

Progress Update: GEO for Cities is Moving to Final Stage

The GEO for Cities is moving on to its final stage. All the comments from the last and final review period have been addressed. The whole report is in the process of UNEP's review and it was agreed that the second order draft made an improvement compared to the first one. The Co-chairs have started to work on their messages and the information for back and front matters were prepared by the Secretariat. Several calls with authors and graphic designers were organized to discuss potential figures in each chapter. A proposed cover for this report was also shared with co-chairs for comments.

The final version will be delivered to Advisory Committee in mid-May for final internal review. After this review, authors will address the high-level comments and the copy editor will be involved to help clean up the report.

The next steps will involve completing the figures for each chapter, starting layout process, requesting joint forward from the Executive Directors of both UNEP and UN Habitat. The launch date is still in the discussion with Advisory Committee and will be provided at a later date.

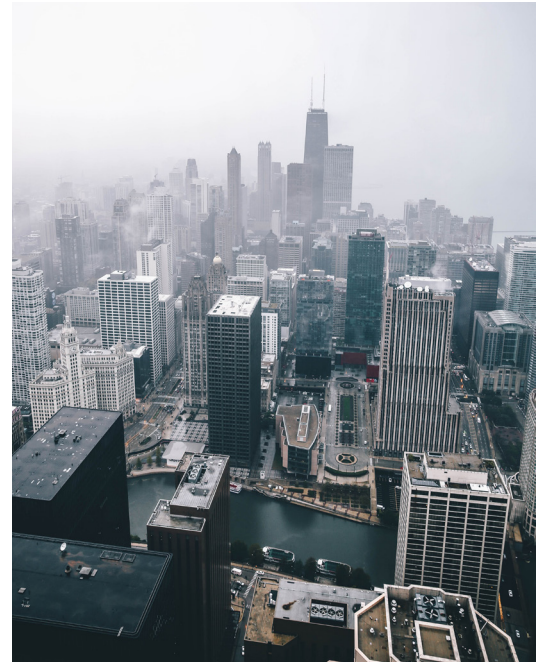
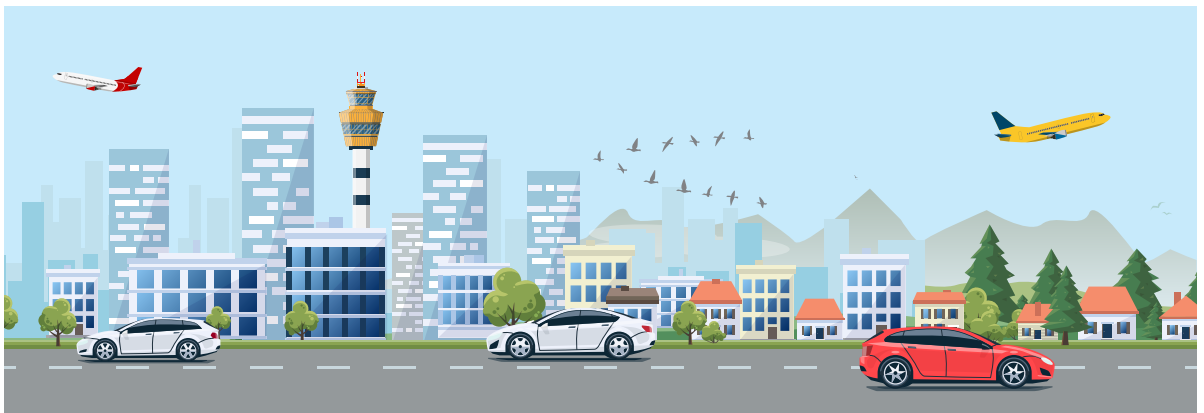


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How can the Global Environment Facility Make Peace with Nature?

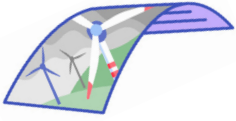


Following the launch of UNEP's 'synthesis report,' Making Peace with Nature: a scientific blueprint to tackle the climate, biodiversity and pollution emergencies, the report experts presented the report findings to various audiences. One presentation took place on Tuesday 2 March for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat. The session lasted an hour and a half, with a detailed presentation by report experts Ivar Baste, Joyeeta Gupta and Sir Robert Watson, remarks and engaging questions and answers.

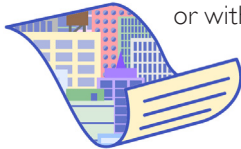
The GEF's CEO, Carlos Manuel Rodriguez and Chief of UNEP's Big Science Branch, Edoardo Zandri opened the session by connecting the report to the GEF's work and the GEF-7 replenishment. Then UNEP's GEF Coordinator, Kelly West and the GEF's Director of Programs, Gustavo Alberto Fonseca closed the session by sharing key takeaways for the future of GEF and international environmental action.



The report presentation covered key facts and figures from the report to outline the story from how human society has transformed nature to how to transform humankind's relationship with nature and the pressing actions to achieve environmental commitments, with clear explanations from the scientists. The presentation ended with key messages for the GEF, what multi-environmental and multi-sectoral projects and programs can do to support transformation and how the GEF can be transformational.



This session sets the precedent for others like it to explain how UNEP's latest report is significant to various audiences, and how these audiences can put the report findings to use. UNEP plans to continue sharing the report findings so that various actors can learn how to make peace with nature. For more information, or with any suggestions for presentations, please contact rachel.kosse@un.org



The GEO for Business Brief 3 Peer Review

The GEO for Business Briefs are meant to be practical and solutions oriented and are targeted at small to medium-sized enterprises that may be operating with the supply chains of large multinationals and are exposed to international trade or only supply domestic markets. They aim to fill a gap in the current information that is provided on environmental issues. For these new editions, they are designed to be more comprehensive products compared to the previous editions, identifying pathways to help key players to act.



There is a planned peer review for the third Brief of the GEO for Business report titled 'The Changing Role of Business in Transforming Food Systems' which started on 28th April 2021 to 19th May 2021. Authors finalized this third brief ready for its three-week peer review. Through this process, the reviewers go through the draft of the Brief and provide comments which will be addressed by the Authors in charge of writing the brief. A reviewer grid and reviewer guidelines are made available for consultation. A recording of the [Review orientation webinar conducted on 19th April 2021](#) is available if you wish to listen and understand the process.



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