

**United Nations
Environment Programme**

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Major Groups and Stakeholders Partnerships

Part 1:

UNEP's Mission and the seven cross-cutting thematic priorities/areas

Mission

"To provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations."

**United Nations
Environment Programme**

UNEP has identified 7 cross-cutting thematic priorities areas:

1. Climate Change
2. Disasters and Conflicts
3. Ecosystem Management
4. Environmental Governance
5. Chemicals & Waste
6. Resource Efficiency (SCP)
7. Environment Under Review

- 1. Climate Change:** strengthen ability of countries, in particular dev countries, to integrate CC responses into national dev processes
- 2. Disasters and conflicts:** minimize env'l threats to human well-being from the env'l causes and consequences of existing and potential natural and man-made disasters
- 3. Ecosystem management:** ensure countries utilize the ecosystem approach to enhance human well-being
- 4. Environmental governance:** ensure env'l governance at the country, reg' & glob' levels is strengthened to address agreed env' priorities
- 5. Chemicals & Waste:** minimize the impact of HSHW on the environment and human beings
- 6. Resource Efficiency (SCP):** ensure natural resources are produced, processed and consumed in a more environmentally sustainable way.
- 7. Environment Under Review:** providing science and new knowledge to empower stakeholders in their policy and decision-making on emerging env'l issues

Part 2:

UNEP in Europe

European Region


- 54 highly diverse countries including:
 - Western and Central Europe (EU-28+EFTA)
 - Eastern Europe, Caucasus
 - Central Asia
 - South Eastern Europe (SEE)
 - Israel

Ministerial processes:

- ❖ UNECE-led Environment for Europe (EFE)
- ❖ Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS)
- ❖ WHO-led Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health
- ❖ Forest Europe (Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe)
- ❖ European Union (EU) for a
- ❖ CIS for a
- ❖ Conventions COPs

Environmental challenges & opportunities in Europe







- **Priority areas :**
 - **Environment and health concerns:** air, inland waters, soil, hazardous chemicals
 - **climate change;**
 - **biodiversity loss**
 - **overuse of marine resources;**
 - **unsustainable production and consumption**
 - **pressures caused by economic activities (agriculture, tourism, transport, energy).**
- **Huge demand on the "green economy"– Diverse opportunities in the region**





UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: UNEP and saving Lake Baikal, world's oldest and deepest lake, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996
 3.15-million-ha Lake in Siberia - 25 million years old - 1,700 m deep. More than 1,700 species of plants and animals, two-thirds of which are found nowhere else. Threatened by proposed construction of the world's international uranium enrichment centre.



UNEP implemented a 150,000 USD project on development of protected areas, working with the Center for International Projects and Republic of Buryat Regional Institutions to:

- Promote an Information and Reference system of Buryatia's protected areas
- Recommend maintenance measures for the areas
- Inform the public


UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: UNEP and the Carpathian Convention, from Czech Republic, across Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine and Hungary, to Romania and Serbia
 The Carpathian Mountain Range in Central and Southeastern Europe supports populations of some of Europe's last and greatest mammals, providing critical water supplies and services. Threats come from climate change, pollution and overuse of resources. Covering an area 5 times the size of Switzerland and larger than the Alps - the Carpathian Mountains are home to 18 million people.





In 2001, the Government of Ukraine requested UNEP to service a regional cooperation process for conservation of this mountain range; as a result:

- The Convention entered into force in 2006
- It promotes multi-sectoral and broad stakeholder participation
- UNEP's office in Austria serves as the Convention's Interim Secretariat



UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: UNEP and new Pan-European 2020 Strategy for Biodiversity, a blueprint for progress
 The main aim of the Strategy, whose Secretariat is hosted by UNEP, is to ensure the sustainability of the natural environment with specific emphasis on pan-European actions.



Approved in May 2012, the strategy defines regional measures for implementing global environment goals. The strategy brings together 55 countries to tackle issues that cross national borders through:

- A platform for sharing expertise and experience
- Boosting mainstreaming of policies, for example, to remove biodiversity-harmful subsidies by 2020
- Contributing to the Aichi Target to restore ecosystems and their services

UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: UNEP and the MDG-F in Turkey helps to mainstream climate change action:
 Turkey's geographical location in the southern belt of Mediterranean Europe makes it highly vulnerable to climate change impacts such as rising summer temperatures, reduced winter precipitation in the western provinces, increased drought, land degradation, coastal erosion, and flooding. The UN Joint Programme under the MDG-F project is tackling this.




The project "Enhancing the Capacity of Turkey to Adapt to Climate Change" is to:

- Mainstream climate change adaptation in Turkey's national plans and develop a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Develop national and regional institutional capacity to predict and manage risks
- Implement community-based pilot projects in the Seyhan River Basin






UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: GreenUp for saving forests, for sustainable travel – a campaign first for UNEP
 Launched at the height of UNEP's Green Economy Initiative, GreenUp Europe mobilised key sectors: designers, retailers, transportation groups, catering services, and celebrities




During GreenUp:

- More than 20 public transportation companies across Europe joined UNEP's GreenUp campaign to promote *Let's Travel Together*
- Travel tips reached 500,00 facebook users in July 2012
- Vivienne Westwood designer tshirts for UNEP sold online and modelled in Milan raised nearly 18,000 Euros that will be used to replant fragmented forests in Spain and Georgia

UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: *Commitment to the Caspian Sea*
 Since 2006 when it entered into force, the Framework Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (The Tehran Convention) is now commemorated annually. It recognizes the uniqueness of the Caspian and its 400 endemic species including the Caspian seal and the Caspian sturgeon.

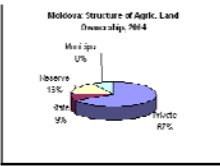



Oil and gas riches of the Caspian
 Main pipeline: Oil: Baku
 Pipeline: Caspian Sea
 Source: International Energy Agency

In addition to Caspian Day Festivities:
 -National Public Participation Strategies were launched by the Caspian States of Azerbaijan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Turkmenistan
 -The collaboration of all these states is complemented by the efforts of youth, schools, and NGOs in cleaning up the shores of the Caspian as this sea faces unprecedented growth in oil and gas exploration, exploitation and transport

UNEP in Europe

A story of achievements: *UNEP and Moldova together on the Green Economy challenge*
 Agriculture and agro-processing generate about one-third of Moldova's GDP, employing more than a quarter of the country's active labour force. Unsustainable farming practices have negatively impacted Moldova's social, economic and environmental infrastructure.

Green Economy Advisory Services have included:
 -Collaboration on environment assessments and support for projects for cities' climate change mitigation measures
 -Stakeholder assessments of the opportunities and challenges in organic agriculture

Part 3:

Rio+20 Outcomes: Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

Rio+20 Outcomes

TWO themes:

1. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD/IEG).
2. Green Economy in the context of sustainable development poverty eradication.

SEVEN priority areas:

1. Decent jobs,
2. Energy,
3. Sustainable cities,
4. Food security and sustainable agriculture,
5. Water,
6. Oceans, and
7. Disaster readiness.

Rio+20 Outcomes

IV. Institutional framework for sustainable development

Para 88. We are committed to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, that promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and that serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.

We reaffirm resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 which established UNEP and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi and 2000 Malindi Ministerial Declarations. In this regard, we invite the United Nations General Assembly, in its 67th Session, to adopt a Resolution strengthening and upgrading UNEP in the following manner:

- a) Establish universal membership in the Governing Council of UNEP;
- b) Have secure, stable, adequate & increased financial resources
- c) Coordinate environmental activities in UN system
- d) Promote strong science-policy interface
- e) Disseminate evidence-based environmental information
- f) Provide capacity-building & facilitate access to technology
- g) Consolidate HQ functions & strengthen regional presence
- h) Ensure participation of all relevant stakeholders

Why the need for IFSG/IEG within UN system (IEG debated over Decades)?

How can we have/create a United Nations:


A strong, credible and coherent science base and policy interface?

Develop a global authoritative and responsive voice for environmental Sustainability?

Responsive & cohesive to meeting country needs?

Sufficient, predictable and coherent funding? and

Achieving effectiveness, efficiency and coherence within the UN system?



DNA of E in UN system?

Rio+20 Outcomes

- Rio+20 June 2012: paragraph 88 on strengthening and upgrading
- A/67/213 of 21 Dec. 2012 to 'strengthen and upgrade' UNEP.
- First Universal Session of the GC, 18- 22 Feb 2013
Decision 27/2 on institutional arrangements – new governance structure for UNEP
- GA approved establishment of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) (A/67/784) on 13 March 2013. (58-membership Governing Council changed to **193 members**)
- First UNEA to take place from 23-27 June 2014 in Nairobi

1972-2012
Serving People and the Planet

Part 4:

Rio+20 Outcomes:
Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Rio+20 Outcome on Green Economy
III. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

It was born out of multiple crises and accelerating resource scarcity.

vehicle for sustainable development.

to end the persistence of poverty

can drive **growth of income and jobs**, without creating environmental risk.

Global crises provide an **Opportunity to reconsider** Traditional growth models (shifting to a Green Economy)

Rio+20 Outcome on Green Economy
III. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

UNEP's Green Economy Initiative is focused on the following areas:

- Advisory Services: providing technical assistance and advise in more than 20 countries;
- Research: including on how to measure progress towards a green economy;
- Partnerships: with UN agencies, governments, academic institutions, businesses and NGOs

<http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/>

UNEP's ground-breaking report

Knowledge for **GREEN economy**
A pathway for Policy Makers

Part I - Investing in natural capital (Agriculture, fisheries, water and forests)
Part II - Investing in energy and resource efficiency (Renewable energy, manufacturing, waste, buildings, transport, tourism and cities)
Part III - Supporting the transition to a global green economy (Modeling, enabling conditions & finances)

Rio+20 Outcome on Green Economy
III. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

The Rio+20 Outcome Document, **The Future We Want**, declares the green economy is "an **important tool for achieving sustainable development**"

- Paragraph 59 encourages "the **implementation of green economy policies** by countries that seek to apply them for the transition towards sustainable development as a **common undertaking**."
- Paragraph 64 notes the "positive experiences in some countries, including in developing countries, in adopting green economy policies...and welcome(s) the **voluntary exchange of experiences** as well as capacity building."
- Paragraph 66** requests the UN to work in cooperation with relevant donors and international organizations to **support countries in their transition to greener economies**


Rio+20 Outcome on Green Economy
III. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Paragraph 66: Invite the **UN System**, in cooperation with relevant donors and international organizations to **coordinate and provide information upon request on:**

- matching interested **countries** with the partners best suited to provide requested **support**;
- toolboxes and/or best practices in applying policies** on green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication at all levels;
- models or good examples of policies** of green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;
- methodologies for evaluation of policies** of green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;
- existing and emerging **platforms** that contribute in this regard.

Part 5:

Rio+20 Outcomes:
PAGE initiative (Programme of Action on Green Economy), a concrete UN partnership programme on Green economy




Partnership for Action on GREEN economy

A UN-led response to the Rio+20 call for action
PAGE was launched in February 2013, with an invitation for others to join this effort.





Partnership for Action on GREEN economy

Vision: Provide targeted support that will enable countries to transition to socially inclusive green economies.

Objectives

- To provide a springboard for action on commitments made at the Rio+20 Summit.
- To create an enabling environment and strengthen the capacity of Governments in their transition to a green economy.
- To harness expertise and ensure a coordinated response to countries' needs.




Partnership for Action on GREEN economy

PAGE is designed to mobilize resources and deliver tailored support for green economy action at the national level, which in turn will spur a global transition.

Specifically, PAGE aims to:

- Enable countries to formulate and adopt green economy policies.
- Strengthen capacity of national partners to implement focused green economy initiatives, including key sectors.
- Develop global access to green economy training and tools.
- Create and share knowledge and country-level applications.




Partnership for Action on GREEN economy



Through PAGE, national actions that yield measurable economic, employment, social and environmental gains are formulated and implemented in 10 new and 20 current partner countries by 2020, bringing the total to 30 countries actively engaged in national green economy transitions.




Partnership for Action on GREEN economy

Investing in a New Generation of Assets




- Clean technologies
- Resource-efficient infrastructure
- Well functioning ecosystems
- Green skilled labour
- Good governance







Part 6:

Rio+20 Outcomes:
Sustainable consumption and production (10YFP)








 **Rio+20 Outcome**

V. Framework for action and follow-up
A. Thematic areas and cross-sectoral issues
Sustainable consumption and production


Paragraph 226...



We **adopt** the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, as contained in document A/CONF.216/5, and highlight that the programmes included in the 10-Year Framework are voluntary.




 **10YFP What is the 10YFP?** 

- It is a global framework for multi-stakeholder action and international cooperation to accelerate the shift towards SCP patterns in both developed and developing countries.
- “ Fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development.... Governments, relevant international organizations, the private sector and all major groups should play an active role in changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns (A/CONF.216/5 , para 1.a)
- It is about “collective impact” for a shift to SCP patterns.



 **10YFP What is the 10YFP?** 

- Accelerate the shift towards SCP in all countries by supporting regional and national policies and initiatives.
- Increase resource efficiency and decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, creating decent job and economic opportunities, contributing to poverty eradication and shared prosperity.
- Support capacity building and facilitate access to financial and technical assistance for developing countries, for the shift to SCP, at regional, sub-regional and national levels.
- Serve as an information and knowledge sharing platform on SCP to enable all stakeholders to exchange policies, tools, initiatives and best practices, enhancing cooperation.





 **10YFP Initial List of Programmes** 

“A flexible, initial and non-exhaustive list ... builds on the experience gained through the Marrakech Process....”:

- Consumer information;
- Sustainable lifestyles and education;
- Sustainable public procurement;
- Sustainable buildings and construction;
- Sustainable tourism, including ecotourism.


Contacts:
<http://unep.org/10yfp>
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Part 7:

UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda



Paragraph 246

... We further recognize the importance and utility of a set of sustainable development goals,

... The goals should address and incorporate in a balanced way all three dimensions of sustainable development and their interlinkages.

... They should be coherent with and integrated into the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015



UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda




HLP recommended to put sustainable development at the core!

"... for 20 years, the international community has aspired to integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability, but no country has yet achieved this".



High-level Panel ON
the Post-2015 Development Agenda

UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda




UNEP is preparing a series of discussion papers in consultation with diverse stakeholders, to contribute to ongoing efforts to strengthen integrated implementation of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

This work is also relevant to ongoing intergovernmental processes on the post-2015 agenda and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Our Discussion Paper entitled *Embedding the Environment in SDGs*, provides the latest scientific advice and guidance on how environmental sustainability can be integrated in SDGs.


The paper proposes an integrated approach to goal setting for sustainable development.

The objective is to stimulate dialogue on integrated SDGs, and to stress the interlinkages of sustainable development, rather than to propose specific goals.



http://www.unep.org/pdf/UNEP_Post_2015_Discussion_Paper_1_Version2.pdf

UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda



The six *criteria* for assessing or proposing goals and target for the SDGs, which are that goals and targets should:

1. Have a strong direct link to socio-economic issues leading to greater wellbeing and poverty eradication.
2. Be able to decouple socio-economic development from escalating resource use and environmental degradation, by encouraging resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production.
3. Include environmental problems which are critical, growing in intensity, and/or cause irreversible changes in the global environment.
4. Take into account global environmental goals and targets already agreed internationally since we cannot afford to backtrack on current commitments.
5. Be scientifically credible and verifiable.
6. Be "trackable" – progress towards achieving the goals should be measurable taking into consideration that some goals may require new indicators, and new data collection efforts.

http://www.unep.org/pdf/UNEP_Post_2015_Discussion_Paper_1_Version2.pdf

UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda




Secretary-General's report to Special MDG Summit (25 Sept): *A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the MDGs & advancing the UN development agenda beyond 2015*

❖ **One universal post-2015 agenda, with sustainable development at its core:**

- ❑ enabled by the **integration** of economic growth, social justice and environmental stewardship, while putting the highest priority on ending poverty and reducing inequality;
- ❑ **universal in nature** yet responsive to the complexities, needs and capacities of individual countries and regions;
- ❑ **bold** in ambition but simple in design;
- ❑ **protective of the planet**, its biodiversity, water and land;
- ❑ **rights-based**, with particular emphasis on women, young people and marginalized groups;
- ❑ **eager for new and innovative partnerships**; and supported by pioneering approaches to data and rigorous accountability mechanisms.

UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda



Integrated Approach

Integrated Approach (Disc. Paper 1)

MDG-7 and links to other MDGs

Critical Environmental Issues for SDGs

Key interlinkages between three dimensions for multiple benefits


Testing the Integrated Approach: Prototypes and options


UN TST Issues Briefs for OWG SDG (UNEP co-lead in bold)


- 1. Sustainable growth
- 2. Macro-economic policy
- 3. Energy **Nov 2013**
- 1. Means of Implementation
- 2. LDC, SIDS, Africa, Middle income
- 3. Human rights
- 4. Governance **Dec 2013**
- 1. Sustainable Cities
- 2. Sustainable Transport
- 3. SCP and Chemicals
- 4. Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction **Jan 2014**
- 1. Oceans and Seas
- 2. Forests
- 3. Biodiversity
- 4. Social Equity
- 5. Gender equality & empowerment
- 6. Conflict, rule of law **Feb 2014**


Consultations and Outreach


- Global:**
 - ✓ Briefings to CPR (NBO), PRs in NY and Geneva
 - ✓ UN TTE consultations
- Regional and National:** Events planned through UNDG, Regional Commissions,





 UNEP's contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda


UNEP Post-2015 Discussion Paper 2


 Embedding the Environment in Sustainable Development Goals


 UNEP Post-2015 Discussion Paper 2

1. Will focus on **critical issues of environmental sustainability** such as irreversible changes in the global environment (one of the *six criteria's mentioned in DP1*);
2. To **propose a short list** of these critical environmental issues;
3. **Organize a workshop** with world renowned experts on the global environment scientific community, NGOs, UNEP, MEA Secretariats and other stakeholders to solicit inputs;
4. **A list of 10 to 20 "critical environmental issues" that should be incorporated in some way in the SDGs (with ranking)**;
5. **Paper to be used and distributed to relevant processes and meetings to inform discussions.**


 The purpose of the "Critical Environmental Issues" workshop and paper are to provide input into the integrated approach. UNEP is not pushing for a stand alone environmental SDG.




Thank you