**Gaps and actions**

Preliminary findings

- Armenia
- Georgia
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- North Macedonia

Nickolai Denisov based on country-level analysis by Alexander Shekhovtsov and Anela Rodic

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**IDENTIFIED GAPS**

**In all or most countries**

- Absence of regular monitoring of selected media / issues (bio, waste, water, land)
- Lack of modern / internationally accepted methods in environmental monitoring
- Insufficient development of automated environmental monitoring systems
- Incomplete databases, partially in hard copies, in a number of state agencies
- Incomplete production or presentation of indicators as per UNECE standards

**In several countries**

- Depreciation of instruments and equipment for environmental monitoring
- Incomplete waste accounting or difficulties with it
- Some of the existing indicators are not accessible on-line / interactive
- No unified / single-entry platform for environmental indicators
- Lack of local-scale environmental information
- Absence of recent / regular state-of-the-environment (SoE) reports
IDENTIFIED GAPS

Indicators are not fully used for SoE reporting or for reporting to MEAs
Lack of language diversity of SoE or SDG-related reports and documentation
Lack of frameworks or mechanism for the ‘nationalisation’ of global SDG environmental indicators
Some information is provided to users on a paid-for basis, or access to it is restricted
Problems with inter-agency data exchange
Lack of coordinating framework for SEIS implementation and planning

In single countries

Data from automated monitoring are not used for indicator production
Indicators are not regularly updated
National indicators are missing for some of the global SDG environmental indicators
Lack of coordination between responsibles for UNECE environmental indicators and the nationalization of global SDG indicators
Use of environmental information in official decision-making is not systemic

SUGGESTED LONG-TERM ACTIONS

In all or most countries

Supply monitoring networks and laboratories with modern technical and analytical equipment
Allocate funds to accelerate the (full) implementation of automated environmental monitoring
Develop an effective system of accounting and reporting for waste indicators
Create complete environmental databases in state bodies, use modern technologies / software
Increase the number of UNECE environmental indicators being developed
Fully use the UNECE environmental indicators to develop nationalized SDG indicators

In several countries

Develop and implement specific (currently lacking) types of monitoring
Ensure full compliance with SEIS quality criteria for indicators’ production and presentation
Publish online / ensure full interactive access to the UNECE environmental indicators
Adopt legislation on the regular preparation of SoE reports
SUGGESTED LONG-TERM ACTIONS

Provide translation of key environmental publications to English / national languages
Improve the production of ecological information at the local level
Create / strengthen a national framework for reporting environmental SDG indicators
Provide open and transparent access to environmental information
Improve interagency cooperation in the fields of data exchange, official protocols, IT systems

In single countries

Increase the use of automated data for the generation of environmental indicators
Set and meet specific deadlines for the annual updating of environmental indicators
Increase the use of environmental indicators in SoE reports and reports to MEAs
Ensure communication and coordination between the producers of UNECE and SDG indicators
Designate lead organization, create an interagency framework and a road map for SEIS
Use environmental data and information in official decision-making

SUGGESTED SHORT-TERM SUPPORT

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<th>MONITORING AND DATA MANAGEMENT</th>
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<td>* Provide methodological assistance and training to collecting, storing and digitising data</td>
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<td>[*] Assist with building specific types of environmental monitoring</td>
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<th>ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS</th>
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<td>* Assist the further development of indicators in compliance with SEIS quality criteria</td>
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<td>[*] Assist the development of interactive platforms / services for environmental indicators</td>
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<td>* Provide methodological assistance to monitoring and reporting on environmental SDGs</td>
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<td>(*) Support the development of additional (e.g. green growth) indicators from existing data</td>
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<td>[*] Support the regular preparation of indicator-based SoE reports and reports to MEAs</td>
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KEY: * Possible through the UNDA project   (*) Partial / case-by-case support   [*] Through cooperation with project partners