Environment under Review

Programme Performance Review
January 2018 through June 2019

(6th Annual Subcommittee – 08 October 2019)
Expected Accomplishment A:

Governments and other stakeholders use quality open environmental data, analyses and participatory processes that strengthen the science-policy interface to generate evidence-based environmental assessments, identify emerging issues and foster policy action.
SP7: Environment under Review

Achieved (≥100%)  Partially achieved (60%–99%)

*Environment Live has moved, as from January 2019, to a new platform, whose percentage improvement in level of accessibility and usability will only be available at December 2019. The value reflected here uses the December 2018 percentage improvement in level of accessibility and usability.
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

a(i) Increase in the number of tagged and maintained data sets available in the United Nations system data catalogue enabling systematic user access to relevant data on the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals.

- UNEP is custodian agency for 26 SDG indicators (SDG 6, 8, 12, 14, 15, and 17)
- In 2016 country data were available for 5 SDG indicators only
- By the end of 2019, UNEP reported country data for 13 SDG indicators and developed international standard methodologies for 19 indicators

Working together with countries to advance the environmental dimension of Agenda 2030
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

a(ii) Increase in the number of **countries reporting** on the environmental dimension of sustainable development through shared environmental information systems with **country-level data** made discoverable through UN Environment Programme.

- Reporting processes in Uganda, Malawi, Zambia, Liberia; Kazakhstan, Tajikistan; Canada at sub-national level; St. Lucia; Bhutan; 14 Pacific Island Countries **through online reporting** tool are using **improved data sharing** capacity for their national reporting processes.

https://uneplive.unep.org/egm/national
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

a(iii) Strengthening of the science-policy interface by countries based on the use of data, information and policy analysis in the areas of air quality, water quality, ecosystems, biodiversity, waste and hazardous chemicals, the marine environment and emerging issues.

Example

Cambodia has set a national target of 100 per cent access to improved water supply and improved sanitation by 2025 and developed an additional 18th national SDG on demining to make the country free of landmines and unexploded ordnance by 2025.

Guyana’s programmatic interventions towards advancing the SDGs include, climate adaptation and mitigation through multi-sectoral approaches such as smart-health facilities; environmental education awareness and resilient agriculture, among other sectors.
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

a(iv) Increase in the number of indicators to measure the environmental dimension of sustainable development made through United Nations Environment Programme live platform that are disaggregated by vulnerable groups, especially by gender, geography and age.

- UNEP Live Global Database provides disaggregated indicator data on life expectancy, agriculture employment, air pollution death, poverty, unintentional poisoning and safe drinking water services.

The publication *Gender and Environment Statistics: Unlocking information for action and measuring the SDGs*
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT
a(v) Increased number of people belonging to different major groups and stakeholders acknowledging the relevance and usefulness of data and environmental information made available by UNEP.

The Second Global Session of the Science Policy Business forum was convened in Nairobi in March 2019.

Session: Green Collar Jobs – A Bright Hope for The Planet?
Susan Gardner, UNEP
Charlotte Bonner, National Union of Students, UK
Bert de Wel, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
Carlo Papa, Enel Foundation
Jiang Wu, Tongji University, China
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT
a(vi) Increase in the number of relevant global, regional and national forums and institutions using data on environmental trends identified through United Nations Environment Programme for environmental assessment, early warning on emerging issues and/or facilitation of policy action.
INDICATORS OF ACHIEVEMENT

(a(vii) Level of accessibility and ease of use of United Nations Environment Programme environmental information through open platforms measured against internationally recognized standards for open access to information.

World Environment Situation Room – The Data, Information and Knowledge platform for countries Harnessing Big Data for Decisions, Policy and Action (UN Wide Data Strategy): 26 “Acting as One” focal Points across all Divisions, Regions and MEAs.

1. It is about Impact on People and on the Ground (Countries): Indicator Reporting Systems: SEIS in 54 countries; in MIKE in 50 countries in Asia and Africa; IRIS for SDGs in 10 countries); Open Data: 193 countries
2. Science Assessment and building the Future: Foresight Briefs (12 Briefs); SDG Policy Briefs (7)

4. Global Environmental Monitoring Systems: Water (70 countries); Air (10 countries)
5. A Worldwide Hub of Partnership including International organizations Private Sector (17 Partners)
6. Digital Knowledge Repository (Unique visitors: 3.700 Million; OARE in 121 countries; 6.600 Environmental publications)
Linkages to UNEA Resolutions

Data and Knowledge Platforms
- UNEP/GC.2/5/09
- UNEP/GC.1/2/12
- UNEP/GC.27/17

Keeping the World Environment Situation under review
- UNEA 1/4
- UNEA 2/5
- UNEA 4/27
- UNEA 4/UNEP/EA.4/HLS.1 Ministerial Declaration

Data Strategy

GEO 6
- UNEA 1
- UNEA 3
- UNEA 4

SDG
- SDG Capacity Development
  - Sustainable management of natural capital for SD and poverty eradication

Thematic Resolutions
- UNEA 1/9 Global Environment Monitoring (GEMS water)
- UNEA 1/7 Promoting Air Quality
- UNEA 2/24 Combating Desertification
- UNEA 2/21 Sand and Dust Storms
- UNEA 3/5 Investing in Innovating Envi. Solutions
- UNEA 3/10 Water Pollution for Ecosystems
- UNEA 4/27 Sustainable Nitrogen management
- UNEA 4/27 Mineral resource governance

2030 SDG Indicator Methodologies and comparable data
- UNEA 2/5
- UNEA 2/13
- UNEA 4/27
Challenges and Risk management

Stay fit for purpose and trigger transformations in areas:

**Data**
- Data scarcity, availability and accessibility
- Data Capacity
- Data Standardization

**Sciences**
- Assessments continue to be sectoral in nature
- Capacity in Sciences
- Coherent messaging and coordination of integrated assessments

**Policy**
- In need of integrated policy planning and coherence
- Very minimal link between sciences, solutions, policies, and action to impact
Looking Ahead

Forward looking

1. Continue to work on *data, assessments and indicators* readily available for decision making
2. Continue support for countries to ensure the *environmental dimension of SDGs through UNCT*
3. Continue to work on *SDG capacity development on methodologies*

Opportunities

1. **Leverage better and scale up partnerships**
2. Gain information from Citizen Science
3. Implementing the 2030 Agenda should be *linked to building capacities on monitoring including reporting*
4. Provide support for understanding the interlinkages *between goals and targets*
Dialogue and Discussion

• How to get the scientific community (including social sciences) support the environmental agenda?

• How can we best mobilize the scientific community for policy to trigger solutions and actions?

• How can we build on the science-policy interface towards 2030 Development Agenda?