



Empowering the transition to green economies in the pan-European region



**UNEP
in EUROPE**

The pan-European region – which stretches from the Central Asian plains to the wilds of Iceland, from the Mediterranean coast to the Arctic Ocean – is home to some of the world’s wealthiest nations, as well as many that continue to experience extreme poverty and environmental degradation.

UNEP’s Regional Office for Europe (ROE) addresses key environmental challenges across the region, including climate change, cross-border management of the Caspian Sea, and resource efficiency in cities. We do this by providing governments with guidance and expertise, raising public awareness and promoting education for sustainable development, and facilitating dialogue between civil society, the private sector and governments. Our office also acts as a hub for mainstreaming the environment into decision-making across sectors, from urban planning to transport to energy.

We directly support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development across the European region. Here are some highlights of our recent work.

UNEP ROE launched the first-ever nationwide effort to **map industrial soil contamination** in Serbia

21 countries renewed commitments to protect the Mediterranean under the Barcelona Convention, which UNEP hosts

255 species of migratory waterbirds will enjoy new protections under a regional agreement administered by UNEP

Delivering on the SDGs



Developing scoping studies and organizing workshops and trainings to promote the adoption of renewable energy and green economy pathways.



Providing the interim Secretariat for the Tehran Convention, which fosters regional environmental cooperation on the Caspian Sea.



Supporting the adoption of organic agriculture in Eastern Europe.



Helping European countries harmonize their biodiversity indicators and track their implementation of international environmental agreements.



Supporting three East European and South Caucasus cities to carry out pilot projects on sustainable energy, with the aim of inspiring other cities to similarly improve their energy efficiency and reduce their carbon footprint.

All SDGs

Organizing a series of key meetings to help Central Asian countries achieve the SDGs, covering topics such as climate change, sustainable development and a range of environmental issues.

Protecting the Arctic

The Arctic is experiencing a profound transformation: warming in the region has increased at twice the global average since 1980, and the subsequent melting has allowed greater human access to the once-remote area. While such changes provide new economic opportunities, they also present significant challenges. UNEP is the coordinating agency for Arctic Agenda 2020, a joint initiative between the Global Environment Facility and the Russian Federation that aims to improve the management of the Arctic environment. The initiative addresses energy efficiency, renewable energy development, protected areas, and transboundary marine systems, among other issues.

Our Plan

With continued support from private and public sector partners, UNEP in Europe can:

- Alert stakeholders and decision-makers across sectors to new trends and developments in the environment;
- Promote cross-border cooperation over natural resources, helping to avert conflict;
- Reconcile competing demands for ecosystems goods and services; and
- Encourage new and sustainable production patterns and raise awareness among consumers.

In this vein, we intend to:

- Mobilize \$6 million to support sustainable consumption and production and climate adaptation in Central Asia;
- Renew our partnership with the European Commission on Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighborhood (EaP GREEN) for as long as possible; and
- Mobilize \$500,000 per country to support the valuation and accounting of ecosystem goods and services in the Western Balkans and Eastern Neighbourhood.

Our partners



A Centre Collaborating with UNEP

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