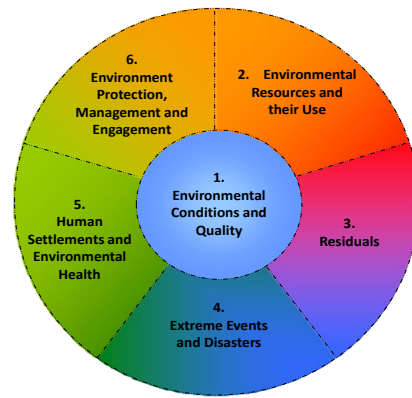More than a decade long process: 2008 - present

Global Set: Foundation

- Global Set, being developed in close collaboration with UNFCCC, is structured according to the IPCC framework and FDES.

- Relevant articles of the Paris Agreement (PA) and the decisions under the PA Work Programme adopted in Katowice, as well as related SDG and Sendai Framework indicators, are also referenced to strengthen the link between statistics and policy.
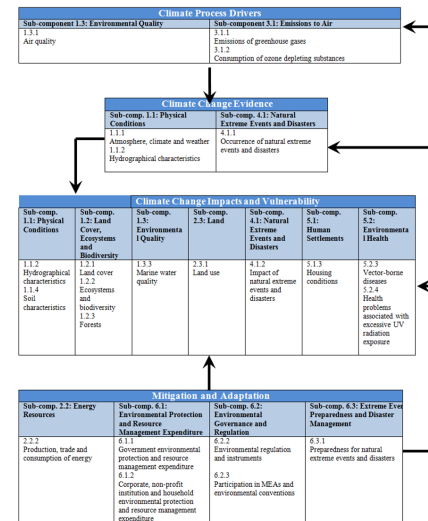

IPCC, 2007, Fourth Assessment Report

Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013)

Relevant chapters of the Manual of the BSES
https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/manual_bses.cshtml

FDES cross-cutting application (Chapter 5) links climate change and environment statistics based on the IPCC Framework

Goal 13

SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION 2015-2030

Global Consultation on draft Global Set

Part I:

- **Institutional Dimension of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators** (in countries): aims at collecting general information on the institutional dimensions of climate change statistics through an online survey.

- **International Agency's Activities on Climate Change Statistics and Indicators**: aims at collecting general information on the main activities led by international Agencies (data collection, methodology development and capacity development), through an online survey.
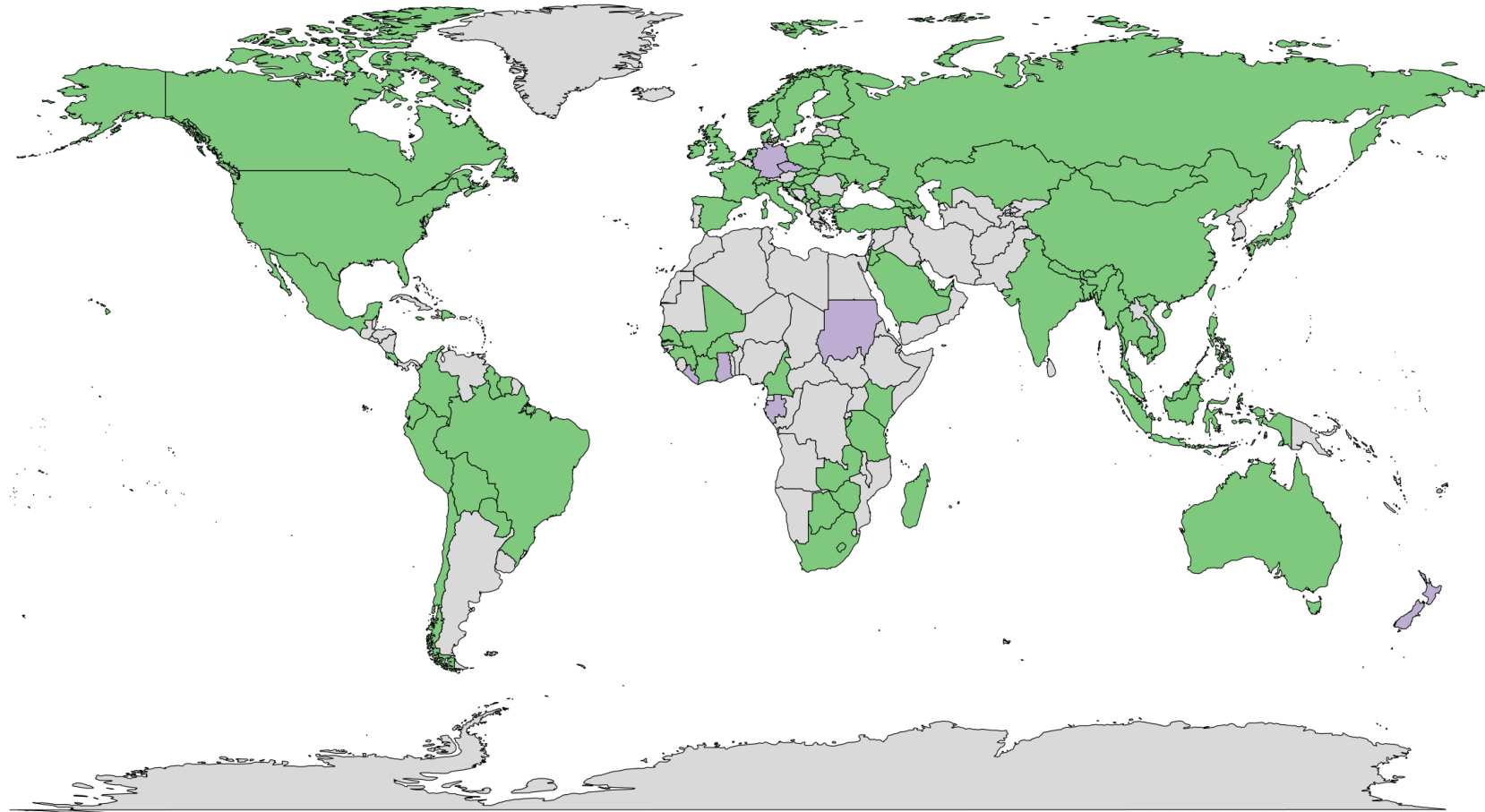
Part II:

- **Draft Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators** (Excel file: *Part II_DraftGlobalSet.xls*) which allows respondents to provide comments on each individual indicator or statistic in the Excel file;

- **Metadata** (Word file: *Part II_Metadata.doc*) which allows respondents to provide detailed comments on the metadata in the Word file.

35 ECE submissions:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, Ukraine, USA.

Response of the Global Consultation on draft Global Set

Status:
- Submitted
- Acknowledged
- NA

- 85 member states have **submitted** Part 1 and/or 2.
- 14 member states **acknowledged**.
- 24 agencies also submitted.

"Acknowledged" means that the national statistical offices of the countries (to whom we sent out the invitations to participate) communicated with us regarding the Global Consultation after we sent out our invitation, but that they did not submit a response.

The boundaries shown and used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

UNSD

Global Set: Output

The Global Set will:

- provide a **comprehensive statistical framework with statistics, indicators and metadata**, designed to support countries in preparing their own sets of climate change statistics and indicators according to their individual concerns, priorities and resources; and

- support the reporting requirements of countries under the Enhanced Transparency Framework and the Global Stocktake of the Paris Agreement, as well as climate-related SDG indicators.

- The Global Set is flexible enough, with a tiering system, to be applied based on regions', as well as countries', priorities and data availability. It is recommended to promote complementarity among global, regional and national sets of climate indicators, to encourage harmonization across all levels.

UNSD

Planned actions of UNSD

- Use the responses to the Global Consultation further explore ways, in collaboration with UNFCCC, to strengthen the relationship between NSOs and national authorities reporting climate change information;
- Continue capacity development/information sessions on climate change statistics online, in collaboration with regional commissions;
- Follow up with non-respondents;
- Validate incoming responses and provide feedback to countries;
- Continue analysis of Global Consultation and discuss results at 8th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics (Oct. 2021);
- Update Global Set and related metadata;
- Submit the Global Set to the 53rd session of the Statistical Commission, in March 2022, for adoption;
- Provide continuous support to countries to carry on activities beyond the Global Consultation;
- Develop training materials and implementation guidelines/strategy for capacity development.

Thank You!

UNSD Environment Statistics Section
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Email: envstats@un.org

UNSD