



E. Environmental Governance

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A. Background: Environmental Governance – Supporting...

1

Coherent decision-making towards more effective legal and institutional frameworks that underpin the achievement of internationally agreed goals for climate, biodiversity, and pollution in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

2

Institutional strengthening, development and effective implementation of appropriate legal frameworks and policies, through flagship programmes such as the Fifth Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V, adopted by UNEA Res. 4/20).

3

Countries in developing and implementing the environmental rule of law and in identifying integrated legal and policy responses that promote participatory and effective environmental decision-making.

4

Countries in applying environmental law, including multilateral environmental agreements, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed environmental goals and commitments, including by integrating them into national policies, legal frameworks and action plans.

5

Countries in working together in an integrated manner to address specific environmental issues that cut across national borders with effective environmental law and governance solutions.



B. Results: Environmental Governance

Support to Climate Stability

Publication of the Global Climate Litigation Report.

Adoption of the Dakar Declaration on Climate Change by LDC Ministers.

Technical legal assistance to Djibouti, Eswatini, Fiji, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, and Uganda in developing / reviewing legislation on climate.

Capacity building on climate financing for parliamentarians in Seychelles and Zimbabwe.

UNEP's Faith for Earth Initiative rallied more than 200 high-level faith leaders to advocate for climate-responsible finance, urging financial service providers to accelerate the transition to renewables and divest from fossil fuels, with a focus on building capacity and support for faith-based institutions.

Al-Mizan facilitated by UNEP is actively contributing to the fight against climate change by adopting a Covenant for 2 billion Muslims worldwide, promoting the integration of Islamic values and principles into advocacy efforts, including on the need to drive behavioral change, policy engagement, and positive environmental actions.



B. Results: Environmental Governance

Support to Living in Harmony with Nature

Legal and other support to the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Guidance on Integrating Human Rights in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.

Fourth Scientific Conference of the Association of Environmental Law Lecturers in Middle East and North African Universities (ASSELLMU).

Continued support to Lao PDR, Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam on enhanced legislation for safe, sustainable keeping, trade, use and consumption of wild animals.

The Value Education Olympiad co-organized by UNEP's Faith for Earth has made a profound impact by engaging over 3.5 million students from diverse backgrounds across 50 countries, resulting in the initiation of 800 eco-friendly projects, 400,000 saplings planted, and numerous eco-friendly lifestyle workshops, fostering a global movement for values-driven education and nature consciousness.

Organization of two regional meetings in Africa focusing on integrated capacity development for MEA and UNCT focal points.

Establishment of Africa regional expert group on financing biodiversity.

Development of guidance to countries on NBSAP updating and national target setting related to GBF on issues such as data governance, whole of government approach, policy coherence and alignment and the related.



B. Results: Environmental Governance

Support Towards a Pollution Free Planet

Published guidance on Ambient Air Quality Legislation in 2023.

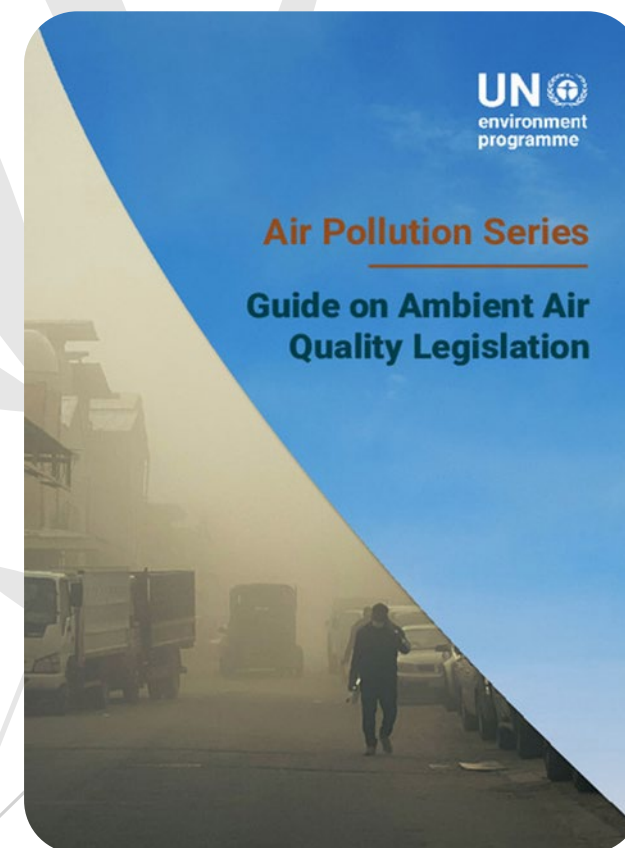
Technical legal assistance on enhanced air quality legislation to Jamaica, Sierra Leone, and Thailand; on waste management and plastic pollution to Colombia, Mexico, Lesotho, and Uganda; on Montreal Protocol to Kiribati, Pakistan and Timor Leste.

Environment Management Groups' Nexus Dialogue on Sustainable Nitrogen Management.

Development underway for an environmental policy tracker focusing on air quality and pollution.

Capacity building for customs and enforcement officers on waste trafficking to countries in South-East Asia, South Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

Faith-based organizations demonstrated their ability to rally millions by producing a coherent work plan under the Multifaith Action Group on Pollution to advocate for the voices of those whose livelihoods and health are threatened by the pollution crises, including the human and economic rights of male and female waste pickers.



B. Results: Environmental Governance

Cross-cutting Issues

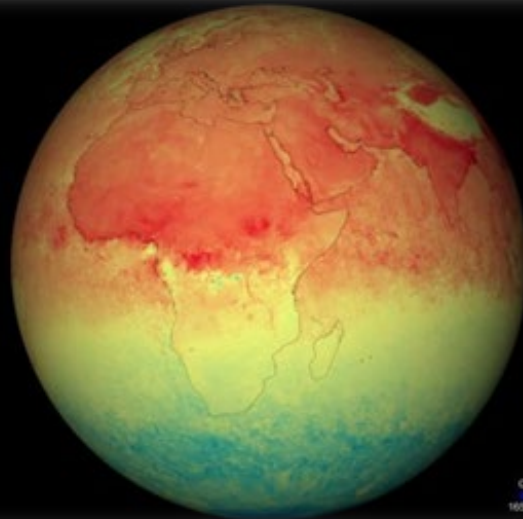
Incorporation of environmental considerations into 33 sustainable development frameworks.

Two regional workshops supported in Africa region on incorporation of biodiversity and chemical and waste cluster MEA priorities within CCA and UNSDCF processes.

Lead the United Nations system and support national governments, at their request, in the development and implementation of environmental rule of law, including institutional capacities, through Montevideo V, thus contributing to the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Second Faith for Earth Dialogue where a historic statement by Faith-Based Organizations representing 98 religions and congregations originating from 92 countries was signed by 680 faith actors and presented during the closing session plenary of UNEA 5.2. The statement reiterated the important role faith actors play in achieving the SDGs and strengthening actions for nature.

Advancing human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.



Column averaged methane - 2021 (ppbv)
1650 1825 2000
© ESA Greenhouse Gases Climate Change Initiative

C. Strategic Risks and Opportunities: Environmental Governance

Strategic Risks

- Low capacity in recipient countries, organizations or institutions, including low levels of ownership and insecurity in countries involved have a negative impact on project delivery, which can negatively influence implementation.
- Financial and human resources.



Opportunities

- Leveraging the UN Reform Process.
- Scaling up Stakeholder Engagements including non-traditional actors such as Faith-Based Organizations.
- Interest from Regional UN Teams to focus on MEA-UNCT work.

D. Looking Ahead: Environmental Governance

Scale-up Stakeholder Engagements.

Increase outreach to member states and other like-minded parties to facilitate increased uptake of UNEPs tools e.g. Data Reporting tool for MEAs, InforMEA and the UNEP Law and Enforcement Assistance Platform (UNEP – LEAP).

Harmonize and standardize information, knowledge, data and reports for all conventions especially through the Data Reporting tool for MEAs (DaRT).

Strengthening science-policy interfaces and policy coherence issues for effective implementation of MEAs.

Stronger youth engagement in the activities from the Division.

HELP STOP THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE! WHAT CAN YOU DO?



Be **better informed** about the status of wildlife and wildlife products



Support governments and local communities to **tackle** the illegal trade in wildlife



Spread the word and encourage others to get better informed



Report crimes when they are witnessed through mobile technology and national hotlines



Work to **reduce human-wildlife conflict** for land and resources at community level by **learning** about volunteer and opportunities to support

Make **individual choices** that don't threaten species such as:



not buying or investing in products from wildlife protected by law



support companies that demonstrate sustainable supply chains and environmentally **responsible policies**

Thank you

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