

World Environment Situation Room Unit Services

Harnessing Big Data on the Environment for
Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Action



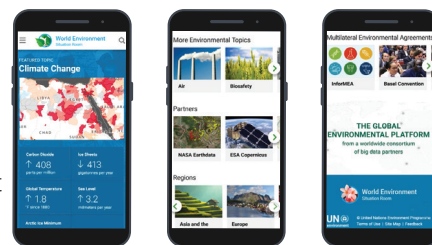
UN
environment
programme



Background

The **World Environment Situation Room (WESR)** is a '**Single-Entry Door to a UN Data and Knowledge Platform on Environment**'. It supports data-driven analysis, decision making and policy development on environmental issues by UN actors, governments, academics, private sector, and the public actors. The goal of WESR is to **enhance transparency and timely feedback** on the **effectiveness** of environmental policies, laws and governance frameworks, including the SDGs and MEAs where UNEP acts as a custodian agency for data. The unique value proposition of WESR is that it is an **impartial and open data platform** backed by the **legitimacy** of the United Nations with datasets and analysis that are **curated** based on quality and relevance by UNEP experts and collaborators.

The World Environment Situation Room, situated in the Big Data Branch of UNEP's Science Division, provides the UN Member States open access to information and knowledge on the environment at the global, regional and national levels. It supports Environmental Policy through Foresight, Outlooks and Assessments and providing Capacity Building for countries to achieve the Goals of Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development, supporting the capacity building services of UNEP. The World Environment Situation Room provides up-to-date information for citizen science, communities of practice and impact stories and case studies on the environment and people with the impact felt by people and livelihoods across countries, regions and the world.



Always on mobile architecture providing transparent access and use to environmental data

Goals

At the external level, WESR acts as a digital platform that will achieve the following goals:

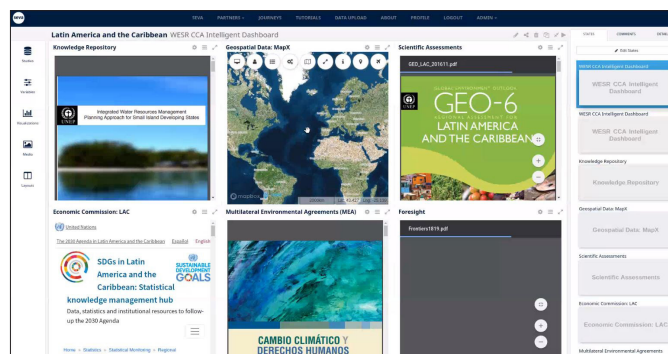
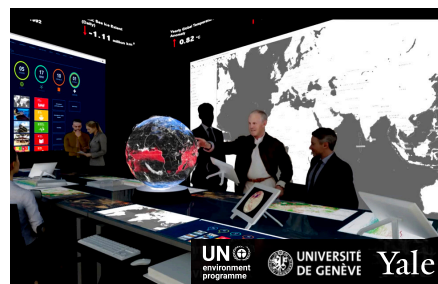
- **Aggregated environmental data into a SMART planetary dashboard:** keep the world environmental situation under review and prioritize collective action by aggregating high-value environmental data into a planetary dashboards.
- **Simplified access to environmental data, information and knowledge to help actors achieve climate, nature and pollution goals:** allows users to easily find, access, analyze and visualize the best available data, information and knowledge about the state of the environment at the national, regional and global levels, using the UNEP Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) framework. This data can be used to help actors achieve climate, nature and pollution goals through digital transformation channels, including algorithms, filters, digital twins and other applications.
- **Improved early warning and foresight analysis:** analyzes multiple global data streams and uses predictive analytics to improve early warning and foresight analysis of key environmental risks and vulnerabilities.
- **Strengthened data sharing and engagement by civil society, academic and private sector:** enables civil society, academia and private sector actors to collect, share and publish environmental data as digital public goods, including through citizen science and crowd-sourced applications.
- **Established global data architecture for digital public goods:** establishes essential global data standards for the integration and publication of global environmental data as digital public goods, including through an Earth API framework and meta data standards.
- **Federated network of environmental data providers and platforms:** federates the range of existing environmental data provides into a common network to coordinate efforts and fill key data gaps.

Looking into future

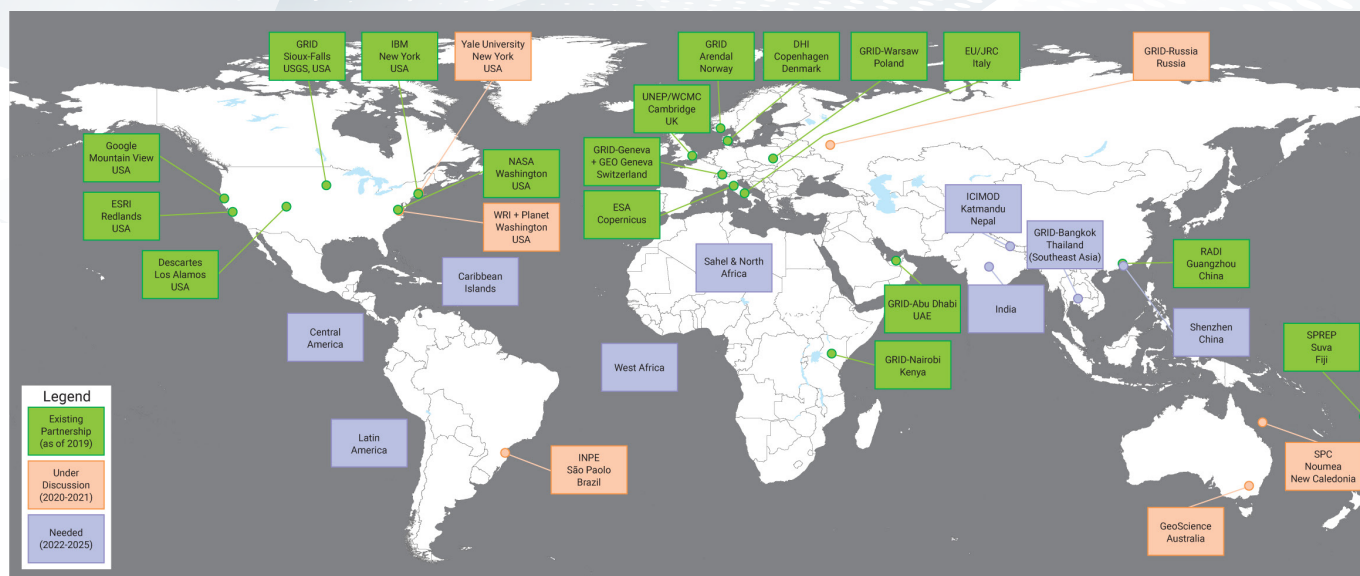
UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy for 2022-2025 positions WESR as an important internal UNEP corporate global digital platform for environmental data and related analysis that will support deliverables across the MTS. In this regard WESR will enable UNEP to achieve the following internal outcomes:

- **Integrated environmental data and analysis within the UN data ecosystem:** integrate environmental data and analysis directly into the UN data ecosystem to support Common Country Assessments (CCAs) as well as regional and global analysis in line with the [Secretary General's Data Strategy](#) and [Digital Cooperation Roadmap](#).
- **Improved MTS monitoring:** measure progress against the goals of the Medium-Term Strategy (MTS), the relevant Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and the 25 environmental SDG indicators where UNEP acts as the custodian agency.
- **Enhanced data-driven decision making and data management by projects and programmes:** Offer a platform for data-driven decision-making as well as improved management, sharing and archiving of environmental data from UNEP project and programmes.
- **Streamlined publication and communication of data and analysis from flagship reports:** acts as a digital publication channel for data and analysis from flagship UNEP reports and allows the embedding of live data within UNEP digital communications products.

Near People



Partnerships around the Globe



Consortium fund supports the long-term development of the Partnership

A consortium of international partners, from the private sector, non-governmental organizations and public and international institutions, endorses the long-term development of the World Environment Situation Room. Through financial and in-kind contributions, as well as expertise, competence and technology infrastructure and services in their own areas of expertise, world partners contribute to the research, development and impact of this programme and initiatives.



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Contact: Magda Biesada - biesada@un.org



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