

Update on the seventh Global Environment Outlook: recent meetings and calls for expertise

Briefing to Committee of Permanent Representatives

Three key milestones for GEO-7



Both GEO advisory bodies are in place and guiding the process.

Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group (IMAG) has provided helpful guidance on (1) the policy questions for GEO-7, (2) the approach to engage collaborating centres and (3) the GEO-7 supporting services. The **Multi-disciplinary Expert Scientific Advisory Group (MESAG)** has provided advice on (1) additional procedures for ensuring the scientific integrity of GEO-7 (2) the process for bringing new authors into the process, and (3) the potential roles of collaborating centres



GEO-7 Co-chairs have provided guidance to authors on the solutions-focused approach

Two workshops held in Bangkok on methodologies for developing solutions pathways for the 5 systems (economic, energy, food, materials/waste, environmental) that need to be transformed. The second workshop developed approaches for modelling the socio-economic outcomes of the solutions pathways.



First authors meeting established working approach for next 10 months

New digital collaboration platform implemented to allow virtual work to proceed smoothly. Coordinating Lead Authors (CLA) have expanded the annotate outline and established workplans for producing the first order draft by Jan. 2024. First technical peer review to happen shortly after second authors meeting (Feb. 2024 timeframe).

GEO7

people are the secret ingredient



Main outcomes of the GEO-7 process so far

- Adopted **GEO Procedures Document** to ensure scientific integrity of the GEO process.
- Adopted **GEO-7 Scoping Document** to guide authors in the preparation of GEO-7.
- Completed nomination and selection process for **IMAG and MESAG** to ensure good advice is provided to UNEP Executive Director.
- Completed selection process for **GEO-7 co-chairs** to manage the preparation of the assessment.
- Completed initial author nomination and selection process **to ensure successful first authors meeting** and move the drafting process forward.
- Experts **established solutions pathways and scenarios and modelling methodologies** to ensure scientific integrity of solutions-focused approach
- IMAG and MESAG met at the authors meeting **to establish working approach for the two advisory bodies**.
- **Coordination Group of all GEO-7 Bureau members** met in Bangkok to coordinate and guide the GEO-7 project to success.
- **Authors have identified gaps to be filled** in their teams to be able to complete the drafting process.
- The **Secretariat is planning follow-up calls** with all bodies to move the process forward.

Proposed Near-Term Timeline

Event/work item	Timing	Outcome
IMAG call	15 April	Decision on policy questions, by chapter and sub-regional groupings
MESAG call	24 April	Decision on new cohort of authors
Calls with author teams to review nominations database	Next two weeks	Identify possible authors to fill expertise gaps (geography and gender as well)
Orientation session for author groups on DPSIR	First week of April	Common understanding on application of DPSIR
Logistics/administrative calls with authors	About every two weeks by chapter	Secretariat responds to author needs
Content calls with authors	Monthly with the co-chairs	Co-chairs respond content questions from authors

Thank you!

Comments, questions?

