Digital Transformation towards a Global Environmental Data Strategy

People, Places and Planet

Report to CPR 10 December 2019
Towards a Global Environmental Data Strategy. Our Member States mandate for a common future

“... The availability of quality, accessible, open, timely and disaggregated data is vital for evidenced based decision-making and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and realization of its ambitions of leaving no one behind ...”

Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals – 2019 Report of the Secretary-General
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/18541SG_SDG_Progress_Report

The ministerial declaration set out the commitment by Member States to scale-up national and international efforts to overcome common environmental, including health related challenges, fostering sustainable and efficient resource management, promoting the use and sharing of environmental data, and engaging civil society, citizens, indigenous peoples and local communities, private sector, academia and other relevant stakeholders.

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF THE 2019 UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY

“Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production”
Towards a Global Environmental Data Strategy. Our Member States mandate for a common future


**Global Environmental Data Strategy**

**OUR ROADMAP**

2021

**Progress Report**

Pathway I: Integration Complete
Pathway II: Partnership in Progress

2023

**Progress Report**

Pathways I and II: Integration and Partnership Complete

2025

**Final Report**

Global Environmental Data Strategy Implemented
Environment: One of the biggest Challenges for Humanity. Towards a Global Data Strategy

Which are the current Big challenges for humanity on the Environment?

- Peace and Security
- Human Rights
- Sustainable Development

Other actors

Support Member States and Government around the world Decision making, Policy and Action on the Environment

Foundational mandate for UNEP, since 1972: 2997 (XXVII): To keep under review the world environmental situation
Digital Transformation towards a Global Data Strategy: Transformation Pathways

**Descriptions**

- **UN Geospatial Network:** 28 UN entities (Chaired by UNEP since May 2019)
- **High Level Committee on Programmes Strategic Foresight Network**
- **IAEG for the Sustainable Development Goals**

- **UNEP’s partners on environmental data:** 22 partners (in 3 years), via MoUs (created and chaired by UNEP) including GRID-Centre’s, Yale University, WCMC, WRI, IBM, Google, Descartes, DHI,...

- **Acting as One (within UNEP):** at least one representative from the Divisions, Regions, MEAs (since January 2019).

**Roles**

- **Share knowledge and Geospatial technologies, coordinates efforts and roles within the overall United Nations system.**

- **Collaborating center's and partners (including private sector). Provide technological support, provide access to data, transform data into information.**

- **Distribute the responsibility on content, maintenance. Ensure that all Divisions, Regions and MEAs can say what they need. Help to find resources to cover their needs on WESR development and maintenance.**
In order to tackle the climate crisis and achieve sustainable development, peace and security, and humanitarian action, a single-entry geospatial and intelligent socio-technical distributed platform on environmental data, supporting strategic foresight and early warning for preparedness and prevention – a World Environment Situation Room - is vital for urging the global climate action to impact people’s lives now and into our common future.

**Transformational Pathway I: Integration**

Integrating Data and Knowledge, ‘Acting as One’ across UNEP. This pathway with 26 focal points has been actively engaged in the integration of until now ‘fragmented’ contents across UNEP (geospatial, publications, SDG statistics and MEA indicators, global monitoring systems, assessments, citizen science and private data, foresight analyses, among other streams of data).

**Transformational Pathway II: Partnership**

A Digital Transformation Platform, through a ‘One Global Partnership’ Only through a global worldwide partnership, including member states and their support in terms of common country data analysis and the UN Reform, can we tackle the challenge to provide timely, reliable and disaggregated environmental data to support decision-making, policy and action. This comprises a diversity of partners, GRID centers, Businesses, UN System entities, Geospatial agencies, NGOs and Citizen science and Civil Society.
UN Environment Global Data Strategy – ‘Integrating’ Knowledge for Supporting Action

Integrating a Variety of Types of Environmental Data

1. Geospatial, Technology and Knowledge Platforms
   - World Environment Situation Room
   - Environment Live (Open data and forecasting)
   - Indicator Reporting Information Systems
   - Geospatial information systems

2. Multilateral Environmental Agreements, SDGs and Environment Statistics
   - SDG Reporting and International Obligations
     - Building national capacity on environment statistics and economic environmental accounting
     - Indicators informing policy - SDG policy briefs, data use and analysis, and Open Data Databases

3. Scientific information on the Environment
   - Providing access and use of scientific information for developing countries
   - Library and knowledge services
   - Knowledge management tools and services
   - Network partners e.g. Online Access to Research on the Environment

4. Global Environmental Monitoring Systems
   - Global Environmental Outlook
   - Frontiers
   - Emissions Gap Report
   - and more

5. Assessments and other Thematic Assessments

6. Citizen Science and Private Environmental Data
   - Data for the Future
   - Horizon scanning Scenario building, Modeling
   - Supporting decision-making and action
   - Preparedness and prevention

7. Strategic Foresight Green and Emerging Challenges
   - Private institutions, business and other non-governmental organizations
   - Citizen Science Data with relevance in e.g. environment and health, such as the Global Malaria Alert Consortium, or City planning
An evolving “One Global Partnership”: 22 Partners Impacting on People, Places and Planet
Financial Sustainability

A strategic Initiative for UNEP, with funding cycles of 4 years (2018-2021 and 2022-2025)

4 Years Budget (2018-2021):
17.5 Million USD

Secured Funding until 2021: 2.986 Million USD

- Chinese South-South Cooperation (Foresight – Air Water Monitoring Systems in Africa): 1 Million USD
- Nordic Funds (World Environment Situation Room, GEMS and Foresight): 400,000 USD
- Swiss Ear Marked EF Funds (WESR – World Environment Situation Room): 100,000 USD

Cash Flows
Environment Fund
Country Partnership Agreements

Funds to be Secured (2020-2021): 2 Million USD

Donation of Countries / Other XB Funds
Global Environmental Data Strategy

Communication and Outreach

TARGET AUDIENCES

- Policy Makers
- Scientific Community
- International Organizations
- Business and Innovators
- Citizens and Civil Society

ROADMAP OF EVENTS

Jan 2020  World Economic Forum (WEF), Davos
Feb 2020  World Urban Forum (WUF), Abu Dhabi
Jun 2020  World Oceans Conference, Lisbon
Jul 2020  HLPF, Situation Rooms Launch, New York
Oct 2020  Dubai World Expo 2020, Dubai
Feb 2021  United Nations Environmental Assembly, Nairobi

10 Excellence Demonstration Projects – Use Cases will be presented to UNEA 5 in February 2021

Digital Transformation and Global Environmental Data Strategy for Sustainable Development, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action
Acting and Delivering as One