



United Nations
Environment Programme

Fourth Annual Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

**Implementation of the Resolutions of the Second Session of
the United Nations Environment Assembly**

[6-9 March 2017]

This background document has been prepared drawing inspiration on the ideal notion of a pollution free planet. *A pollution free planet* would be ‘a planet without indirect or direct alteration of the biological, thermal, physical or radioactive properties of any medium in such a way as to create a hazard or potential hazard to human health or to the health, safety or welfare of any living species (einote)

**UN Environment,
Governance Affairs Office**

Major themes covered by the Assembly

The second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, which took place in Nairobi on 23 – 27 May 2016, under the theme “Delivering on the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda,” adopted 25 resolutions that address twelve specific themes. These included: implementing the Paris Agreement, promoting sustainable consumption and production, food waste, safeguarding ecosystems, combating illegal trade in wildlife, advancing natural capital management, mainstreaming biodiversity, monitoring and preserving air quality, protecting the environment in areas of conflict, preventing marine litter, and promoting sound management of chemicals and waste (See Annex 1 for the full list of resolutions).

UN Environment operates under seven thematic priorities: climate change; disasters and conflicts; ecosystem management; environmental governance; chemicals, waste and air quality; resource efficiency; and environment under review. Plans have been developed to implement the 25 resolutions within these thematic areas.

This report is organized by these thematic priorities, with a section on resolutions that fall outside of the themes. It summarizes the key facets of each resolution and shows the links to the Sustainable Development Goals and other major international commitments. A summary of the implementation plan, initial progress, intended partners, and challenges is provided for each resolution.

C

Climate Change

In the resolution on “**Supporting the Paris Agreement**” (2/6), the Assembly asks the UN Environment Executive Director to contribute to the implementation of the pre-2020 global efforts to address climate change. This is to be done by, *inter alia*: strengthening efforts in education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and cooperation.

Also by reinforcing and stepping-up UN Environment’s participation in partnership programmes and initiatives, and strengthening collaboration between UN Environment and other relevant stakeholders; and accelerating support to countries for building national readiness capacity to implement the Paris Agreement and to access finance and technology.

It also calls for strengthened support for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and for contributions to global climate-change related assessments. This resolution addresses SDG 13 on climate change directly, but is linked to the majority of the goals in that the achievement of sustainable development is severely undermined if climate change is not adequately tackled.

Member States highlighted the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the 2030 Agenda, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. They also took note of the Sendai Framework for Disaster and Risk Reduction, and acknowledged that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the main international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change and that the global nature of climate change calls for international cooperation while avoiding duplication of work.

[2/6] Overall Assessment: On track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- UN Environment will:
 - Support and expand the Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES) network of universities with the view of integrating climate change into their curricula;
 - Develop guidance and training materials on inclusion of climate change into their curricula;
 - Integrate climate change education, training, public awareness, public participation, access to information and cooperation into its projects and programmes;
 - Engage with UNFCCC secretariat and active partners in this focus area.
- UN Environment is a full and active member of the UN Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness and will explore new partnerships on education, training on climate change, etc.
- UN Environment has identified a set of post-Paris CoP21 priorities, which are incremental to the existing Programme of Work and are seen as a bridge to the new MTS which include: (i) National Determined Contribution (NDC) analysis and support; (ii) NDC - Capacity Building for Transparency, Measuring and Reporting; (iii) Pre-2020 action; non-state actors; and taking forward the Global Climate Agenda.
- The implementation of these priorities will be supported by new research, policy and analytical work such as emission and adaptation gap reports, tracking and communicating NDC implementation through UN Environment LIVE, analysis of what it will take to reach 1.5 °C etc. These priorities will be implemented in partnerships with relevant organizations and institutions are expected to increase.
- Designing an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change library facility to support the sixth Assessment Report, including a knowledge repository for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change as a component of the UN Environment’s Knowledge and Research Centre.
- Will continue supporting the development to the Gap Reports (Emissions and Adaptation gap) and integrated assessment of short-lived climate pollutants in the Asia and the Pacific region. Will finalize the scope, structure, outline and implementation plan for the Emission Gap Report for 2017.

- To have a substantial impact on global knowledge and capacity with regards to climate change, education and training, components will need to be mainstreamed across UN Environment’s portfolio of projects. This requires the strong participation of country partners as well as support from the financial mechanisms. As such, more remains to be done in terms of building political will for climate change education, training, awareness raising and public participation.
- Additional resources are needed to accelerate the transition from INDC to NDC implementation.
- Need to identify resources required to take the joint collaboration on the IPCC library facility forward and start fundraising for such resources.
- Funding yet to be secured for the emission gap report and the subsidiary assessment of impacts of the Kigali Amendment

Main Partners

UN Alliance on climate Change Education; Member States Universities, (GUPES), UNFCCC secretariat. UNDP, WRI, Member States, NDC partnership, CTCN partners, CCAC partners, SE4ALL, Sub-national climate action hub, Global Alliance for Buildings, Green Climate Fund, Global Environment Facility, UN Environment collaborating center; Governments

- UN Environment co-organized with other members of the UN alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness, a side event held at COP22 on "climate change education for all. An action plan on ensuring the effective participation of indigenous peoples in UN Environment's climate change education work was developed. At the request of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation a submission was made on the 5th Doha Dialogue on climate change education, which will be held in May 2017 during SBI 46.
- To match the scale of the global climate change mitigation challenge and enable systematic, focused capacity development to deliver REDD+ on the ground, UN Environment developed the REDD+ Academy. Regional and national learning sessions have already provided training to over 400 national stakeholders in basic design and implementation elements of REDD+.
- UN Environment has reviewed the portfolio of GCF projects under development to provide country partners with guidance on how climate change education, training and public awareness could be included in project proposals. Thus far a request for the inclusion of a climate change education component has been received from the Government of Mozambique while discussions continue with the governments of Guinea and Mongolia.
- UN Environment continues to support countries transition from the INDC-NDC. The support consists of the development of their NDC implementation readiness plans for Nationally Determined Contributions implementation; and identification of optimal institutional arrangements for coordinating the implementation of NDCs.
- Building on the GEF support, UN Environment is also developing a new UN Environment-NDC Implementation Support Programme.
- UN Environment and the UNFCCC Secretariat have agreed to work together to provide the necessary support to a group of partner countries to advance the implementation of Paris Agreement. The objective of the collaboration is to transform nationally determined contributions into implementation plans consisting of a portfolio of concrete actions, programmes, and projects which demonstrate the links between climate and development goals. Both agencies have agreed to establish a joint UN Environment and UN Climate Secretariat task team to move from ideas to action starting with the identification of the countries and potential partners.
- UN Environment is playing a leading role within the UN's Climate Resilience Initiative known as A2R. This initiative addresses three key aspects of adaptation: establishing early warning - early action systems; extending climate risk transfer and social protection mechanisms; and strengthening the shift to climate resilient development pathways.
- UN Environment has made good progress in supporting countries advance the National Adaptation Plans. 30 countries (LDCs and non-LDCs) have been supported so far with 2 countries having received support from GEF (Rwanda) and GCF (Nepal).
- UN Environment is working with UN agencies in drafting a UN Strategic Approach on Climate Change as mandated by the Chief Executives Board.
- UN Environment is supporting 15 countries in getting ready to access Green Climate Fund in collaboration with WRI, UNDP and GCF. To date, out of the total 68 requesting countries, requests for technology support have been completed in 9 countries, the design of technology assistance is ongoing in 27 countries, with 23 countries in implementation phase.
- Work is ongoing on the design of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change library facility.
- Substantial support was provided to the Emissions Gap Assessment 2016 including the assessment design, development and outreach. The assessment report was successfully launched in time for the Conference of Parties in November 2016.
- The scope, structure, outline and implementation plan for the Emissions Gap Assessment 2017 is being discussed. The scope, structure, outline and implementation plan for the integrated assessment of short-lived climate pollutants in the Asia and the Pacific region agreed. The assessment is now at the implementation stage.

D

Disasters and Conflicts

The resolution on “Protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict” (2/15) is a significant step showing widespread recognition among Member States of the damage conflict causes to the environment and the need to better protect the environment during times of armed conflict. Of the Sustainable Development Goals, none specifically covers the need to better protect the environment before, during or after armed conflict. However, insecurity, and armed conflict and its aftermath, are key factors that influence the delivery of sustainable development targets. UN Environment is encouraged to work with a range of stakeholders, including civil society, to continue providing enhanced assistance to countries affected by conflict, and in the post-conflict phase through post-crisis assessment and recovery.

UN Environment is also called on to provide assistance to countries hosting United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Natural World Heritage Sites; and to continue to interact with the International Law Commission by, among other things, providing relevant information to the Commission at its request in support of its work on this issue.

[2/15] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Extend offers of support to the International Law Commission and UNESCO, developing joint work if appropriate and requested.
- Conduct awareness raising events on importance of environmental protection in conflict zones.
- Continue providing support to countries affected by the environmental impacts of armed conflict.

Update on progress

- On-going work to address the environmental causes and consequences of conflict and providing assistance to countries affected by armed conflict and the unintended collateral impact of human displacement.
- Supported the Special Rapporteur on the Protection of the Environment in the preparation and presentation of her third report, presented to the Commission in July 2016 (available here: <http://legal.un.org/docs/?symbol=A/CN.4/700>).
- Partnering with Environmental Law Institute, Columbia University and the University of California Irvine, and others to develop a massive open online course on environmental peace-building. Partnering with Environmental Law Institute, Columbia University and the University of California Irvine, and others to develop a Massive Open Online Course on environmental peace-building.
- Participated in UNESCO consultations over summer and fall 2016 and provided input on "Role of the United Nations in the promotion of peace: past, present and future perspectives" (to be published).
- On World Heritage Sites and the impacts of conflict specifically, the proposed ILC draft principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts features two draft principles on the importance of protecting “areas of major environmental and cultural importance” (available in the 2016 ILC Report at pages 323-327).
- Links to work on environmental crime (see section on resolution on illegal trade in wildlife).

- Financial and staffing challenges

Main Partners

International Law Commission and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Interpol, Department of Political Affairs, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and others

Information Sources

<http://legal.un.org/docs/?symbol=A/CN.4/700>

E

Ecosystem Management

The Resolution on “Investing in human capacity for sustainable development, through environmental education and training” (2/3) requests the Executive Director continue to provide technical assistance and capacity building through access to environmental education, training and capacity-building opportunities, including increased capacity development to help Member States to integrate the environmental dimension into their relevant curricula. It also asks the Executive Director to promote cooperation and interaction between UN Environment and the higher education community in mainstreaming environment and sustainability across education and training and enhance cooperation with UN bodies and other international institutions for better implementation of the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development.

This resolution is linked to the SDG 4.7, which is focused on ensuring that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development by 2030.

[2/3] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Continue to support and expand the [Global Universities Partnership on Environment for Sustainability](#) network of universities.
- Explore new partnerships including with the private sector on training, and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements secretariats on education, etc.
- Ensure that massive open online courses and other education materials developed by UN Environment and partners are coordinated, screened for quality, and supported by accompanying material to expand the reach and scope and improve cost-effectiveness.

Update on progress

- Components on environmental education have been included in a number of projects under development in countries such as the Maldives, Mongolia, Mozambique, Guinea and South Sudan. Support is being offered to other countries on a demand-driven basis.
- In strengthening university engagement, a strategic planning meeting was held with leaders from the UN Environment-led Global Universities Partnership. This meeting identified a number of priority actions that will be further elaborated and implemented over the coming years.
- National engagement has been strengthened with the launch of the Morocco Green University Network aimed at enhancing campus sustainability, promoting strengthened curricula and supporting the role of universities in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Financial challenges - whilst some staff costs are covered by the Environment Trust Fund, additional funding will be needed to ensure full implementation.

Main Partners

UN Environment’s Science Division and Communications Division;
United Nations Institute for Training and Research;
United Nations University;
United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization; and
United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

Information Sources

[Global Universities Partnership on Environment for Sustainability](#)

Three resolutions focused on the marine environment: “oceans and seas” (2/10), “marine plastic litter and micro-plastics” (2/11) and “sustainable coral reefs management” (2/11). Collectively these resolutions address effective conservation of marine and coastal zones and the contribution to achieving SDG 14 through the regional seas conventions and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

Along with calling upon both UN member states and various regional agencies to take steps toward implementing the oceans-related Sustainable Development Goals and related targets in Goal 14 in particular and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi targets, the resolution on Oceans and Seas urges UN Environment to continue its efforts in support of the General Assembly-led process of reaching an international, legally-binding instrument on marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The planned agreement is to fall under the existing UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. The issue of how to govern marine biodiversity beyond their national jurisdiction has long proven difficult to navigate, including how such a global deal will operate given other regional efforts in this area.

Other provisions of the resolution include encouraging Member States to designate and actively manage marine protected areas along with advocating for the contracting parties to existing regional seas conventions to consider the possibility of increasing the regional coverage.

Member States also ask UN Environment to step up its work, including through its Regional Seas Programme, on assisting countries and regions in the application of the ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment, including through enabling inter-sectoral cooperation in integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning.

Implementation Plan

- UN Environment is moving towards the implementation of the Regional Seas Directions.
- Synergies discussion will be organized between UN Environment and key conventions, e.g. on Biological Diversity, Migratory Species and the International Whaling Commission and Basel Convention.
- Will continue participation in UN-Ocean, and the Advisory Panel for the Fiji-led Conference through convening and participation in the informal working groups, including submission of an official paper to the Prepcom and main conference. A side event on the regional seas to be organized.
- Implementation of the MOU with FAO, International Maritime Organization, UNESCO, World Maritime University, International Atomic Energy Agency
- Collaboration in International Coral Reef Initiative and Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network. Collaboration with CBD (MSP, mainstreaming and marine debris), CMS (marine debris and connectivity) and IWC (marine debris)
- Regional coordination mechanisms of SDG14 implementation (under the EC project) Marine Spatial Planning guidelines to be published; MSP experience sharing platform possibly combined with Blue Solution platform ICZM and governance work
- Ecosystem based Management pilot activities (Mekong Delta); MSP pilots (Western Indian Ocean, Adriatic, West Africa).
- Marine Protected Area governance work is being developed
- GCRP: exchange of tools and approaches for coral reef planning and management (e.g. replication of Green Fins, regional approach to GCRMN reporting, economic instruments)
- Sharing of climate change resilience data and planning tools through coral reef theme on UN Environment-Live.
- Implementation of the MOU between UN Environment and FAO.
- Implementation of the blue carbon project manual Ocean acidification monitoring
- Internal process for review of the 2011 strategy to be started

Update on progress

- Cooperated with the CBD secretariat and FAO in the organisation of the global dialogue between Regional Seas programmes and Regional Fisheries Bodies in September 2016 to discuss cooperation for the implementation of Aichi Targets and SDGs relevant to Oceans.
- Assisted Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and Secretariats in running joint Pacific CBD and CITES pre-COP to prepare Pacific delegations for CITES and CBD COPs.
- The SPREP Council (19-22 September 2016) endorsed oceans as underlying focus of UN Environment –SPREP partnership.
- Sustainable ocean initiative regional capacity development workshop was organised for the south Pacific Apia, 31 October to 4 November 2016.
- Discussion is ongoing on the cooperation between the regional seas and CMS daughter agreements.
- Committed as part of the Pacific Ocean Alliance to assist Pacific Delegations in preparations for the SDG 14 Conference. Formed “Blue Team” with SPREP to work on environmental dimension and prepare topical Pacific briefs and communications materials for Pacific island delegations.
- In several regions, cooperation between regional seas conventions and action plans and regional fisheries bodies are ongoing for the purpose of Aichi Target and SDG reporting and implementation.

Some funding has been secured but additional funding is required to fully implement the resolution

Main Partners

Internally:
Science division on assessment related activities; Law Division on regional seas governance issues and Economy Division on private public partnership.

External partners:
UNESCO-IOC, FAO, IMO, GRID Arendal. Biodiversity-related conventions. ongoing partnerships such as Global Change Research Program, Global Partnership on Marine Litter, Global Partnership on Nutrient Management, Global Wastewater Initiative, Global Programme of Action, Regional Seas, 10YFP

Information Sources

Information Sources

[Marine Plastic Debris and Microplastics: Global lessons and research to inspire action and guide policy](#)

- The Regional Seas Indicator Working Group conducted an exercise for aligning the regional seas indicators with SDGs. The Group also carried out alignment of the regional goals and targets with SDGs and Aichi Biodiversity Targets. A new project supported by European Commission was initiated to develop guidance on area-based management and governance arrangements to support implementation of ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals.
- Provided inputs to the Secretary-General's background note for the preparatory meeting of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, through co-convening or participation in Informal Preparatory Working Groups
- Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment started the development of a Regional Ecosystem-based Management Strategy for the ROPME Sea Area. Capacity building effort on marine spatial planning has been developed and included in the Blue Solution.
- A pilot activity on ecosystem-based management in Mekong Delta is ongoing. Analysis is being made on the practical experiences of area-based management measures including integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning.
- New training course, "Blue Planning in Practice", has been launched to support coastal management for sustainable development.
- A global online knowledge platform, 'PANORAMA' has been launched by UN Environment, GIZ and IUCN providing practical solutions to marine and coastal management.
- Marine spatial planning pilot activities are under preparation for Western Indian Ocean, and Adriatic Sea.
- Published Pacific Regional EIA Guidelines with SPREP through ACP MEAs Capacity Building Project.
- A project is being prepared to develop an MPA toolbox.
- A number of donor funded and GEF funded projects are under implementation on development of MPA management capacity. Guidance document on MPA governance is under finalisation.
- Regular meetings are being organised among the Regional Seas programmes. Good practices of cross sectoral cooperation at the Regional Seas level are being collected for sharing of them among them.
- InforMEA pilot activities are ongoing involving three Regional Seas programmes.
- Ran a south-south exchange on best practice in blue-green economy and SDGs for 7 Pacific countries 4-6 October 2016. A second exchange workshop for remaining 7 countries focusing on SCP and SDGs but also with oceans focus is planned in Palau Feb/Mar 2017.
- A project is being developed to support two regional seas programmes in carrying out a study of ecological connectivity between ABNJ and EEZ and a legal study to expand the activities for ABNJ.
- Results of downscaled climate model projections for coral bleaching conditions are being compiled.
- A new UN Environment Oceans Strategy is being developed.

To address the estimated 5.2 trillion pieces of plastic floating in the world's oceans, harming both the marine environment and biodiversity, the resolution on marine plastic litter builds the recommendations in the report released just before the Assembly, *Marine Plastic Debris and Microplastics: Global lessons and research to inspire action and guide policy*.

It stresses that prevention and environmentally sound management of waste is key to long-term success in combating marine pollution and recognizes the importance of cooperation between UN Environment and the relevant conventions and international instruments. The resolution calls on governments to further develop partnerships with industry and civil society and the establishment of public-private partnerships, and to organize and participate in annual campaigns for awareness-raising, prevention and environmentally sound clean-up of marine litter.

Member States call on product manufacturers and others to consider the lifecycle environmental impacts of products containing microbeads and compostable polymers, and ask UN Environment to assess the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and sub-regional governance strategies and approaches to combat marine plastic litter and microplastics.

[2/11] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Continued work with all Divisions within UN Environment, in particular the Law Division for the Assessment.
- Opportunities include identifying very concrete actions for the third Assembly to consider moving the issue forward. The Global Marine Litter Campaign and Innovation Challenge also offer opportunities for broad engagement of stakeholders in particular private sector and universities.
- An Advisory Group will undertake the assessment of the effectiveness of relevant international, regional and sub-regional governance strategies and approaches to combat marine plastic litter and microplastics has been established. Contracts officially signed and work has been initiated.

Update on progress

- Global Marine Litter Campaign has been developed and is due to be launched 23 February 2017

Priority challenges include the late arrival of funding leading to tight implementation timelines. The assessment has to be ready in a UN format by end of July.

Main Partners

UN Environment's Communication Division, Science Division, Economy Division and Law Division; Members of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter; Advisory Group for the Assessment for UNEA-3; private sector

Information Sources

The resolution on sustainable **coral reefs** management calls on governments to further develop partnerships with industry, including fisheries, aquaculture and tourism, and civil society, and the establishment of public-private partnerships. It also calls on governments to prioritize coral reefs conservation and sustainable management, including through the establishment and active management of marine protected areas, as well as through other spatial and relevant sectoral approaches.

UN Environment is asked to strengthen capacity building, knowledge transfer and the development of relevant planning tools to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change and human-based threats on coral reefs and related ecosystems; and to support the further development of coral reef indicators, regional coral reef assessments as well as the preparation of a global report on coral reef status and trends through the International Coral Reef Initiative Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network.

Implementation of action requested in the resolution contributes to achievement of SDG 14, in particular targets 2, 3 and 5, including the development of indicators to support SDG tracking and reporting. Contribution to achievement of the 2030 Development Agenda is also made through action plans and measures requested in the resolution, which will be developed and implemented in the context of the SDGs, with particular attention to SDG 1, 2, 5, 6, 12, 13 and 15.

[2/12] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Action requested will primarily be pursued through UN Environment's [Global Coral Reef Partnership](#), as well as through direct collaboration with the [International Coral Reef Initiative](#). Collaboration will be expanded as and wherever required to relevant UN Environment Divisions and other UN Agencies.
- In regard to outreach and gender, links will be built between UN Environment's work in the three marine-based resolutions adopted during the second Assembly.

Update on progress

- Advisory Group for the assessment has been established, and work initiated.
- The Global Marine Litter Campaign is being developed, to be launched 23 February.

Funding issues - Even though some requested actions can be pursued based on ongoing activities, there are several requested actions that are dependent on additional external funding, in the range of US \$ 500,000 to US \$ 1 million.

Main Partners

UN Environment's Communication Division, Science Division, Economy Division and Law Division; GRID-Arendal; UN Environment-World Conservation and Monitoring Centre; the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and other partners

Information Sources

[International Coral Reef Initiative](#)
[Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network](#)
[International Year of Coral Reefs 2018](#)
[Global Coral Reef Partnership](#)

- Terms of Reference have been prepared for the analysis of global and regional governance mechanisms and policy instruments relevant to coral reefs and implementation will commence shortly. The analysis will be conducted in close collaboration with the Secretariat of the [International Coral Reef Initiative](#).
- UN Environment, jointly with the Secretariat of the International Coral Reef Initiative, will lead a working group to further develop the [Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network](#) as a coastal ocean observing system. This will support identification and adoption of coral reef indicators that strengthen reporting in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and other international targets.
- UN Environment and Regional Seas also continue to support regional processes that improve access to coral reef data; generate actionable coral reef management and policy recommendations; and strengthen regular coral reef reporting.
- UN Environment has initiated preparation of an outreach campaign on coral reefs, to be rolled out in late 2017 and scaled up in the context of the [International Year of Coral Reefs 2018](#).
- Initial preparations have been made for development of guidance on the preparation of national and regional coral reef measures and action plans, in the context of the Goals related targets and indicators.
- The [Global Coral Reef Partnership](#) of UN Environment and Regional Seas is developing tools and supports regional and national measures that strengthen private sector engagement in sustainable coral reefs management and build climate change resilience.

Linked to the ecosystem based approach is the resolution on “**sustainable management of natural capital for sustainable development and poverty eradication**” (2/13). The resolution notes that sustainable management of natural capital contributes to achieving the 2030 Agenda and natural capital accounting mechanisms can help assess value of natural capital. This is linked to SDG 12.2 which seeks to achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

Member States acknowledged that natural capital is a concept whose meaning is still under discussion; but noted that natural capital and natural resource valuation and accounting mechanisms can help countries to assess and appreciate the worth and full value of their natural capital and to monitor environmental degradation. They stressed that research and development, innovative technology, finance mobilization, capacity building and knowledge sharing among countries are important for the sustainable management of their natural capital.

The resolution invites Member States to: take measures to promote sustainable management of natural capital including protection of ecosystem services and their functions as part of the contribution to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs; and incorporate information and knowledge on natural capital analyses into national accounts, development planning and decision making, especially through implementing the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting.

UN Environment is asked to continue to strengthen UN Environment-led efforts, in partnership with Member States, including the Poverty-Environment Initiative, the Green Economy Advisory Services, and the Partnership for Action on Green Economy;

In partnership with UN agencies and others, UN Environment is asked to promote, *inter alia*: awareness of natural capital and respect for nature; public and private partnerships to promote sustainable management of natural capital, value addition and accounting, and reverse environmental degradation and biodiversity losses; and research and development and technological innovations, as well as the technical capacity to sustainably manage national natural capital.

[2/13] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Guidance is needed on how to integrate the use of this tool at regional and national levels. The 2030 Agenda Capacity of national decision-makers to integrate natural capital accounting

Update on progress

- Initiated collaboration with [Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa](#) in creating awareness and strengthening decision making through the valuation and accounting of natural capital in African countries, [Global Environment Facility](#) and [Global Legislators Organization](#), advancing the [United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries](#) and Natural Capital Governance towards the delivery of the 2030 Agenda capacity of national decision-makers to integrate natural capital accounting.

Main Partners

Governments

Information Sources

[Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa](#)
[Wild for Life](#)

[Global Environment Facility](#)

[Global Legislators Organization](#)

[United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries](#)

The Assembly passed a resolution on “**illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products**” (2/14) building upon previous commitments made at the first Assembly (1/3) and General Assembly resolution 69/134, urging Member States to take further steps at the national level and through regional and international cooperation to prevent, combat and eradicate the supply, transit and demand related to the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

The resolution recognizes the important role that the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife can play in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and in addressing illegal trade and trafficking in wildlife. This contributes to SDG 15.7 that seeks to take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products and SDG 15.c, which is geared towards enhancing global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The Assembly requests UN Environment to continue to collaborate with the Convention on Illegal Trade in Endangered Species, the Consortium and UN entities to support Member States in implementing their commitments, including by, *inter alia*, cooperating with the UN Development Programme to analyse best practices in local community involvement in wildlife management as an approach to address unsustainable use and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products.

UN Environment and partners also launched a new campaign, [Wild for Life](#), to engage millions of members of the public to end the illegal trade in wildlife.

[2/14] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Operationalization of an Action Plan and the UN Environment Programme of Work which both work towards supporting the Member States in strengthening national, regional and global responses to illegal trade in wildlife.
- Provision of technical support and guidance to ensure that trade of timber is also included in further actions against illegal wildlife trade.
- UN Environment will draft a report providing a thorough assessment of best practices in the local community involvement in wildlife management, drawing from diverse examples from around the world, and presenting lessons learned from various approaches as a solution to address the unsustainable use and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products. The analysis will endeavour to provide a comprehensive understanding of local community involvement in wildlife management, providing a solid background for a better informed policy making process and therefore contributing to integrate the role and involvement of local communities and indigenous groups in ensuring the sustainable use of wildlife and the prevention of wildlife crime.
- Within the context of progressive development of international environmental law, UN Environment intends to facilitate an experts' process to ascertain and document the current status of knowledge of crimes that have serious impacts on the environment, including illegal trade in wildlife, in particular in terms of their environmental impacts, and identify interlinkages between these crimes.
- In the context of cooperation between the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Secretariat and UN Environment and as part of the second output for, UN Environment aims to provide legal advice and technical assistance to the 17 countries that had been identified by the Secretariat as requiring priority attention with regard to related legislation. Such assistance includes legislative guidance for the drafting of national legislation with a special focus on optimal penalties to deter illegal wildlife trade.

Update on progress

- Phase 2 of the [‘Wild for Life’](#) campaign is under implementation, focusing on raising awareness to induce policy shifts and strengthen legal frameworks and the development of baseline research.
- An online portal (EPIX) has been developed that enables CITES Parties to exchange and verify wildlife trade permit information with other Parties. The system will also facilitate trade reporting to the Convention. The EPIX system was showcased on the margins of CITES CoP17 (Johannesburg, September-October 2016). Switzerland and the Czech Republic are currently testing the system.
- UN Environment facilitated a dialogue between African elephant range States prior to CITES CoP17 to assist them in getting a better understanding of each other’s positions on CITES proposals on elephants and other species.
- A report outlining a preliminary assessment of the spatial distribution of various threats to wildlife and biodiversity, including the illegal wildlife trade, and the relationships between those threats, was produced and released at CBD CoP13 (Cancún, December 2016).
- An analysis of patterns of legal trade in wildlife, based on the CITES Trade Database, has been produced and a paper is being submitted for publication in a scientific peer-reviewed journal.
- Assistance is being provided to draft or amend legislation on illegal wildlife trade to Angola, Tanzania, Paraguay and Vietnam. Discussions to provide similar assistance to Rwanda and Somalia are underway.

Main Partners

UNEP World Conservation and Monitoring Centre, United Nations Development Programme, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and other partners of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime.

Information Sources

[Wild for Life](#)

“Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands” (2/24) recognizes that healthy grassland and rangeland ecosystems are essential for contributing to economic growth and sustainable development of pastoralism. Like the resolution on Illegal Trade in Wildlife, this links to SDG 15 which aims to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

The resolution calls for raising global awareness of sustainable pastoralism and rangelands; strengthening the science-policy interface on sustainable pastoralism and rangelands; and conducting a worldwide gap analysis to better understand the implications for sustainable livelihoods. Among other things, it urges Member States to increase investment in the pastoral livestock sector, including for sustainable land management, improved and/or restored ecosystems, access to markets, livestock health and breeding, and enhanced extension services to improve productivity, help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and maintain and enhance biodiversity. It encourages UN Environment and intergovernmental bodies (such as the UN Convention to Combat Desertification) to support joint and cross-border development programmes for neighbouring pastoralist and other communities in order to increase the level of mutual trust and confidence, as well as to mitigate conflicts; and it calls upon UN Environment to contribute to raising global awareness of sustainable pastoralism and rangelands.

Among its recommendations, the resolution calls on UN Environment to provide support to the Convention to Combat Desertification to facilitate the sharing of best practices for the development and implementation of strategic frameworks and early warning systems for enhanced disaster risk management, sustainable land management, land restoration and resilience to drought.

Implementation Plan

- Foster enhanced collaboration with the [United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification](#) and the [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#) on all issues addressed in the resolution.
- Pre-invest resources to develop the [Green Climate Fund](#) and the [Global Environment Facility](#) projects jointly with the above-mentioned partners and key member countries, to address the issues raised in the resolution.
- Update on progress on the gap-assessment study planned for the third Assembly
- Gap-assessment completion planned on or before the fourth Assembly

Update on progress

- Two major follow-up meetings were held with all key partners at the IUCN congress and CBD COP in 2016
- Seed funds mobilized by UN Environment to initiate the gap-assessment and technical working group established
- Terms of reference for the gap-filling assessment being developed by Ecosystems and Science Divisions of UN Environment
- In December 2016 at the CBD COP13, UN Environment jointly with Instituto Potosino de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (IPICYT), Conservation International (CI), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Society for Range Management, International Land Coalition (ILC), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), International Rangeland Congress (IRC), International Grassland Congress (IGC), Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism (CELEP), Yolda Initiative, Divers Earth, organized a side event at the COP 13 Convention on Biodiversity side event "World's Grasslands and Rangelands at Risk: the Role of Pastoralists and Livestock to Conserve Global Biodiversity".
- During the event, 28 countries and 46 organizations endorsed a statement which declares that globally natural grasslands and rangelands are critically endangered and urgent required action was presented to protect and maintain the services they provide to sustain human life.
- In September 2016 UN Environment - jointly with FAO, GEF, the World Bank, and IUCN - co-hosted a side event at the IUCN World Congress on the publications "Pastoralism and the Green Economy – a natural nexus?"
- http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/wisp_green_economy_book.pdf
- Five project proposals with important components on sustainable pastoralism and rangeland are being developed by UN Environment to be submitted for GCF funding.
- In September 2016, UN Environment participated in a consultation for stakeholders in the East and Southern Africa region held in Nairobi to brief Civil Society from the region on the resolution and discuss the plans about its implementation at the country level.
- In November 2016, UN Environment participated in the Kenya National Congress on Rangelands. A presentation on the outcomes of the resolution was presented.

Funding issues – resource mobilization required.
Staff time for project preparation.

Main Partners

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, International Union for Conservation of Nature

Information Sources

- [United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification](#)
- [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#)
- [Green Climate Fund](#)
- [Global Environment Facility](#)
- http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/wisp_green_economy_book.pdf

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Environmental Governance

The resolution on the “role and functions of the regional forums of ministers of environment and environment authorities” (2/2) is linked to SDG 17 that is focused on promoting global partnerships in the achievements of sustainable development. Member States are urged in the resolution to identify national environmental priorities that are cross cutting between regions that would facilitate the formation of a regional programme of action to deal with serious environmental problems in regions.

The resolution requests UN Environment facilitate convening and/or strengthening the existing regional forums of ministers of environment and environment authorities; and support and facilitate convening new regional forums of ministers of environment and environment authorities upon the request of the regions.

(2/2) Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Support, facilitate, convene and/or strengthen existing regional forums of ministers of environment and environment authorities.
- Asia and Pacific Office: UN Environment and the [United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific](#) will jointly organize the Asia Pacific ‘Ministerial Summit’ on the Environment 2017. UN Environment and the [United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific](#) have agreed to cooperate and organize these two meetings jointly under one event and with a common theme and programme. Such cooperation will ensure a coherent discussion and message from the region’s environment leaders, avoid duplication and demonstrate a coherent UN approach.

Update on progress

- Europe Office: Two briefings to [the Committee on Environmental Policy of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe](#) were convened by the UN Environment Europe Office in January 2017. Both briefings focused on the Environment Assembly.
- West Asia Office: UN Environment has provided technical support to the 28th session of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment and the Joint [Joint Committee for Environment and Development in the Arab Region](#), held Cairo on 3-8 December 2016. The meetings were attended by twenty countries out of the 22 Arab countries with nine countries at the ministerial level. Several decisions were taken at the meeting including a request for UN Environment to hold a regional meeting to prepare for the third Assembly for Arab countries to discuss proposed resolutions and agree on an Arab position, in addition to establishing a network to frequently share relevant information.
- A number of decisions were adopted concerning post conflict environmental assessments in Palestine, Lebanon, Libya and Sudan, were adopted.
- In order to effectively respond to the decisions, a costed work plan has been developed by the West Asia Office and relevant resource mobilization initiatives are underway.

Main Partners

UN Environment Regional Offices, Regional Economic Commissions, regional institutions

Information Sources

- [United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific](#)
- [United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific](#)
- [the Committee on Environmental Policy of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe](#)
- [Joint Committee for Environment and Development in the Arab Region](#)

The resolution on the “Role, functions and modalities for UNEP implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals” (2/4) encourages Member States to support Small Island developing States with multiple challenges in achieving sustainable development, particularly through partnerships on financing, trade, technology transfer, capacity building and institutional support.

This is in line with the SDG 14.7 which aims at increasing the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, and with SDG 14.a, which aims at increasing scientific knowledge, developing research capacity and transfer marine technology. It is also linked to SDG 15 which aims at protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

The resolution requests the Executive Director to support Small Island States in implementing the Pathway in a way that will contribute to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to incorporate actions that assist small island developing states in the implementation of the Pathway into UN Environment’s Strategy and ongoing Programme of Work.

[2/4] Overall Assessment: partially on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- UN Environment has already prepared its implementation matrix of the SAMOA Pathway. The activities of the UN Environment relevant to Small Island Development States are aligned with the SAMOA Pathway.
- Use of the UN Environment-Live SIDS page for reporting.

Update on progress

- UN Environment has already started monitoring the UN Environment implementation of the SAMOA Pathway through the UN Environment Inter-Divisional Group on Small Island Developing States.
- The UN Environment Live SIDS page was established and is featuring a number of reports.
- At the time of reporting, UN Environment is yet to align the SAMOA Pathway with the Sustainable Development Goals.

No financial implication for new activities. All activities are carried out within the existing Programme of Work framework.

Main Partners

Small Island Developing States

Information Sources

The resolution on Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2/5) gives an important role to UN Environment and the Assembly in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and provides a wide space for them to act on a broad range of issues with a special focus given to partnerships, science-policy interface, assessment and early warning as well as UN Environment Live.

Member States envision a role for UN environment in coordinating the implementation of the environmental dimension and supporting the follow-up and review of the environmental dimension. The Assembly asks UN Environment to initiate new partnerships and strengthen existing ones, including with the private sector and civil society.

Building on its work in sustainable finance with the UN Environment Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System and the UN Environment Finance Initiative, Member States also asks UN Environment to continue to build on its work at the intersection of finance and the environment.

With the Paris Agreement one of the most significant environmental agreements in recent decades, the Assembly also agreed that UNEP should accelerate support to countries, especially developing countries, to build national readiness capacity to implement the Agreement, build implementation capacity and capacity to access finance and technology.

The resolution encourages the Executive Director to continue UN Environment's work on indicators to support monitoring the delivery of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda; and to ensure that the Global Environment Outlook process takes into account the 2030 Agenda. It invites the Multilateral Environmental Agreements to take into account relevant targets and indicators of the 2030 Agenda in their reporting obligations under those agreements. The resolution also requests the Executive Director prepare a report for consideration for by the third Assembly on UN Environment's contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with a view to forwarding the report to the High Level Political Forum for its consideration.

[2/5] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Align the subprogrammes to the 2030 Agenda [Environment Under Review](#)
- Implementation of monitoring, reporting information systems for the 2030 Agenda
- Full implementation plan for Sustainable Development Indicators and Global Environment Outlook 6 available
- UN Environment as custodian agency, working with all lead United Nations entities, to submit and develop all indicators required for follow-up and review of the environmental pillar of the 2030 Agenda.
- UN Environment Statistics, in partnership with national statistics offices and relevant ministries to undertake capacity development and deployment of indicator and data collection to support the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

UN entities, European Commission, national ministries and statistical offices, Regional

Main Partners

Economic Commissions, UN Environment Regional Offices, Governments

Information Sources

- Full implementation plans for Sustainable Development Indicators for the annual report by the UN Secretary General and for follow-up and review by High Level Political Forum.
- UN Environment, acting as the Secretariat of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, is developing and implementing a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to achieve a range of SDG targets as well as SDG targets in goals 2, 8, 12, 15 and 17. The Monitoring & Evaluation Framework will guide and measure the collective impact of the framework and inform the 10YFP mid-term review in 2017

Strengthen the science-science policy interface

Continuing to collaborate with other relevant UN bodies and to facilitate the work of scientific panels that provide integrated assessments to support policymaking, especially those for which UN Environment is secretariat, such as the International Resource Panel and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services;

(a) Increasing the visibility and impact of such assessments by presenting them to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and facilitating their dissemination to a wide range of audiences;

(b) Continue to provide policy-relevant information, incl. GEOs to track progress on environmental dimension of the SDGs, trends in global sustainability; and to present them to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

(c) Providing relevant reports and assessments that contribute to the development of the Global Sustainable Development Report.

- The Global Environment Outlook assessment, in response to the Assembly will be submitted to UN Environment Assembly 4, with a progress report at UN Environment Assembly 3, with an additional focus on the pollution theme of the Assembly. The work programme is designed to:
 - i. Consider the Goals as cross-cutting issues within the five environmental themes of Air, Fresh water, Oceans, Land and Biota;
 - ii. Develop innovative approaches that consider specifically the achievement of the 2030 agenda;
 - iii. Expanding the vision of the sixth Global Environment Outlook to consider how it links to the seventh and eight Global Environment Outlooks in terms of monitoring progress towards achievement of the 2030 agenda;
 - iv. Produce findings which are aligned with and can be easily extracted into other tracking reports such as the Global Sustainable Development Report and the Sustainable Development Goals progress report.

Update on progress

- UN Environment has conducted a mapping of the Sustainable Development Goals and aligned the Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021 to the 2030 Agenda

UN Environment Asia and Pacific Office

- supported the integration of the Goals in the Association of South East Asian Nations-UN Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change 2016-2020.
- The office also provided guidance on applying the integrated approach to deliver various environmental aspects of the 2030 Agenda to:
 - 1) Ministry of Health of Thailand in mainstreaming environmental health issues related to chemical usage into new national legislation on Prevention and Control of Occupational and Environmental Diseases;
 - 2) National planning officials from greater Mekong subregion countries on addressing the Agriculture- Sustainable Development Goals -Gender Nexus in the region;
 - 3) Government officials of 11 Ministries of Myanmar in promoting low carbon development and resilient buildings, sustainable rice production, waste management, green finance and fostering cleaner technology;
- Government officials from Ministries of Finance, Environment and Mining from the Philippines, Myanmar, Mongolia, Timor-Leste and Malaysia in financing for the goals through fiscal reforms, revenue management and sovereign wealth funds in the extractives sector.

Environment Under Review

- Launch of Environment Live with specific focus on data and tools to help monitor delivery of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda.
- Implementation of the UN Environment Indicator, Reporting Information System, in countries in five UN Environment regions.
- UN Environment Statistics as custodian agency submitted 6 environmental indicators for all countries to track progress on the 2030 Agenda and developed work plans for a further 19 indicators.
- Completion of mapping of the synergies between the Goals and Multilateral Environment Agreements to demonstrate areas of mutual outcome.
- Policy effectiveness analysis of current policies in relation to the 2030 Agenda started as part of the Global Environment Outlook 6 global assessment.
- UN Environment as custodian agency has submitted data for all countries for 6 environmental indicators and prepared development plans for a further 17 indicators in collaboration with UN entities and multilateral environment agreements as required for follow-up and review of the environmental pillar of the 2030 Agenda.
- UN Environment Statistics, in partnership with national statistics offices and relevant ministries, is carrying out capacity development and deployment of indicator and data collection in countries all regions to support the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda.
- Goal 15: target 7 Support for taking urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna, and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products well underway, with work in support of Member States in strengthening national, regional and global responses to illegal trade in wildlife.

10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production

- The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework finalized in October 2016, including 13 output and outcome indicators, and 7 impact indicators. The testing phase of the Framework started in January 2017, and may adjusted based on the results of the pilot phase which runs to March 2017.
- UN Environment Statistics continued work with all United Nations entities, to i) submit statistics to the Un Statistical Division on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda ii) provide support to UN Department for Social Affairs in the preparation of the Global Sustainable Development Report.
- Goal 14 Continued cooperation and coordination on marine issues among all relevant global and regional forums and organizations, including Food and Agriculture Organization, Intergovernmental Maritime Organization, International Oceanographic Commission, International SA and International Waters Commission and UN Environment to deliver on Goal 14 and interrelated targets.
- UN Environment West Asia is co-chair of the Working Group on the 2030 Agenda under the Regional UN Development Group. In its first meeting (18 January 2017) the group agreed to undertake:
 - Mapping of Existing Sustainable Development Goal work at Country Level.
 - Provision of support in the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support process through a regional workshop
 - Support to the Voluntary National Review Process - in 2017 Jordan and Qatar are part of the Voluntary National Review, and will present this July at the High Level Political Forum.
 - Support to ensure that all new UN Development Assistance Frameworks are aligned with the 2030 Agenda.

- At the country level, UN Environment has provided a capacity development workshop for UN Country Team members and national counterparts on integrating the environmental dimensions across national policy (23-24 August 2017) and has made presentations under the same theme to a national workshop in Bahrain. UN Environment is an active member of the Sustainable Development Goal working group under the UN Country Team in Jordan, and through this work is supporting the development of the Voluntary National Report, and also supports the Data and Statistics Working Group of the UN Country Team in Lebanon supporting the elaboration of data for reporting.
- UN Environment also supports the regional level work (with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia) on indicator development and data and statistics, organizing the 3rd regional workshop of the Arab Working Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and the second meeting of the Arab Regional Environment Information Network. Work has also been carried out, in cooperation with the Global Integrated Monitoring Initiative under UN Water to support the development of regionally relevant indicators for Sustainable Development Goal 6 on water.
- UN Environment in West Asia has been working closely with both the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism chaired by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and with the Regional UN Development Group on strategizing the support to be provided at the regional and national levels by the UN system in the region. With the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism, UN Environment has contributed to the development of an overview of the existing mechanisms of support available and in brainstorming the most relevant approaches, with a nexus approach being favoured. Work is underway on the organisation of the Arab Regional High Level Forum on Sustainable Development to be held in May 2017 with UN Environment contributing technically in terms of the environmental dimensions, and remains a key member of the organising committee.
- With funding from the European Commission (through GPGC-ENRTP instrument), the office is assisting 6 countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal and Samoa, to improve access to and sharing of environmental data and information in support of national policy-planning, as well as reporting against international obligations e.g. MEAs and SDGs. These countries will be also supported to link their data systems to Environment Live, making the national official environmental data readily accessible to by regional and global research and policy processes.
- Strengthen the science-science policy interface
- UN Environment Statistics is providing disaggregated data where available for all indicators for which it is the custodian agency. UN Environment's renewed data platform, Environment Live, provides more than 900 indicators, statistics, 900 maps, open data, near-real-time monitoring data, citizen science and access to geospatial tools, to underpin this.
- The office led a joint project with the UN Development Programme in Samoa to develop an "Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Framework" and "Roadmap for Implementation" with the National Statistics Office. The output will be presented at the Pacific SDGs conference, scheduled to be held on 24 March 2017 in Nadi, Samoa. Countries are being assisted currently to review the country situation in-terms of data availability, capacity needs and operational challenges with a target date of September 2017. The findings from these situation analyses will feed the determination of policy and technology support to be provided to countries within the scope of this project.
- The development of the Global Environment Outlook is On track. Global meeting of authors taking place February 20-25th, Frascati Italy where zero order draft of state and trends and policy effectiveness and cross-cutting issues relating to the 2030 Agenda will be produced.
- Actively participating in development of 2017 Global Sustainable Development Report.

Mainstreaming Biodiversity for well-being (2/16) notes both the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 2030 Agenda and is linked primarily to SDG 15, as well as Goals 1, 2, 6, 14, and 16. It recognizes that conservation of biodiversity promotes sustainable development by advancing social well-being, economic growth and environmental protection. It calls on Member States and Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to align plans, programmes and commitments adopted in the framework of those international instruments with the principles and approaches set out in the 2030 Agenda to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in various sectors, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, among others, which are interconnected, among other things, with food security, economic growth, human health, the improvement of living conditions and the enjoyment of a healthy environment.

- Provision of support to the Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity, and its Secretariat as well as the Government of Mexico respectively, in preparing and negotiating outcomes of the [13th Meeting of the Conference of Parties](#), that will revitalize political support to achieve the sustainable management of natural resources in the context of alignment with plan, programmes and commitments in line with the 2030 Agenda.
- Implement the input provided towards the preparation and adoption of the [Cancun Declaration](#) on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being.
- Advise and work in cooperation with the UN Environment Regional Sub-Programme Coordinators, national focal points of biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements in promoting the integrated approach in national policies and planning, in order to ensure biodiversity is given due prominence.

Update on progress

1. The COP 13 in Cancun successfully culminated with the adoption of over 70 decisions (37 for the Biodiversity Convention, 19 for Biosafety Protocol and 14 for the Access and Benefit Sharing Protocol), on a range of issues on the implementation of the Convention and its two protocols. The High Level Segment of this meeting adopted the "Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being," which recognizes the importance of the 2030 Agenda its Goals, the Paris Agreement, mainstreaming biodiversity into the policies of the forests, fisheries, tourism and agriculture sectors, plans, programmes budgets, updating and implementing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.

The resolution "Enhancing the work of UNEP in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions" (2/17) creates opportunities for collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It calls for the Executive Director to try to align the programme of work of UN Environment with decisions and resolutions of the relevant Conventions and to cooperate with the Secretariats of biodiversity conventions and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to exchange information, knowledge and tools and enhance sharing of information. It also asks the Executive Director assist collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant UN bodies to contribute to the follow-up and review process of the biodiversity-related SDGs.

[2/17] Overall Assessment: on track

Implementation Plan

- Sharing the resolution with the Governing Bodies of biodiversity related agreements and secretariats, prepare publications, stories and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and emphasize the importance of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans as instruments for delivering coherent and effective implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions.
- Production and distribution of guidance documents on the Sustainable Development Goals and the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans to promote synergies among biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements, including those in the Regional Seas, as well as ensuring that the Goals are duly incorporated into their respective national planning, including the use of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks.
- Increased cooperation and collaboration on improving efficiency of interoperability of data, information sharing, knowledge and tools using instruments that are part of the UN Environment Information and Knowledge Management Initiative and UNEP Live.
- Preparation of the Review Paper for the High Level Political Forum in 2017 which will reflect on the lessons learned from the High Level Political Forum that took place 2016 as well as the Conference of the Parties-Meetings of the Parties of the relevant biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements and related developments in regions and countries that took place last year.
- To consult and advise on biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements in considering the results and implementation of the UN Environment project on improving the effectiveness and cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions, exploring opportunities for further synergies and advertising the outcomes of the project.
- Participate in the process of the preparation of the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework to be ready for active engagement in discussion before the 14th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention of Biological Diversity in 2019 with other partners and the related Governing and Subsidiary Bodies.

Main Partners

Secretariats of the Biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements; National Focal Points, the Global Environment Facility; the Government of Mexico; and relevant Major Groups and Stakeholder at the national level

Issues facing implementation

Main Partners

Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements and their respective Governing Bodies; the Multilateral Environment Agreements' Information and Knowledge Management Initiative; The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services; the Environment Management Group Secretariat; the Biodiversity Liaison Group Secretariat; National Focal Points; Relevant major groups and stakeholders; National Statistics Offices; and Donors.

Information Sources

- [13th Meeting of the Conference of Parties](#)
- [Cancun Declaration](#)

Update on progress

1. The results of the synergies project shared were with the Parties to biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements through their respective Secretariats and Governing Bodies and are publicly available online and have been considered at the Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Biological Diversity and Meetings of the Parties to the two Conventions on Biological Diversity Protocols.
2. Deliberations and consultations took place between UN Environment and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements on incorporation and strategic priorities of projects portfolio for the UN Environment Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021 and the Programme of Work 2018-2019 and Strategies.
3. A consultative meeting between UN Environment and secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions was organized to discuss enhancing synergies among in the context of the outcomes of the second Assembly and the respective resolutions in July 2016.
4. This resolution has also been shared with the Environment Management Group and the Biodiversity Liaison Group along with related resolutions of the second Assembly in August 2016; and with the Multilateral Environmental Agreements in July 2016.
5. UN Environment's Law Division in cooperation with the Regional Offices started to implement a country support programme through the Global Environment Facility National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans project in Asia (Bahrain, Laos, Sri Lanka, Thailand) as well as in Latin America and the Caribbean (Guatemala, St. Lucia), highlighting the importance of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans in integrating the goals of all biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements and the alignment with the relevant Sustainable Development Goals

Main Partners

Secretariats of the Biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements; National Focal Points, the Global Environment Facility; the Government of Mexico; and relevant Major Groups and Stakeholder at the national level

The resolution on the "Mid-term review of the Montevideo Programme IV on Environmental Law," (2/19) emphasizes the need for activities in the field of environmental law to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It calls for Member States to appoint national focal points for exchanging information and building capacities so they can guide and collaborate with UN Environment.

The resolution asks the Executive Director to produce guidance to Member States for effective legislative, implementation and enforcement frameworks, and to prepare an assessment of the implementation, effectiveness and impact of the fourth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law.

2/19] Overall Assessment: on track

Implementation Plan

1. A note verbale was sent out inviting all member States to nominate national focal points by end of December 2016. UN Environment is working of the establishment of a steering committee of selected national focal points to support more closely the implementation and evaluation of the Montevideo Programme.
2. To enhance coordination with Governments and their focal points, UN Environment is planning the following activities: involving the focal points in the implementation of environmental law related activities, in particular with respect to the priorities identified by the resolution and the outcome of the midterm review of the Programme; organizing two meetings of the Montevideo steering committee and one meeting of all national focal points to monitor the implementation of the Programme; plan for the final assessment of the programme; and develop a proposal for the work of UN Environment in the area of environmental law in 2017 and 2018; organize one intergovernmental meeting to validate the final assessment of the Programme and a proposal for the work by UN Environment in the areas of environmental law in mid-2019.

Update on progress

1. National focal points were designated by 84 Governments
2. In 2017, focal points will be involved in the delivery of law related activities carried out by the Law Division in the field of environmental rule of law, environmental crime, environmental impact assessments, and lead in paint legislation.

Issues facing implementation

Main Partners

UN Environment Regional Offices

The resolution on the "Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in the Latin America and Caribbean Region" (2/25) emphasizes that broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings are essential for sustainable development. The Assembly encourages countries to continue their efforts in support of implementing Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, and strengthening environmental rule of law at the international, regional and national levels. The resolution also notes the progress made in the Latin American and Caribbean region to advance the development of a regional agreement on access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters.

Implementation Plan

- Advance the development of the Regional Instrument on Principle 10 in the Latin American and Caribbean Region.
- Plan a number of activities promoting the Bali Guidelines, engaging the judiciary and prosecutors, and preparing legal guidance materials are planned for 2017 under the programme of work 2016/2017 as part of strengthening institutions to achieve Goal 16.

Update on progress

- Progress to continue in 2017 finalizing negotiations of all Articles of the compilation text, with the first negotiation session taking place in Brazil from 20-24 March 2017 in Brasilia, Brazil at the VI Intergovernmental Negotiations Committee Meeting. Progress has also been made on capacity building for various stakeholders on Principle 10.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is taking the lead in supporting this process. UN Environment participation and input, provided through the Office for Latin America and Caribbean, requires financial support.

Financial support is also required to fund capacity building programmes held back-to-back with negotiations. Financial Support required to support other capacity building programs relating to Principle 10 that will engage various stakeholders under the programme of work 2017.

Main Partners

UN Environment Regional Offices



Chemicals, Waste and Air Quality

The resolution on “sound management of chemicals and waste” (2/7) has four sections on: achieving the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management 2020 goal; wastes; chemicals; and a final section on further action. The resolution recognizes that sound management of chemical Wastes is one of the key requirements for achieving the 2030 Agenda. This contributes to SDG 3.9 which seeks to substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination; SDG 6.3 which focuses on improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally; and SDG 12.4, which seeks to achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

On achieving the 2020 goal and beyond, the Assembly calls on Member States that have not yet done so to reflect the sound management of chemicals and waste as a priority within their national sustainable development planning processes. It asks UN Environment to support the process to prepare recommendations on the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 to foster the active involvement of industry stakeholders; and to: support countries in the implementation of the integrated approach to financing for the sound management of chemicals and waste; and to continue work on lead and cadmium; and

The private sector is called upon to play a significant role in financing and to build capacity of small- and medium-sized enterprises, for the sound management of chemicals and waste.

On wastes, the Executive Director is asked to ensure full integration of environmentally-sound management of waste in UN Environment’s programme-wide strategies and policies; and to issue an update of the Global Waste Management Outlook by the end of 2019.

On chemicals, the Assembly invites all stakeholders with experience to submit to the Secretariat, by 30 June 2017, best practices, indicating how these may enhance the sound management of chemicals, and requests UN Environment to submit an update of the Global Chemicals Outlook by the end of 2018.

An additional section invites governments and other stakeholders to provide appropriate forms of assistance, within their capabilities, for the resolution’s implementation.

[2/7] Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

1. Under the advisory service project and 2030 Agenda implementation concept for 2018-2019, further guidance in being developed to assist countries in making the case to integrate sound management of chemicals and waste in national, sectoral and local planning
2. In 2017-2018, the Secretariat, working with other UN agencies will implement a project to support three pilot countries in linking national data collection and statistics to global chemicals and waste related indicators under the 2030 Agenda and Multilateral Environmental Agreements. To support the process, two international expert meetings will be organized in 2017 and 2018.
3. In addition to PoW approved projects, Secretariat services to the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and its financial mechanism, UN Environment will contribute to the beyond-2020 process as a stakeholder.
4. The second application round under the Special Programme for Institutional Strengthening at the national level for the chemicals and waste cluster will be launched in February 2017. There will be a series of meetings in 2017 of the Executive Director and the private sector to explore opportunities for partnerships.
5. Global Mercury Waste Assessment is planned for publication in early 2018.
6. Regional outlooks for Asia, Central Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Small Island Developing States are planned for publication in 2017 and early 2018.
8. The Secretariat will organize a workshop in Burkina Faso in the second quarter of 2017 to support development of a regional strategy in Africa for the sound recycling of lead acid batteries.
9. The Secretariat will send out a global survey on Sustainable Chemistry in early 2017 to obtain a better understanding about the concept in Member States. The results will inform a communication to Member States during the 2nd Quarter in 2017, to submit good practices by 30 June 2017.

Funding for guidance documents available.
 Funding for country advisory services lacking
 Funding for SDG indicator project secured from UN Development Account. Overview report for policy makers funded through existing resources.
 Funding for the beyond-2020 process including the intersessional meetings is being raised. The contribution of UN Environment in this process as a stakeholder is funded through existing sources.
 Funding for the Special Programme is available and fund-raising to support additional countries is ongoing.
 Further funding for the work on lead and cadmium to be raised. Enhanced funding is needed to respond to the technical assistance and capacity building needs in developing countries.
 Further funding needs to be raised. To complete Global Waste Management Outlook in 2019.

- A review paper will be prepared in 2017 which will address issues which have been identified as emerging policy issues by the International Conference on Chemicals Management, as well as other issues where emerging evidence indicates a risk to human health and the environment.

Update on progress

- Expert meeting planned for May 2017; development of guidance on integrating sound management of chemicals and waste in national, sectoral and local planning ongoing and to be completed in 2018.
- The Secretariat led the organization of an International Workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals and the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste, Geneva, Switzerland, 11-13 April 2016. The workshop brought together more than 100 stakeholders and was organized through collaboration of the Chemicals and Waste Branch, the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat and the Inter-organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals.
- The Strategic Approach secretariat serviced the 1st meeting of the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 in Brasilia, Brazil from 7 to 9 February 2017 which brought together more than 200 participants.
- UN Environment, in addition to hosting the Secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, actively contributed to and participated in the intersessional process on the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020, mainly by creating linkages with the substantive work undertaken through Global Chemicals Outlook-II in the intersessional process.
- The Strategic Approach secretariat actively engaged industry stakeholders during 2016 with the aim of ensuring their involvement in the intersessional process. Such engagement includes participation by the Strategic Approach secretariat in industry organized meetings. Under a collaborative agreement with ICCA signed in 2016, UN Environment and ICCA co-organized a global workshop in September 2016 (Shanghai) on the role of chemistry in implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, with more than 100 participants from around the world.
- UN Environment is actively participating in the meetings of the Inter-Organization for Sound Management of Chemicals and the Environment Management Group to raise the profile of sound chemicals and waste management and ensure coordination.
- The Special Programme secretariat organized the second meeting of the Executive Board at which seven projects on institutional strengthening were approved (Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Ukraine, Tanzania, Benin, Argentina and Dominican Republic). The approved projects all aim at building capacity at the national level towards mainstreaming chemicals and waste into the broader national development agenda.
- UN Environment and the global chemical has initiated development of a project in Africa to support chemical safety
- The chemicals and waste interface will be covered in a distinct chapter in Global Chemicals Outlook-II to be developed in 2017. The Director of International Environmental Technology Centre is a member of the Global Chemicals Outlook-II Steering Committee.
- The Lead Paint Alliance is actively working in regions and countries to meet the goal to have legal limits to lead in paint in place in all countries by 2020. A review paper to examine latest knowledge on cadmium including options for next step is being developed in 2017.
- The Secretariat organized a session on the recycling of lead acid batteries in Dakar, Senegal, in December 2016 within a West African sub-regional workshop on multilateral environmental agreements and sustainable development goals related to chemicals and waste.
- The Global Waste Management Outlook represents the first comprehensive global overview of the state of waste management around the world in the 21st century. It was complemented by a Waste Management Outlook for Mountain Regions published in December 2016.
- The first meeting of the Steering Committee for Global Chemicals Outlook, 15-16 December 2016, discussed the development of issue papers including sustainable chemistry.
- UNEP/EA.2/INF/20 was circulated to stakeholders of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management in July 2016 for comment, as requested by the Assembly. A review paper will be prepared in 2017 which will address issues which have been identified as emerging policy issues by the International Conference on Chemicals Management, as well as other issues where emerging evidence indicates a risk to human health and the environ-

Main Partners

UN Environment is partnering with state and subnational governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, private sector and academia through various multi-stakeholder mechanisms such as the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.

The resolution on “sand and dust storms” (2/21) is aimed to promote a coordinated approach to combatting sand and dust storms globally. It requests the Executive Director to address the challenges of sand and dust storms through identification of data and information gaps, policy measures and actions, building on UNGA resolution 70/195 and UNEA 1/7. Member States are invited to intensify monitoring, data collection and knowledge sharing; and Member States regional banks and others are invited to contribute financial resources towards projects that address the challenge of sand and dust storms.

(2/21) Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- Science Division intends to provide data and information on the impacts and possible solutions for sand and dust storms.

Update on progress

- A Global Assessment of Sand and Dust Storms was conducted by UN Environment, the World Meteorological Organization and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification. The findings of the report, which included a framework for policy actions to mitigate sand and dust storms, were presented at the second United Nations Environment Assembly and distributed at the United Nations General Assembly
- As a follow-up to the recommendations of the Global Assessment, UN Convention to Combat Desertification and UN Environment convened an Expert Workshop on Economic Impact Assessment of Sand and Dust Storms held Sept 2016 in Songdo, Korea. The workshop planned a technical guide for mitigating sand and dust storms and an economic assessment of sand and dust storm mitigation measures. The economic assessment will provide guidance to help countries identify the best approaches for mitigating sand and dust storm causes and effects.
- The findings of the were also presented at an International Workshop on Meteorology, Sand and Dust Storm, Combating Desertification and Erosion, held October 2016 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- UN Environment and University of Arizona presented a proposal for the development of a global Dust-Health Early Warning Service at the 97th Annual Meeting of the American Meteorological Society, held January 2017, in Seattle, USA.

Varied Financial implications / challenges to mobilize resources to produce the technical guide and the economic assessment. Resource mobilization is underway. Finance of the development of the warning service is being discussed.

Main Partners

World Meteorological Organization, UN Convention to Combat Desertification, University of Arizona

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Resource Efficiency

The resolution on “Sustainable consumption and production” (2/8) recognizes that promoting sustainable consumption and production is essential for achieving sustainable development and notes that all countries should take actions.

This contributes to SDG 8.4 which aims at improving progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead, and SDG 12 which seeks to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

The resolution encourages Member States to take the necessary steps to achieve Goal 12 and related targets in other SDGs, in accordance with the 10YFP, with developed countries taking the lead. It requests the Executive Director to ensure UN Environment continues and strengthens its work to facilitate coordinated efforts in all regions to ensure the sustainable production and consumption and the implementation of the related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. It invites the International Resource Panel and other relevant scientific and expert groups to make available reports, including on the state, trends, and outlook of sustainable consumption and production, to a future meeting of UNEA but not later than 2019.

(2/8) Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- UN Environment as the acting Secretariat of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns is developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to Goal 12, among others.
- A Global Survey on National Sustainable Consumption and Production Policies and Initiatives was undertaken by the Secretariat of the 10 Year Framework. This survey aims to develop a baseline of existing national Sustainable Consumption and Production policies and initiatives of governments worldwide, and will help highlight opportunities for replication and scaling up efforts in this regard, as well as identify any capacity building needs.
- As part of the current Programme of Work, UN Environment is mandated to provide assistance to 15 countries in the design and implementation of their respective Sustainable Public Procurement plans. UN Environment is also involved in two European Commission funded projects related to Sustainable Public Procurement and Eco-labelling in 12 countries.
- The Secretariat is empowering National Focal Points through capacity-building and Sustainable Consumption and Production institutional strengthening and mainstreaming at both regional and national levels, as well as supporting the alignment of the regional Sustainable Consumption and Production roadmaps to the Goals. These Focal Points are also being supported to engage in the 10 Year Framework, through Sustainable Consumption and Production roundtables and enhanced coordination regional Sustainable Consumption and Production initiatives such as SWITCH-Asia.
- The six thematic and sectoral programmes of the 10 Year Framework gather more than 450 partner organizations, drawn from governments, business, civil society and institutions working on Sustainable Consumption and Production, which have formed consortia to establish concepts for large-scale projects, defining work areas and capacity building needs
- A new resource mobilization strategy for the 10 Year Framework has been developed to seek funds from a variety of sources for the Trust Fund and the Programmes. The Secretariat is overseeing its Trust Fund that allocates resources through calls for proposals.
- 10 Year Framework will report annually against indicators of the Monitoring and Evaluation framework, including against a number of Sustainable Development Goal indicators.
- The Secretariat together with the Programme supports Member States and Stakeholders in identifying relevant indicators and data collection to measure progress on Sustainable Consumption and Production in the context of multiple Sustainable Development Goals.
- An Inter-Agency Coordination Group has been convened by the Secretariat, which agreed on action points to facilitate strengthened coordination for Sustainable Consumption and Production and visibility of the 10 Year Framework and Production Patterns across different Agencies.

Financial challenges: Obtaining funding for large-scale projects remains a challenge for the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns. SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Support Component faced difficulties in donor reporting and rapid implementation due to UMOJA. SwitchMed is under-staffed and recruitment process has been started (on project funding) to assure in-country implementation. Additional financial resources required to continue replicating and scaling up the SwitchMed methodology and to support ongoing implementation. Since reporting against the indicators is voluntary, significant financial resources are required to meet the data collection and monitoring needs of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns mid-term review.

- The Production Patterns Secretariat has upgraded its knowledge management and information sharing web platform, the [Global Sustainable Consumption and Production Clearing House](#).
- The Secretariat continues to provide scientific and expert support through the 10 Year Framework. It is collaborating with the [International Resource Panel](#) to promote science-based decision making for Sustainable Production and Consumption among Member States and Stakeholders. Cooperation with the [Lifecycle Initiative](#) is also in the plans.

Update on progress

- The Monitoring and Evaluation Framework to achieve Goal 12 was finalized in October 2013. The testing phase of the Framework started in January 2017.
- A comprehensive methodology for collecting and analyzing information on national sustainable consumption and production policies and initiatives was developed. A joint analysis of the pilot results and lessons learnt is underway with regional experts.
- There are currently 7 assessments in place, and 9 Sustainable Consumption and Production Action Plans.
- There are more than 25 Multi-Stakeholder National Sustainable Consumption and Production workshops, trainings and roundtables organized with other 1500 participants from different Ministries, business entities, academia and civil society.
- There is a new Asia Pacific Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production, under the leadership of the current and former 10 Year Framework and Production Patterns Board Members.
- Preparations are underway for the Production Patterns Conference on South-South Cooperation in Brazil on 6-7 April 2017.
- A workshop on 'Mainstreaming Energy Efficiency Across all the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns Programmes' took place in September 2016 in Copenhagen. An inter-programme meeting will take place in Paris in May 2017.
- The Secretariat developed and launched a final paper on 'Monitoring the Shift to Sustainable Consumption and Production in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals' in partnership with the Ministry of Environment of Chile, Statistics Sweden and the United Nations Statistics Division.
- All Programmes have at least 1 Government Official in the lead/co-lead position and it's Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committees are made up of governments, private sector, civil society and academia.
- The International Resource Panel will provide a scientific assessment on the state, trends and outlook of Sustainable Consumption and Production from the perspective of the sustainable management of natural resources. This will be submitted as a pre-session information document for consideration at the third Assembly.
- A comprehensive report building on the interim analysis, and providing a global assessment on natural resource use and management in the context of sustainable consumption and production will be submitted by the International Resource Panel to the fourth Assembly in 2019.

Main Partners

UN Environment's Asia Pacific Office; United Nations Statistics Department; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; International Resource Panel; World Tourism Organization; Sweden Statistics; European Commission; Public Procurement Authorities; Ministries of Finance and Environment; RMIT University Australia; Institute for Global Environment Strategies; Stockholm Environment Institute; Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute; World Travel and Tourism Council; Philippine Center for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development; Western Cape Government of South Africa, National Procurement Agency of Uruguay; Jordan's Royal Scientific Society Cleaner Production Center; Jordan Ministries of Environment, Health, Labor, Industry and Trade, Finance; Amman Chamber of Industry; Small and Medium sized enterprises in Jordan; Ministry of Natural Protection of Armenia; and small and medium sized enterprises in Armenia; EC Joint Research Center; Consumers International; and Lifestyle Initiative.

Information Sources

- [Global Sustainable Consumption and Production Clearing House](#)
- [International Resource Panel](#)
- [Lifecycle Initiative](#)

"Prevention, reduction and reuse of food waste" (2/9) recognizes the negative impacts of food waste and fundamental priority of achieving food security and nutrition. This links with SDGs 12.3 which aims at halving per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

In the resolution, the Assembly invites governments to implement programmes including market-based incentives that reduce food lost and wasted at all stages of the food value chain; participate in existing international efforts regarding improved methodologies to better measure food loss, and waste generation; and engage in international cooperation with the objective of reducing and/or eradicating food loss resulting from contamination at the production stage by sharing technical knowledge and good practices.

UN Environment is asked to collaborate with partners in the development multi-stakeholder initiatives that focus on food waste reduction and enhance cooperation with other UN agencies to, share information and support communities of practice that focus on food waste and loss reduction.

Implementation Plan

The plan is:

- To reinvigorate and relaunch the Think Eat Save campaign in partnership with the Communications Division in 2017.
- To continue leadership and advocacy efforts on achieving Sustainable Development Goal target 12.3 by: a) ensuring that the Food Loss and Waste Protocol is approved as an indicator for target 12.3, with UN Environment as the custodian, and in collaboration with technical partners, and b) co-leading Champions 12.3 with UN Environment as a co-chair to raise awareness.
- Further increase UN-wide coherence on food loss and waste in cooperation with FAO through joint activities in the context of the 10YFP Sustainable Food Systems Programme and linking Think Eat Save and SAVE Food.
- Deliver Capacity building and implementation support to businesses and countries that commit to preventing and reducing food waste through the development of a community of practice. Sustainable Development Goal target: 12.3 - by 2030 halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses.

Update on progress

- Working with UN Environment's Sustainable Development Goals coordination group to ensure that the Food Waste Protocol is adopted as an indicator for Goal 12.3
- Relaunch and reinvigorate the Think Eat Save campaign (joint activity between Economy and Communications Divisions) to raise global awareness of food waste, share good practices and create momentum for change.
- Piloting the Think Eat Save Guidance in South Africa, Saudi Arabia and Colombia. This Guidance provides a comprehensive approach for countries and companies in developing food waste prevention programmes.
- Regional Capacity Building workshops together with UN Environment Regional Offices, raising awareness on food waste and sharing the Think Eat Save guidance methodology with governments, food sector businesses and civil society.
- Active in Champions 12.3, to mobilize action for the delivery of Goal 12.3. Erik Solheim co-chairs this group of Champions with Tesco Chief Executive Dave Lewis.

Progress is being made in spite of insufficient funding. This resolution calls for activities that require a much wider funding base and a much more comprehensive effort from UN Environment. Funding levels should ideally reach 600,000 USD per year to ensure that awareness on this subject is raised, governments are encouraged to act and data is collected to measure progress towards SDG 12.3. Individual efforts on implementation support to businesses and countries would have to be covered separately either by the stakeholder themselves or other funding mechanisms.

Main Partners

At the International Level: UN Food and Agriculture Organization, World Resources Institute, Waste and Resources Action Programme (United Kingdom), World Wildlife Fund International, Consumer Goods Forum, World Business Council for Sustainable Development, Wageningen University. At the Country level: China: Chinese Academy of Sciences; Thailand: Thailand Ministry of Natural Resources, Nestle; Saudi Arabia: Savola Group, Ministry of Agriculture; South Africa: Department of Trade and Industry, The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Municipalities of Johannesburg and Tshwane.

Information Sources



Corporate services

The operative paragraphs of the resolution on the “Relationship between UNEP and the MEAs for which it provides the secretariat” (2/18) are set out in four sections on institutional framework and accountability, administrative and financial framework, mutual supportiveness of PoWs, and future steps. On institutional framework, the Assembly requests UN Environment to develop a draft template of options for the provision of secretariat services, for example, in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding, for consideration by the Conventions of the Parties’ to the Agreements. The resolution encourages UN Environment to maintain the flexibility required on a case-by-case basis.

The Assembly invites the governing bodies of the Agreements to bring to UN Environment’s attention any administrative or financial challenges faced in implementing the MOUs, and to share good practices in budget and human resource management among themselves. It also asks UN Environment to waive Programme Support Costs on voluntary contributions for participation costs when participation is arranged by administrative staff financed by the Programme Support Costs on the operating budget; and to prepare information on the implications of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards on their operational budgets.

The Assembly also requests UN Environment to make available scientific information relevant to the work of the Agreements, in the framework of the 2030 Agenda.

(2/18) Overall Assessment: on track

Issues facing implementation

Implementation Plan

- UN Environment’s Corporate Services Division will begin consultations with the Secretariats of the UNEP-administered Multilateral Environmental Agreements in the 1st quarter of 2017 to determine the most appropriate template of options for the provision of secretariat services.
- An update on all the actionable requirements of this resolution will be presented by UN Environment’s Law Division with input from the Corporate Services Division, to the 3rd Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, and a final report of the same to the 4th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in 2019.

Update on progress

- Letter sent by Executive Director to governing bodies of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements dated 26 July 2016 forwarding the resolution and drawing their attention to operative paragraphs 3 and 4 of this resolution.
- Programme Support costs for travel has been waived for the meetings of Parties for the Convention On International Trade In Endangered Species Of Wild Fauna And Flora, Convention On Biological Diversity, and the joint meeting of the parties of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. UN Environment is also considering a policy on the use and management of Programme Support Costs
- An information note was sent from Director, Corporate Services Division, on 14 December 2016 to Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements to be shared with their respective governing bodies, regarding implications of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards for their respective operational budgets.
- Quarterly meetings are held with the Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements to discuss how their portfolios can be mutually supported to deliver on UN Environment’s Medium Term Strategy 2018-2021. These are further supported by in depth bilateral meetings with UN Environment Sub-Programme Coordinators and focal points from the Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements to which UN Environment provides the Secretariat.

Main Partners

Secretariats of Multilateral Environmental Agreements for which UN Environment provides the secretariat or secretariat functions

Information Sources

The Assembly approved the “2018-2021 MTS and the PoW and budget for the biennium 2018-2019” (2/20). The resolution requests the Executive Director to continue adapting the voluntary indicative scale of contributions urges Member States and others in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions to UNEP, notably the Environment Fund. It also asks the Executive Director to continue to broaden the donor base and to design and implement a resource mobilization strategy.

Implementation Plan

- UN Environment adhere to UN financial rules and regulations to ensure that the funds are being utilized in accordance with the purpose for which they are approved.
- Continue to hold the Committee of Permanent Representatives meeting every six months to review the UN Environment programme performance which provides insight of the organization's progress against the mid-term strategy and programme of work. Next CPR meeting is scheduled for March 2017.
- Member States are expected to engage and encourage each other to take collective and global responsibility for the organization's funding in line with the universal membership. The Secretariat is encouraging and supporting these efforts.
- A resource mobilization strategy will be designed and discussed with the Member States based on the 2014 Global Funding Strategy during 2017, starting at the Annual Sub-Committee Meeting in March 2017. It is expected to be ready by the 3rd Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in December 2017.
- UN Environment's Programme of Work for 2020-2021 is scheduled to be developed in 2018.

Update on progress

- Periodic review of relevant financial indicators is carried out to ensure efficient management of available resources. Half yearly presentation the Committee of Permanent Representatives and annual Programme Performance Reports cover budgetary and financial aspects of UN Environment.
- New Environment Fund appropriation process was adopted by Senior Management Team to increase transparency and accountability at both divisional level and sub-programme level
- Secretariat engages the member states on a continuous basis to encourage provision of secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources as per the commitments made in the Rio+20 summit. This is done through discussions between the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, UN Environment Regional Offices and Member States supported by outreach material at global and regional level. For example, special focus material on Environment Fund will be ready by the 3rd Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly.
- The Executive Director's proposal for the Voluntary Indicative Scale for the biennium 2018-2019 will be communicated to the Member States by October 2017, as per the Governing Council decisions SS.VII/1 and other relevant decisions.
- The share of the Environment Fund that is devoted to post costs and non-post costs is being monitored and reported in the Committee of Permanent Representatives on a half yearly basis, and annual Programme Performance Reporting.

Availability of funding for the implementation of the Programme of Work.

Main Partners

Information Sources

On the "management of trust funds" (2/23), the Assembly requests the Executive Director to prepare a report highlighting the challenges of managing multiple trust funds and to propose steps that could be taken to reduce the administrative burden of maintaining these trust funds. The Assembly approved the extension of a number of trust funds in support of UNEP's PoW; and noted and approved trust funds on regional seas programmes, conventions, protocols and special funds.

Implementation Plan

N/A

Update on progress

- Draft report highlighting the challenges of managing multiple trust funds and proposing steps which can be taken to reduce the administrative burden of maintaining these trust funds will be finalized at the beginning of the 2nd quarter of 2017 for review of the Executive Director.

Projected cost of US \$50,000 for the report, which includes staff costs, translation and print costs.

Main Partners

Information Sources

In the resolution on the “UNEA cycle” (2/22), the Assembly decided to hold its regular sessions in odd numbered years commencing with its third session in 2017 and that OECPR-3 and UNEA-3 shall each consist of a three-day meeting and will be convened back-to-back in order to minimize financial costs;

The Assembly also recognized that the cost of the 2017 UNEA session and the 2017 Open Ended Committee of the Permanent Representatives have not been reflected in UN Environment’s 2016-2017 PoW and budget, and encouraged Member States and others who can to contribute funds for the convening of these meetings. The Assembly requests the Executive Director to present to the third Assembly, where applicable, updates on the implementation of the resolutions of the second Assembly; and decides to defer the formal consideration of the reports by the Executive Director to the fourth Assembly in 2019.

UN Environment engages the Member States on a continuous basis to encourage provision of secure, stable, adequate and increased financial resources as per the commitments made in the Rio+20 Summit. This is done through discussions between the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, Regional Offices and Member states supported by outreach material at global and regional level

Annex 1: List of Resolutions Adopted at the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

Resolution number	Topic
2/1	Amendments to the rules of procedure
2/2	Role and functions of the regional forums of ministers of environment and environment authorities
2/3	Investing in human capacity for sustainable development through environmental education and training
2/4	Role, functions and modalities for UNEP implementation of the SA-MOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals
2/5	Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2/6	Supporting the Paris Agreement
2/7	Sound management of chemicals and waste
2/8	Sustainable consumption and production
2/9	Prevention, reduction and reuse of food waste
2/10	Oceans and seas
2/11	Marine plastic litter and microplastics
2/12	Sustainable coral reefs management
2/13	Sustainable management of natural capital for sustainable development and poverty eradication
2/14	Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products
2/15	Protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict
2/16	Mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being
2/17	Enhancing the work of UNEP in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions
2/18	Relationship between UNEP and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements for which it provides the secretariat
2/19	Midterm review of the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environment Law (Montevideo Programme IV)
2/20	Proposed medium-term strategy for 2018-2021 and programme of work and budget for 2018-2019
2/21	Sand and dust storms
2/22	Review of the cycle of sessions of UNEA of UNEP
2/23	Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions
2/24	Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands
2/25	Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in the Latin America and Caribbean Region