



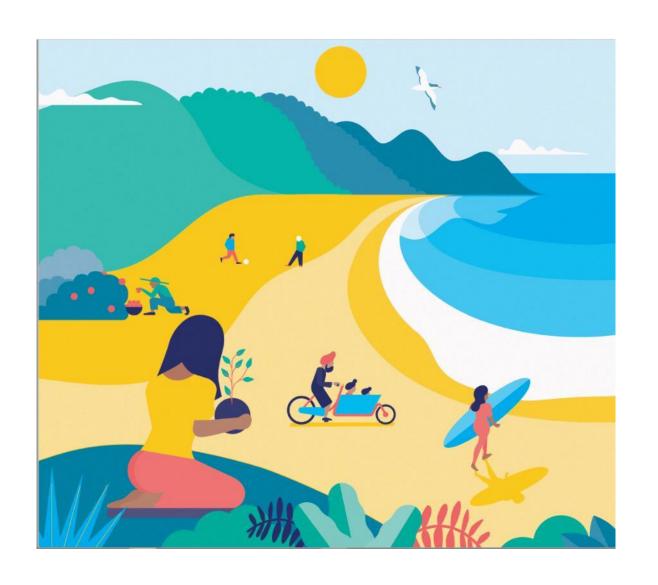


Update on GEO-6

CPR Briefing, 11th of December 2018

Science Division





Update



- The Full Document is ready
- SPM additional piece: 'two-pager' with key messages
- Deadline for nominations of Negotiators and Co-chairs (for 21-24 Jan 2019) is open until:
 December 19th, 2018
- Briefing Note
- Today's presentations: learning from experience, preparing for the future



Briefing Note Topics covered



How much did the GEO-6 cost, and was it within budget? Yes, and the GEO-6 was less costly than GEO-5, and delivered on time

Why we felt that the GEO-6 was never fully funded? The governance and budget boundaries for the GEO-6 are explained

Are we learning from the past? Yes. The findings of the GEO-5 evaluations and the GEO-6 mid-term evaluation were fully taken-up

What could be the way forward beyond GEO-6? Update on next steps being undertaken towards the design of future global assessment processes

The Annexes:

- 1. the GEO-6 process in numbers
- 2. Letter from the Scientific Advisory Panel on the scientific credibility of the GEO-6 process
- 3. relevant UN Environment Assembly decisions on GEO-6
- 4. Abstract from a relevant scientific review of major global assessments.

The GEO-6 report sent to Member States on the 10th of December 2018

as requested by UNEA decision 3.1 [Embargo until March 13th 2019]



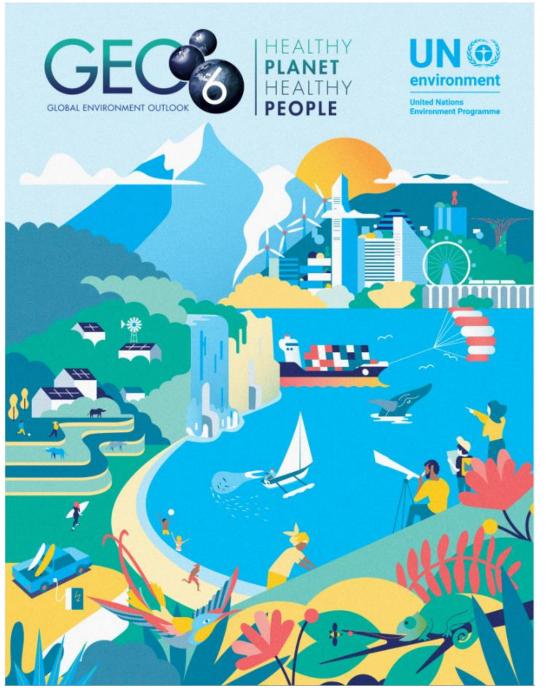
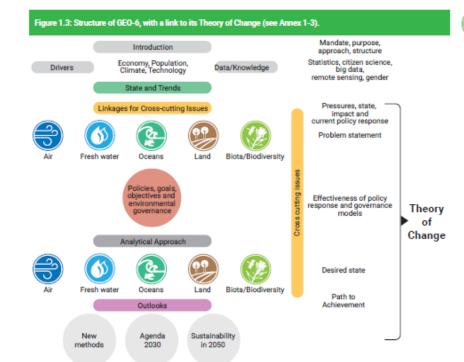


Figure 1.1: Choices to be made to achieve a healthy planet for healthy people.

Healthy Planet, Healthy People INCREMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS / SYSTEMIC TRANSFORMATION Unhealthy Planet, Unhealthy People Healthy Planet, Healthy People wastage INTERVENING LIFEWAY DYNAMICS TRANSFORMATIONS climate change Policy Choices DRIVERS Climate change Urbanization EARTH SYSTEMS Fresh water



One new element is Chapter 4 on cross-cutting issues, which presents the evidence explaining how the state and trends of the environment are already impacting human systems on various scales. The twelve cross-cutting issues addressed in GEO-6 are also important SDG issues: health, environmental disasters, gender, education, urbanization, climate change, polar regions and mountains, chemicals, waste and wastewater, resource use, energy and food systems). GEO-6 uses a matrix-approach to address these cross-cutting issues, considering each within the context of the five environmental themes (air, biota/biodiversity, oceans, land, fresh water). This approach helps reflect the growing need to synthesize more effectively our knowledge on the environment's multidimensional functionality and how it already affects human systems.

The analysis in GEO-6 is divided into four parts:

Part A: State of the Global Environment features five thematic chapters providing the latest data and information on the state and trends of air, biota/biodiversity, oceans, land oceans and fresh water. Chapters 5-9 have a common structure using the DPSIR approach, and each includes information on related policy responses.

Part B: Policies, Goals, Objectives and Environmental

Governance, an assessment of their effectiveness evaluates the effectiveness of the current policy landscape within the existing environmental governance structure at multiple scales, based on the policy responses identified in the thematic chapters in Part A, including the cross-cutting issues (Chapters 10-17). The methodology developed for this assessment is based on a combined top-down and bottom-up approach. The results are used to extract guidance for policymakers and to support the promising policy approaches addressed in the final section of the report. Based on this analysis, Part B also identifies needs for further improvements to the global environmental governance system (Chapter 18).

Part C: Outlooks and Pathways to a Healthy Planet with Healthy People incorporates the most promising policy approaches from Part B into the pathways of transformation. It combines global and scenario-based analysis (Chapters 20-22) with local, participative analysis (Chapter 23) to identify possible pathways towards achieving the environmental dimension of the SDGs and other MEAs (up to 2030), and assesses long-term or mid-century strategies required for achieving long-term sustainability (to 2050) (Chapter 24).

The Sixth Global Environment Outlook

Figure 25.5: Citizen Scientists collecting environmental data.







Source: © CLOBE Program (Kenya).

Challenges of Citizen Science

Challenges in Citizen Science mostly revolve around three main issues: organizational issues, data-collection issues and data-use issues. At the organizational level, the challenges include, the process of recruiting volunteers, motivating and providing incentives for their participation and ensuring sustainability of the initiative as well as funding. On data collection, the issues that arise include, data fragmentation, data representativeness, data quality (for example data intentionally flawed by the data collector) and/or lock of essential metadata. In data use, the challenges include; differences in protocols and standards, legal issues, data-privacy concerns and the question of allowing open access (Corrad and Hillichey 2011; Hochschka et al. 2012; Rotman et al. 2012; See et al. 2016)

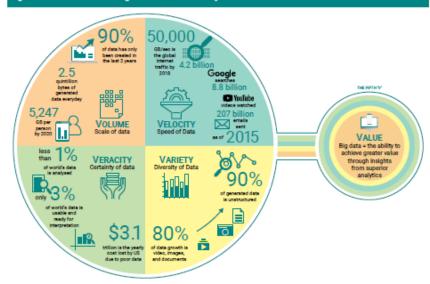
Due to misunderstandings and lack of technical knowledge and skills to handle such data, concerns have emerged over the credibility, incomparability, completeness of, and lack of metadata, as well as challenges in data access and sharing, and these resulted in these data not being seriously considered by policy and decision makers. In most cases, perception of poor data quality, rather than the actual data quality and fitness for use, have influenced the value and use of Citizen Science data (University of the West of England, Science Communication Unit 2013; Storksdieck et al. 2015). The key opportunities presented by Citizen Science, mainly include:

- i. use of local knowledge,
- ii. timely data from dispersed sources,
- iii. capability to address large knowledge and funding deficits,
- iv. ability to educate the public about environmental policy issues, and
- v. enhance participatory democracy.

For Citizen Science to be widely accepted, there is a need for appropriate training and support for Citizen Science project coordinators and those that use the data that emerge from it. Careful design of Citizen Science projects and application of appropriate quality assurance methods, as illustrated in Figure 25.3, can ensure that the effort of citizen scientists is not wasted (University of the West of England, Science Communication Unit 2013, Storksdieck et al. 2016).







Source: Adapted and recreated the infographics of IBM, with information from World Bank (2016a), IBM (2017); IDC (2012); Harvard Business Review (2016).

United Nations Global Pulse partner Project description Insights and results Stellenbosch University Radio content analysis, prototype speech-to-text Searchable topics of interest related to Pulse Lab Kampala (2017) software that converts public radio content into SDGs and development categorized texts Office of the United Nations High Understanding forced displacement of European Real-time social media monitoring system refugees by utilizing Twitter data relevant to humanitarian actions Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Vacarelu (2017) World Food Programme Determining the extent of drought in Real-time information platform in support Webb and Usher (2017) Indonesia, its impact on food market prices, of climate-impacted populations and the resiliency of affected areas through a vulnerability monitoring platform

Gaining insights on the displacement patterns

of rescue operations using vessel data

from Libya to Italy and Malta, and the magnitude

Source: Blog posts at United Nations Global Pulse (United Nations 2018b).

UNHCR

Hoffman (2017)

Table 25.2: Pulse Lab research and studies.

In recognition of the significance of big data for official statistics, the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) established the UN Global Working Group (GWG) on Big Data in 2014 to tap the potential of big data in monitoring the SDGs. Various collaborations, research and projects addressing the quality, collection, accessibility, management and feasibility of big

data have been developed over the years. These have included task-force teams focusing on the relevance of large volumes of information coming from mobile phones, satellite imagery, social media, virtual platforms and technological applications (United Nations 2018c).

Mediterranean



Revealed rescue activity patterns, capacity

of rescue vessels, and patterns of distress

signals. Optimized rescue operations

by studying migration patterns in the

Initial Comments on the GEO-6 Report

"Thanks for sending this. Looking forward to read it. I am very pleased to be part of such a great authors team. It has been a great learning experience, and I thank you very much for the opportunity and for leading us all the way through the process."

Leandra Regina Gonçalves, University of Campinas (Brazil)

"This is excellent. The GEO-6 document has now taken shape. We're almost there. The patience, leadership acumen and perseverance you exhibited to steer this multi-stakeholder initiative to its logical conclusion is indeed a feather in your cap."

Frederick Ato Armah, University of Cape Coast (Ghana)

"Congratulations, this looks really great! Thanks for your enduring efforts in this process. I think you can and should be proud of."

Klaus Jacob, Freie Universität Berlin (Germany)

"Congratulations/thank you to both for bringing this project/publication to this point."

Jacob Park, Green Mountain College (U.S.)

"Thank you very much for the link. I look forward to reading the final document. You must relieved this process is nearly over, congratulations to you and your team."

Linda Godfrey, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (South Africa)

"Many thanks for this, Pierre – and congratulations!"

James Grellier, University of Exeter Medical School (U.K.)

Comments from the GEO-6 Authors







Comments from the High Level Group of GEO-6

"Thank you very much for this notification and access to the embargoed version of GEO6. Congratulations for your work."

Victoria Rodriguez de Higa, Vice-chair of the High Level Group (Argentina)

Comments from the Co-chairs and vice- chairs of GEO-6

"Congratulations on this and the general good progress on finalizing the GEO6 process."

Jane Bemigisha, ESIPPS International Ltd (Uganda)

Comments from the Scientific Advisory Panel of GEO-6

"Extremely pleased that the embargoed version of the GEO6 is finally signed off and I should congratulate you and your colleagues at the Secretariat. The level of dedication to this assessment report coupled with its scientific credibility that it carries forward provide the policy makers as well as the environmental activists a very clear and yet delicate pathway ahead. I just like to express my appreciation for the job well done and I have no doubt that it will be blessed and praised by all players and stack holders well in advance of the UNEA-4 in Nairobi."

Majid Shafiepour Motlagh, University of Tehran (Iran)

"Dear Pierre and team, congratulations on getting to this point, and on a job well done! To my fellow SAPpers – thank you for your considerable time and efforts in contributing to ensuring this GEO is the most scientifically credible GEO to date. Further, the SAP recommendations on e.g. the need for overall GEO6 co-chairs, and guidance contributions on e.g. confidence levels, grey literature etc should greatly assist future assessments teams in their work. Its been a long road, at times stimulating, at times frustrating, at times intriguing and even entertaining – and often all four at once! Working within a need for group consensus - especially when that group is so multi-culturally, multi-lingually, and expertise diverse - is never easy, and your willingness to work positively within this approach is greatly appreciated. I hope you are all satisfied with the final outcomes, and proud to add your role to your CVs! Please all be strong ambassadors for GEO6, and advocates for the necessary changes the findings compel us to undertake.

Nicholas King, Co-chair of the Scientific Advisory Panel (South Africa)



Progress on the Environmental Dimension of UN Agenda 2030

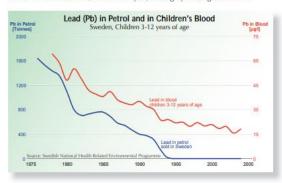
Lead in Gasoline

Reduce respiratory diseases and other health impacts resulting from air pollution, with particular attention to women and children, by... supporting the phasing out of lead in gasoline

Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, para. 56(b)

significant progress

Nearly all countries have phased out lead in gasoline - an outstanding global success story. There is evidence that leaded petrol is still sold in six countries. Lead from other sources such as paint still needs to be tackled globally. Lead poisoning, at all levels of exposure, causes adverse and often irreversible health impacts, in particular in children. The removal of lead from petrol and the consequent reduced health risks (to the nervous, immune, reproductive and cardiovascular systems) has estimated economic benefits of US\$ 2.45 trillion/year, or roughly 4% of global GDP.





Outdoor Air Pollution

Enhance cooperation at the international, regional and national levels to reduce air pollution, including transboundary air pollution [and] acid deposition...

Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, para. 39

some progress

Despite some progress, outdoor air pollution continues to have serious impacts on the environment and human health. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that it causes about 1.2 million premature deaths each year, 2% of the total number of deaths worldwide, 10 but a more recent study has estimated there are 3.7 million deaths each year from outdoor particulate matter alone.11 Ground-level ozone causes an estimated 700 000 respiratory deaths each year, 12 over 75% of them in Asia, and reduces agricultural yields, with global economic losses estimated at US\$ 14-26 billion.13 Sulphur dioxide emissions have serious health impacts and are a leading cause of acid rain. Emissions have fallen considerably in Europe and North America but have increased in some rapidly developing countries in Asia.14 Nitrogen emissions have remained constant worldwide with regional differences. 15 They have significant health impacts and damage aquatic ecosystems. Particulate matter (PM), including extremely small dust and soot particles, is the leading cause of health damage (mostly lung and heart disease) from air pollution. There has been little progress in addressing high PM levels and ground-level ozone in some countries and large urban areas in Asia and Africa. Some countries lack national standards for PM and do not monitor PM levels.



Environmental Dimension of the SDGs - Score Card SDG 1: End Poverty SDG 12: Responsible lifestyles Action plans for sustainability (SDG 12.1.1) Land tenure (SDG 1.4.2) Disasters: persons affected (SDG 1.5.1) Material footprint (SDG 8.4.1) Disasters: economic loss (SDG 1.5.2) Domestic material consumption (SDG 8.4.2) Disaster risk reduction strategies (SDG 1.5.3) Food loss and waste (SDG 12.3.1) Chemicals convention reporting (SDG 12.4.1) SDG 2: Food security Sustainable agriculural practices (SDG 2.4.1) Hazardous waste generation (SDG 12.4.2) Secure genetic resources for food (SDG 2.5.1) Recycling (SDG 12.5.1) Local breeds for agriculture (SDG 2.5.2) Corporate sustainability reporting (SDG 12.6.1) Sustainable public procurement (SDG 12.7.1) SDG 3: Health Air pollution mortality (3.9.1) Education for sustainable lifestyles (SDG 12.8.1) Water-related mortality (3.9.2) Research for sustainable lifestyles (SDG 12.a.1) Unintentional poisoning mortality (3.9.3) Sustainable tourism strategies (SDG 12.b.1) SDG 4: Education Fossil fuel subsidies (SDG 12.c.1) Environmental education (SDG 4.7.1) SDG 13: Climate action SDG 5: Gender Disasters: persons affected (SDG 13.1.1) Women agricultural land owners (SDG 5.a.) Disaster risk reduction strategies (SDG 13.1.2) SDG 6: Water Climate change action plans (SDG 13.2.1) Safe drinking water (SDG 6.1.1) Climate change education (SDG 13.3.1) Wastewater treatment (SDG 6.3.1) Community based approaches for climate change (SDG 13.3.2) Water quality (SDG 6.3.2) Resources mobilised for climate action (SDG 13.a.1) Water efficiency (SDG 6.4.1) Climate action support for LDCs (SDG 13.b.1) Water resource management (SDG 6.5.1) SDG 14: Oceans Water cooperation (SDG 6.5.2) Marine litter and coastal eutrophication (SDG 14.1.1) Water ecosystems (SDG 6.6.1) Management of marine areas (SDG 14.2.1) Investment in water and sanitation (SDG 6.a.1) Marine acidificatio n(14.3.1) Local water management (SDG 6.b.1) Sustainable fish stocks (SDG 14.4.1) SDG 7: Energy Marine protected areas (SDG 14.5.1) Reliance on clean fuels (SDG 7.1.2) Fishing regulation (SDG 14.6.1) Renewable energy (SDG 7.2.1) Fishing contribution to GDP (14.7.1) Research on sustainable marine technology (SDG 14.a.1) Energy intensity (SDG 7.3.1) Clean energy research and technology (SDG 7.a.1) Ocean conservation instruments (SDG 14.c.1) Investment in energy efficiency (SDG 7.b.1) SDG 15: Land and biodiversity SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth Forest area (SDG 15.1.1) Material footprint (SDG 8.4.1) Protection of key biodiversity areas (SDG 15.1.2) Domestic material consumption (SDG 8.4.2) Sustainable forest management (SDG 15.2.1) Employement in sustainable tourism (SDG 8.9.2) Land degradation (SDG 15.3.1) SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Mountain protected areas (SDG 15.4.1) CO2 Emissions (SDG 9.4.1) Moutain green cover (SDG 15.4.2) SDG 10: Reduced inequalities Endangered species (SDG 15.5.1) dimension is not represented in Goal 10 Strategies for sharing biodiversity benefits (SDG 15.6.1) SDG 11: Cities and communities Trade in poached or illicitly trafficked wildlife (SDG 15.7.1) Access to public transport (SDG 11.2.1) Strategies for preventing invasive alien species (SDG 15.8.1) Land consumption (SDG 11.3.1) Progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 (SDG 15.9.1) Urban planning (SDG 11.3.1) Investment in biodiversity and ecosystems (SDG 15.a.1)



Investment in cultural and natural heritage (SDG 11.4.1)

Disasters: persons affected (SDG 11.5.1)

Urban solid waste management (SDG 11.6.1)

Local disaster risk reduction strategies (SDG 11.b.1)

National disaster risk reduction strategies (SDG 11.b.2)

Disasters: economic loss (SDG 11.5.2)

Ambient air pollution (SDG 11.6.2)

Public land in cities (SDG 11.7.1)

Represents a change in condition based on this indicator in a positive direction between 2000-2017 (does not represent that the SDG target will be achieved).

Some data is available, but not enough to analyse changes over time.

SDG 16: Peace and justice

SDG 17: Partnerships and means of implemenation

No data is available.



Investment in sustainable forests (SDG 15.b.1)

Participation in global governance (SDG 16.8.1)

Science and technology cooperation SDG 17.6.1)

Funding for capacity building (SDG 17.9.1)

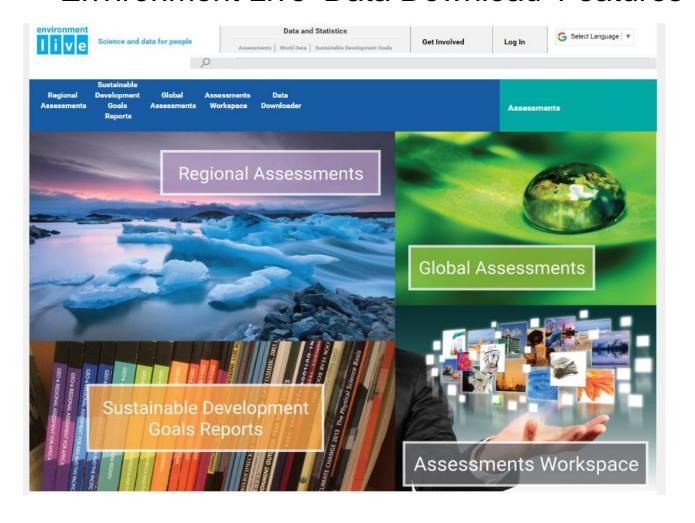
Funding for environmentally sound technologies (SDG 17.7.1)

Mechanisms enhancing policy coherence (SDG 17.14.1)

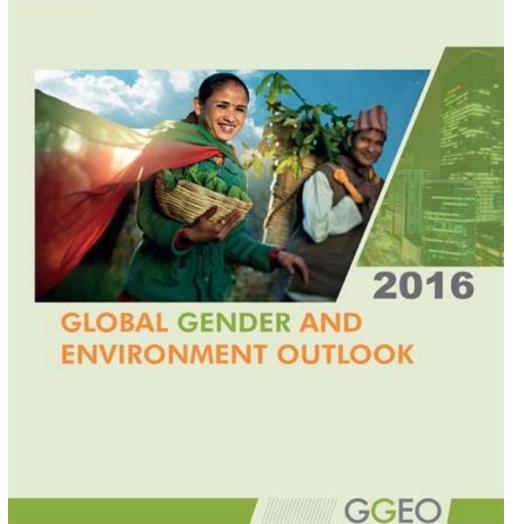


On-line

- GEO-6 on YUDU + Publications App
- Environment Live 'Data Download' Features

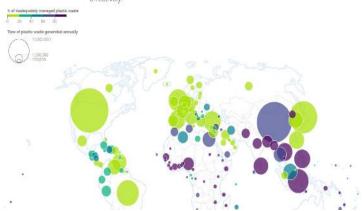






There is an **enormous gap** between what **we need to do** and what **we're actually doing** to prevent dangerous levels of climate change.

some of the biggest producers don't manage their waste







The goal of the Paris Agreement on climate change, as agreed at the Conference of the Parties in 2015, is to keep global temperature rise this century to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. It also calls for efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The annual UN Environment Emissions Gap Report presents an assessment of current national mitigation efforts and the ambitions countries have presented in their Nationally Determined Contributions, which form the foundation of the Paris Agreement.







We need to slow the flow of plastic at its source,

but we also need to improve the way we manage our plastic waste. Because right now, a lot of it ends up in the environment.

City Six and allertin water commonwed has been expected about 12% been been instructed, while the rest = 70% — has accumulated in landing window the return environment. City and builty — whose filters common type of being mere the most common type of playty ways found in the environment in a recent global common type of playty ways found in the environment in a recent global

Communications and Outreach

- Synergy with UNEA-4
- Launch & Media Event (13th March 2019)
- Videos
- Data Visualization
- Infographics for social media
- Influencer strategy
- Educational Products









Mid-term evaluation of GEO-6: summary and recommendations

Michael Spilsbury, Director, Evaluation Office

Evaluation & Learning from GEO-5

Key lessons from the GEO-5 final evaluation were fully taken into account in the design and implementation of GEO-6 [source: GEO-6 MTE report]. For example:

- New, independent, author-led process (shifting away from UNEP-contracted centers mostly in the developed world)
- More focus on equity, gender and geographical balance (avoid perception of North preaching to South)
- 6 Regional GEO-6 assessments introduced for the first time
- Global GEO with more emphasis on forward-looking policy-relevant outlooks
- Continuous and higher level of engagement of all advisory bodies
- More integrated analysis based on Agenda 2030 and SDGs progress
- Greatly enhanced quality assurance processes (now considered best-practice)
- A clearer 'Theory of Change' (next slide):

Results		People
Impact	Strengthen the science policy interface Evidence-based decision making on the environment Indirect changes in policy in policy The environment Indirect changes in policy Sustainable development	Act
Outcomes	Policy Analysts Governments use use findings to brief decision makers own assessments UN use findings in policy processes awareness	Influence
Drivers, Risks and Assumptions	Mandate/ Funding/ Authors/Experts Negotiation/ governments Workplan engage Endorsement of products	See Legitimacy/ Credibility/Saliency
Outputs 123 456	Regional assessment and Summary for and Environment Outlook Global Assessment Global Gender and Environment Material	Learn
Activities and Process	Consultations/ Meetings/ Peer and Advice/ Nominations Calls intergovernmental Involvement reviews	Are engaged

Objectives of the GEO-6 Mid-Term Evaluation

- Undertaken in late 2017, early 2018. Published June 2018
- Review progress on GEO 6 and ideas for effectiveness and efficiency improvements for what was left of the process
- Ideas for future GEO formulation and implementation (to be discussed in the next presentation on scoping for the future of GEO)

The Evaluation Process

- Questionnaires sent to around 300 participants in the GEO 6 process ... the regional assessments ... Gender GEO ... and potential end users
- Follow up interviews with around 20 people
- Survey responses from 50 people
- Synthesis and search for themes

Stakeholder views of the GEO-6 process

- Diverse team process that facilitates policy and science interaction
- Focus on policy effectiveness is new and involves policy makers early on
- The process is a learning exercise
- Strong support for the role of the UN team. HOWEVER ...
- Overwhelming concern about the impact of poor resourcing
- Concerns about personnel changes and lack of institutional memory
- Induction for authors/participants could be stronger.
- Too many levels of hierarchy makes for difficult coordination and inefficiency.

Mid-Term Evaluation of the GEO-6 - RESULTS

Overall rating: Satisfactory

Evaluation criteria	Rating
Sustainability	
Socio-political sustainability	Likely
Financial sustainability	Likely
Institutional sustainability	Likely
Factors Affecting Performance	
Preparation and readiness	Satisfactory
Quality of project management and supervision	Highly Satisfactory
Stakeholder participation and cooperation	Satisfactory
Responsiveness to human rights and gender equity Country ownership and driven-ness	Satisfactory Satisfactory
Country ownership and arriven-ness	Satisfactory
Communication and public awareness	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Catalytic role, replication and scaling up	Satisfactory

Evaluation criteria	Rating
Strategic Relevance	
Alignment to MTS and POW	Highly Satisfactory
Alignment to UNEP/GEF/Donor strategic priorities	Highly Satisfactory
Relevance to regional, sub-regional and national issues and needs	Satisfactory
Complementarity with existing interventions	Moderately Unsatisfactory
Quality of Project Design	Satisfactory
Nature of External Context	Highly Favorable
Effectiveness	
Achievement of outputs	Satisfactory
Achievement of direct outcomes	Satisfactory
Likelihood of impact	Moderately Likely
Financial Management	Unsatisfactory
Efficiency	Satisfactory
Monitoring and Reporting	
Project reporting	Moderately Satisfactory
Monitoring design and budgeting	Highly Satisfactory
Monitoring implementation	Moderately Satisfactory

Recommendations for GEO-6

Impact on End Users / Communication

- 1. Strong demand for an outreach and communication plan
 - Need improved social media presence, better contact with journalists
- 2. Develop capacity building projects that take GEO to the country level
- 3. Need to have summary documents for different user groups, not just for policy-makers. Should plan to hold thematic briefings on GEO-6 innovations
- 4. Meeting to bring Chairs of different global assessments together. Go to UNGA with a consistent message
- 5. One professional, high-level communicator to go through whole GEO product
- 6. Conduct a scoping study for the future of GEO







Management Response to the GEO-6 Mid Term Evaluation

Management Response to the MTE



Impact on End Users/Communication

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Management response

- 1. Working with communication division on comprehensive Outreach Campaign
 - ✓ Social Media and engagement of journalists included (and funded)
- 2. 'Science-policy seminars' to be held in all regions after the launch of GEO-6 prep. ongoing
- 3. Several Derivative products being developed GEO for Youth, GEO for Business, GEO for Cities, GEO Technical Summary.
- 4. Ad-hoc Global Assessment Dialogue synergies and collaboration among all major assessments (next slide)
- 5. Science Editors team hired and reviewed the whole document
- 6. Scoping study underway (next presentation)

Ad Hoc Global Assessment Dialogue















- Convened by the UN Environment's Chief Scientist, who has a responsibility to convene the science community for various purposes
- **Membership**: main UN-sponsored independent, expert-led assessments. IPCC, IPBES, IRP, GSDR and GEO. The Global Biodiversity Outlook and the World Oceans Assessment will be invited to join
- Meetings include Assessment Co-chairs and Heads of Secretariats
- The Dialogue will not interfere with any of the processes of individual assessments or their governance
- Many common objectives evident, so synergies and collaboration is possible
- Many synergies are already being exploited through (a) sharing of authors and experts, (b) sharing
 of peer review drafts, and (c) sharing of different tools and literature
- Potential areas of collaboration: scientific coherence, data sets, glossaries, scenarios and outreach, etc.
- **Information Document** on the Dialogue to be presented at the upcoming 4th UN Environment Assembly
- The next face-to-face meeting of the Dialogue planned for the fourth edition of the UN Environment Assembly, including a presentation for Member States







Scoping Study on The Future of the Global Environmental Outlook Process

OBJECTIVES OF THE SCOPING STUDY

- To identify and analyze a set of viable options for keeping the world environment situation under review
- Examine options that would place future GEO reports on a more stable structural, financial and technical footing

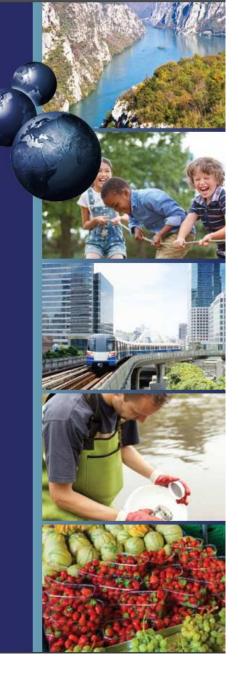
Impact

The impact of the GEO will be judged by the responses and actions that governments, institutions, and people take in their work arenas and daily lives. To increase the impact of GEO, UN Environment facilitates actions in the following areas:

- Helping countries strengthen the science-policy interface through the promotion of the GEO findings and process;
- Promoting the use of evidence-based decision making based on the findings of the GEO, its various derivative products, and other scientific sources;
- Encouraging, directly and indirectly, changes at the regional and national policy level that are in line with the GEO reports and process.

The theory of change for GEO supports various actors, including national governments, to make progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. This can be facilitated by incorporating the findings of the GEO into the Agenda 2030 policy process and implementation.

Guidelines for conducting Integrated Environmental Assessments





APPROACH

- Review the purpose of GEO, as per the UN Environment Programme of Work
- Literature review to help elaborate options and comparison criteria
- Survey of stakeholders who have been involved in previous GEO processes. (To narrow down the list of possible structure and financing options, and to obtain feedback on the comparison criteria)
- Multi-criteria analysis to rank structure and financing options
- Results and recommendations

STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Literature review plus a survey of 150 stakeholders resulted in the following 8 options:

- 1. Current set up ... no changes
- 2. 5-yearly regional GEO assessments. Global GEO synthesized by small group
- 3. Stand-alone new independent entity
- 4. Online platform based on 'Wikipedia-like' model
- 5. GEO completely merged with another Global Environmental Assessment
- 6. GEO as an input to another GEA
- 7. GEO Contracted out to one or more international environmental think tank(s) or international NGOs
- 8. A permanent, staffed 'panel' structure (Global Science Panel, Regional Assessments Panel, Policy Analysis Panel)

OUTCOME OF STRUCTURE/MANAGEMENT OPTIONS COMPARISON

- 8 options compared against 10 criteria in a basic multi-criteria analysis table
- No outstanding option, although options 4,7, and 8 do not score well

FINANCING OPTIONS

Survey of literature and 150 stakeholders resulted in the following 5 options:

- 1. As per GEO 6
- 2. Ring-fenced, predictable funds
- Trust fund
- 4. Public subscription 'Wikipedia-like' model
- 5. Funding from philanthropic foundation

OUTCOME OF FINANCING OPTIONS COMPARISON

 Strong stakeholder support for ring-fenced, predictable funding

OVERALL OUTCOME

No overwhelming consensus ... but 2-3 options emerging, leading towards ... "Adopting the process applied in GEO 6, but with more predictable funding"

NEXT STEPS

- Draft report to be circulated soon
- Deeper dive 'comparative study' into the 2-3 most viable options – through a connected study (starting now)







Thank You - Asante Sana

CPR Briefing, 11th of December 2018

Contact: Pierre.Boileau@un.org