



The United Nations Environment Programme and the 2030 Agenda

Global Action for People and the Planet

Unemployment, resource scarcity, climate change, food insecurity and inequity all signal the need for radical change in our societies. To bring this change, the entire UN system must meet the challenge of delivering sustainable development with shared prosperity for all, within the ecological limits of our planet. The UN's role in this transformation is to assist countries to implement the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a balanced and integrated manner.

UNEP is **committed** to working with all concerned parties to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNEP **promotes** environmental sustainability as a crucial enabling factor in implementing the SDGs and ensuring the health of our planet.

UNEP's **goal** is to support countries by ensuring integration of the environmental dimension in sustainable development and building country capacity to track progress.

Four core **principles** underpin UNEP's approach to the 2030 Agenda: integration, universality, human rights and equity, and innovation.

- **Universality** [all peoples – beyond borders – collective action]: The 2030 Agenda is global in nature and universally applicable, taking into account different national realities, levels of development, and respecting national policies and priorities. It is a shared agenda that requires a collective response, with countries developing their own pathways to national targets. This will require strengthened governance practice and institutions.
- **Integration** [acting as a harmonious whole]: The 2030 Agenda moves beyond acting as if sustainable development is about three disconnected pillars. Approaches must balance and integrate the social, environmental and

economic dimensions, also looking at governance, and interconnect the areas.

- **Human rights and equity** [pathway to a more fair, just and sustainable world]: Inequalities are not just determined by economics. To achieve basic levels of goods and services for all; better redistribution of wealth and resources (both within and between countries); and equitable access to opportunities, information and rule of law, new approaches that build capacities at all level of society are needed.
- **Innovation** [invention is the master key to progress]: The acceleration and transfer of technological innovations is a common concern. In addition to drawing from formal science, traditional knowledge and citizen common sense, new and innovative pathways are needed to allow countries to leap forward.

Environmental sustainability for the Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 Agenda

In September, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is expected to be adopted at the United Nations summit held in New York. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals build on the eight Millennium Development Goals and aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for all.

⊗ = related goal



Environmental Sustainability for the SDGs in the 2030 Agenda

About half of the SDGs are directly environmental in focus or address the sustainability of natural resources: poverty, health, food and agriculture, water and sanitation, human settlements, energy, climate change, sustainable consumption and production, oceans, and terrestrial ecosystems. Over 86 targets concern environmental sustainability, including at least one in each of the 17 SDGs.



UNEP-Supported Global Initiatives, Partnerships and Networks

Examples of cross-cutting policies and programmes that can be expanded and enhanced to embed the principles of the 2030 Agenda and forge new collaborations with stakeholders working in related sectors



Solutions & Partnerships

UNEP's challenge in the 2030 Agenda is to address its complexity and ambition. UNEP will develop and enhance integrated approaches, across programmes and sectors, to contribute to countries' implementation of the SDGs, ensure coherence and avoid duplication. UNEP will align its strategic planning to the 2030 Agenda and strengthen embedded interactions with the rest of the UN system to build universality and partnerships, while addressing emerging environmental issues.

Climate Change

Inclusive Green Economy (IGE): This evolves from UNEP's earlier work on Green Economy with partners such as the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE). IGE is an integrated approach that can help states maximize the benefits to human well-being that derive from a healthy environment.

Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC): A 100-member partnership to reduce short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs), the CCAC is working on 16 key measures, which if implemented by 2030 can reduce global warming by 0.6°C by 2050.

Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN): the operational arm of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism and promotes the accelerated development and transfer of climate technologies for adaptation and mitigation. CTCN is hosted by UNEP in collaboration with UNIDO and 11 independent, regional organisations with expertise in climate technologies.

The UN-REDD Programme: An FAO/UNDP/UNEP initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries, it corrects market failures by including ecosystem goods and services. The expanded REDD+ includes the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. The next phase is expected to be launched at COP 21. UN-REDD has 63 partner countries, and covers over 60% of all tropical forests.

Resilience to Disasters and Conflicts

Joint Environment Unit: UNEP/OCHA unit housed within OCHA's Emergency Services Branch, which assists Member States to prepare for and respond to environmental emergencies in an integrated manner.

Healthy and Productive Ecosystems

Global Partnership on Marine Litter: UNEP coordinates the Global Partnership on Marine Litter to enhance international cooperation and find solutions for marine debris and its impacts on economies, ecosystems and human health.

Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES): The UNEP-hosted IPBES produces fast-track assessments on issues such as pollination and food production, land degradation and invasive species.

Environmental Governance

UNDP-UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative (PEI): PEI provides tailor-made and practical tools and methodologies for developing countries to catalyze major changes to government policy and budgetary priorities that sustain natural resources and end poverty.

Chemicals and Waste

Global Mercury Partnership/Interim Secretariat for the Minamata Convention: The Minamata Convention was adopted in 2013. Currently administered by UNEP, it is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from the toxic effects of mercury. It has 128 signatures, and 13 ratifications.

Special Programme for Chemicals Waste: This programme supports country-driven institutional strengthening at the national level, in the context of an integrated approach to address the financing of sound management of chemicals and wastes.

Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM): SAICM's overall objective is the achievement of the sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle so that, by 2020, chemicals are produced and used in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Consumption and Production

International Resource Panel: UNEP's International Resource Panel (IRP) – set up in 2007 – fills an important gap in terms of providing decision makers and other interested parties with scientific assessments on the sustainable use of resources and their environmental impacts over their full life cycles.

10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns (10YFP): UNEP serves as secretariat and administers the trust fund of the 10YFP – a global framework of action to enhance international cooperation to accelerate the shift towards SCP.

UNEP Finance Initiative: Works on innovative financing with the private and financial sectors, contributing to the discourse on financing for climate and wider sustainability issues. The UNEP Inquiry programme is looking into the design of a sustainable financial system, including policy options in support of financing a green economy.

Energy Efficiency Hub of SE4All: UNEP manages the Energy Efficiency Hub of SE4All, implemented through the Copenhagen Centre for Energy Efficiency as part of the UNEP-DTU Partnership. UNEP is also supporting countries in leapfrogging to energy efficiency with the enlighten initiative and a new partnership on appliances.

Environment Under Review

Global Environment Outlook: UNEP's flagship Global Environment Outlook assessment is a participatory process that builds capacity for conducting integrated environmental assessments and reporting on the state, trends and risks of the environment. GLO is the

to collaborate towards strengthening existing initiatives and filling future gaps.

Operating Principles for Effective Delivery

Science-policy interface for evidence-based decision making

UNEP will continue to identify science that integrates social, economic and environmental considerations for policy and decision-making. UNEP is already feeding information from multiple stakeholders into data gathering, analysis and assessment processes at the national, regional and global levels. UNEP will evolve its public advocacy, awareness and outreach to mobilize all those who can influence the changes needed to achieve the SDGs. Through UNEP Live, UNEP will focus on:

1. Developing multi-purpose indicators to track the SDGs at all levels;
2. Creating a National Reporting System and reporting obligations database to help countries reduce the burden of reporting and build on existing data;
3. Building the capacities of countries to collect and analyze data, and establish communities of science that involve all levels of society.

Providing expert knowledge and technical assistance on the environment

UNEP will provide technical guidance and support for environmental governance, developing coherent laws and policies and their effective implementation. This

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