

A Beginner's Guide to the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC)

organized by

Resource Management Young Member Group (RMYMG)
of the UNECE's Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM)

15 March 2024 | Online

Background

In an age of rapid resource consumption and increasing environmental challenges, understanding the principles and application of UNFC is vital. RMYMG recognizes the importance of UNFC and the necessity for it to be globally disseminated.

This webinar emerged from the notion to increase UNFC's reach amongst various stakeholder groups, especially young professionals and resource management enthusiasts with little experience, providing participants with a comprehensive overview of UNFC functions, applications, and role in serving Sustainable Resource Management, and, above all, delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Objective

The webinar aimed to deliver a clear understanding of the fundamentals of UNFC and its practical applications across all resources, delving into the Environmental-Socio-Economic aspects associated with UNFC, and the various resource categories and classification requirements encompassed within UNFC, with specifications (rules of application) for every energy and resource project, including minerals, anthropogenic resources, renewables, nuclear fuels, petroleum, groundwater, and injection projects.

UNFC is a universal, project-based tool that facilitates the effective management and utilization of natural resources, while providing a holistic framework to address social, economic, and environmental challenges. In the context of Sustainable Resource Management, UNFC enables informed decision-making, encourages sustainable practices, and fosters resource efficiency, which are key components of sustainable development.

Part 1: UNFC Fundamentals, the building blocks for responsible resource consumption, social inclusion, and environmental protection		
Time	Topic	Presenter
12:00 - 12:05	Welcome - opening remarks	Dario Liguti
12:05 - 12:10	UNFC Overview - Why are we looking for Sustainable Resource Management?	Hari Tulsidas
12:10 - 12:15	UNFC Purpose and Benefits. Why classify resources	Karen Hangoj
12:15 - 12:20	Understanding the UNFC Principles: Categories & Classes	Alistair Jones
12:20 - 12:25	Exploring the Environmental, Social, and Governance concerns accentuated within UNFC	Julian Hilton
12:25 - 12:30	Applying UNFC Correctly: From Generic to Specifications, Guidelines, and Bridging Documents	Slavko Solar
Part 2: The Application of UNFC to different energy and resources projects		
12:30 - 12:35	UNFC for Minerals: The Future's Building Blocks	Hendrik Falck
12:35 - 12:40	UNFC for Anthropogenic Resource: Out of the Old, into the New	Ulrich Kral
12:40 - 12:45	UNFC for Petroleum: Responding to SDGs and Climate Change	Karen Hangoj
12:45 - 12:50	UNFC for Renewables: Backbone of the Energy Transition	Gioia Falcone
12:50 - 12:55	UNFC for Nuclear Fuel Resources: Low - emission Source of Energy	Mike McCurdy
13:05 - 13:10	UNFC for Groundwater: The Vital Resource Taken for Granted	Peter Van Der Keur
13:05 - 13:10	UNFC for Injection Projects: Cleaning Out the Atmosphere	Serge Van Gessel
13:10 - 13:25	Q&A / Discussions	
13:25 - 13:30	Closing Remarks	Bianca Derya Neumann

Key Highlights

Registrations and Attendance

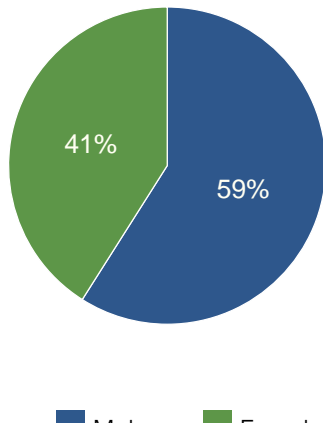
75 Registered **53** Attendees

70.6% Attendance Rate

Majority of attendees demonstrated significant interest in the topic

Gender Representation

The webinar achieved a relatively balanced gender representation, with 41% female participants. This indicates efforts towards inclusivity and diversity in the webinar audience.



Diverse Participation

The webinar attracted a diverse audience from various sectors including Academia, Governments, Financial institutes, and Civil Society

13% Geologists

16% Policy Officers, Advisors, Consultants

19% Managers, Directors

The Majority

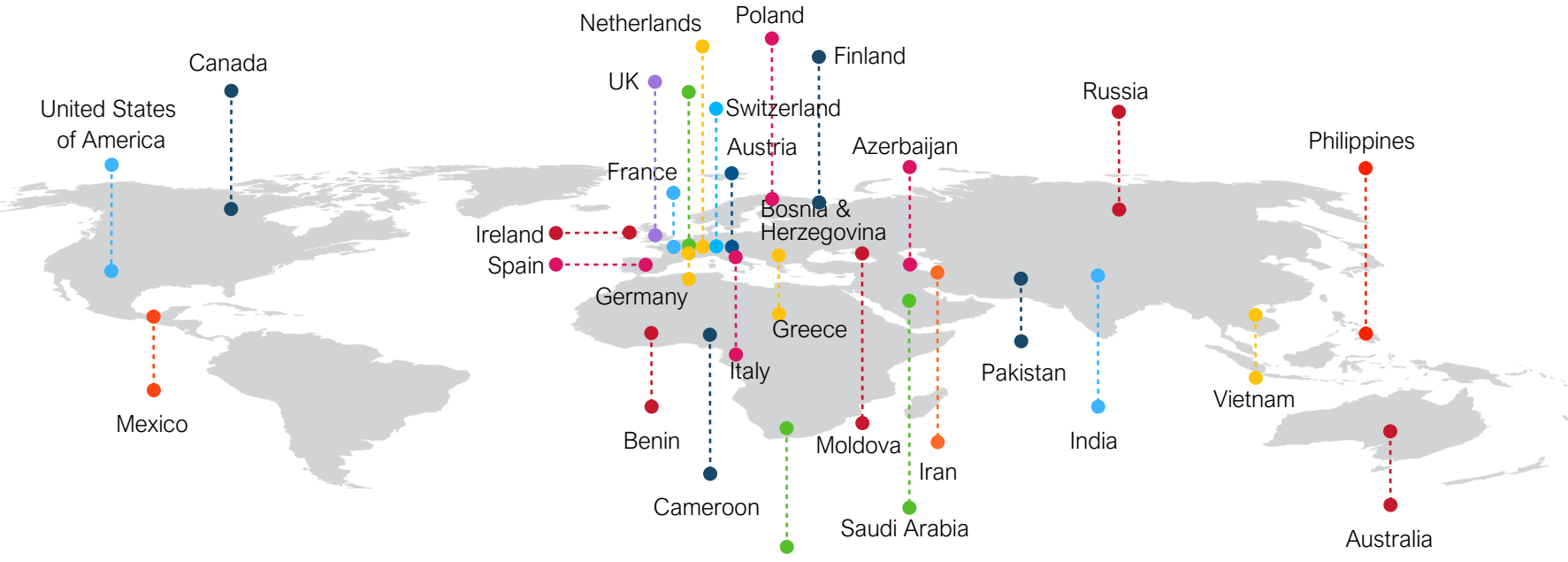
Of Participants were Professors, Students, Researchers

39% from Academia and Research Institutes

11% from Ministries and Geological Surveys

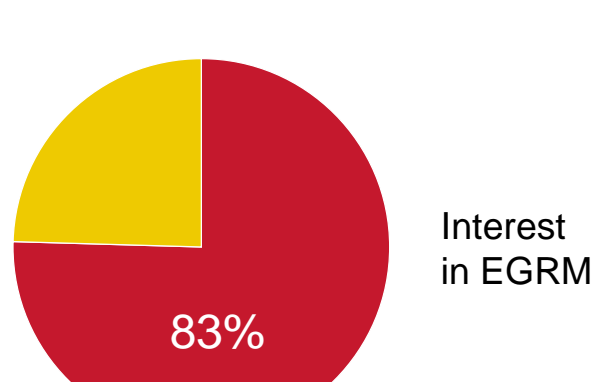
Global Reach

Participants joined from a wide range of countries across different continents, demonstrating the global interest in UNFC and sustainable resource management.



Main Takeaways

1. Increased understanding of UNFC principles and their importance in sustainable resource management
2. UNFC is simple to use, youth-friendly, and informs on environmental, social, and governmental issues at local, regional, and national level
3. Awareness of the practical applications of UNFC across different energy and resource projects.
4. Engagement of a diverse audience from various sectors and regions, indicating global interest in UNFC and sustainable resource management



A significant majority of participants (83%) expressed interest in joining the EGRM mailing list, indicating a strong interest in continuing engagement with topics related to resource management.

Strengths

Comprehensive Content: The webinar offered a comprehensive overview of UNFC, covering both theoretical concepts and practical applications across various resource categories.

Engaging Presenters: The speakers effectively communicated complex concepts, keeping the audience engaged throughout the webinar.

Global Participation: The diverse backgrounds of participants demonstrates a global interest in UNFC.

"UNFC provides a universal framework for effective resource management, guiding decision-making towards sustainability and environmental protection"

Dario Liguti, Director, Sustainable Energy Division, UNECE

"The diverse participation in this webinar underscores the importance of collaboration and knowledge-sharing in advancing sustainable resource management efforts"

Bianca Derya Neumann, Chair, RMYMG

Webinar Follow - up

Feedback Form:

A feedback form is available [on this link](#).

This form intends to gather input and inquiries, which will be transformed into a survey for EGRM experts to address all concerns regarding UNFC and sustainable resource management.

Webinar Recording:

Re-watch the webinar on the UNECE website ([Link to Webinar](#))

Slides Turned into a UNFC Manual:

Presentation slides will be compiled into a "UNFC 101" manual, providing guiding material for further learning. The manual is posted on the UNECE website ([Link to UNFC 101 Manual](#))

Join the Experts:

Participants interested to learn more about this topic are encouraged to join EGRM to further engage in sustainable resource management discussions and contribute to the development of UNFC and UNRMS.

Further Learning Materials:

Additional UNFC documents and readings are available on the UNECE website to deepen understanding and facilitate continued learning.

Recommended readings:

1. UNFC2019 ([Link](#))
2. Specifications documents ([Link](#))
3. Social and Economic considerations
 - i. Guidance on accommodating social and environmental considerations ([Link](#))
 - ii. Clarification of terms related to socio-environmental factors ([Link](#))
 - iii. UNFC Guidance Europe ([Link](#))

Contact reserves.energy@un.org to become a member