



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
13 April 2017

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Environmental Policy

Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment

Nineteenth session

Geneva, 27 and 28 June 2017

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

Implementing the renewed mandate and terms of reference

Draft outline of activities leading up to 2021

Note by the secretariat

Summary

At its twenty-second session (Geneva, 25-27 January 2017), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Environmental Policy renewed the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for five years (2017-2021) (ECE/CEP/2017/2, annex II, forthcoming). The terms of reference require the Working Group to prepare annual timetables of its activities, taking into account the financial and human resources available, and a more detailed outline of its activities leading up to 2021.

The present document provides a draft outline of activities for the ECE Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme leading up to 2021 for consideration by the Working Group. The document was prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the European Environment Agency and the United Nations Environment Programme. Once finalized by the Working Group, the outline of activities will be submitted to the Committee on Environmental Policy for its consideration at its twenty-third session (Geneva, 14-17 November 2017).

The present document complements the annual timetables of activities required by the terms of reference. The timetable of activities for 2018 (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2017/3) will also be considered by the Working Group at the present meeting and later made available to the Committee on Environmental Policy.

GE.17-06049(E)



* 1 7 0 6 0 4 9 *

Please recycle The recycling symbol, a triangle of arrows forming a circle.



Introduction

1. At its twenty-second session (Geneva, 25-27 January 2017), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Committee on Environmental Policy renewed the mandate and terms of reference of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for five years (2017-2021) (see ECE/CEP/2017/2, annex II, forthcoming). The terms of reference require the preparation of annual timetables of activities, taking into account the financial and human resources available, and a more detailed outline of activities leading up to 2021. The Working Group is also tasked to cooperate with the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (Joint Task Force), and specifically to ensure that all planned and future activities are synergetic and streamlined.
2. To comply with the foregoing requirements, the present document outlines the activities to be carried out by both the Working Group and the Joint Task Force in the period leading up to 2021. The outline of activities takes into consideration the Batumi Ministerial Declaration (ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.1), the renewed mandate and terms of reference and the vision document for the Working Group (ECE/CEP/182, forthcoming). The document provides a road map of activities to fulfil the vision of the Working Group and to facilitate the achievement of its objectives.
3. The outline of activities is a living document. As needed, it will be updated, monitored and refined based on inputs from the member States and involved organizations.
4. Member States and involved organizations will have to facilitate, with the assistance of the secretariat, the implementation of the activities outlined below. They will report to the Working Group on the progress made and challenges faced in implementing these activities.
5. The Working Group will implement the activities in close collaboration with national and international governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, including youth organizations, research institutes, academia, and other relevant United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) bodies, such as the Joint Task Force.
6. The outline of activities is aspirational and the implementation of activities set out in this document is conditional upon the mobilization of the necessary extrabudgetary resources.
7. The planned activities of the Working Group have been grouped under four topics recognized in its vision document — the Sustainable Development Goals and green economy; reporting and assessment; environmental statistics; and cross-cutting goals and objectives — demonstrating the link between the vision identified by the member States and the activities to be carried out between 2017 and 2021.
8. The outline of activities addresses all financial resource requirements related to documents (both official and informal), publications, consultants, interpretation, translation, support for participants, secretariat travel, venues, equipment, communications and so on. All financial resource requirements, which exclude funding of secretariat staff time, are indicative and are subject to standard United Nations programme support costs. Table 1 provides a summary of the extrabudgetary resource requirements by year.

Table 1
Extrabudgetary resource requirements by year

<i>Year</i>	<i>Resource requirements (US\$)</i>
2017	135 000
2018	225 000
2019	225 000
2020	175 000
2021	175 000
Total	935 000

9. The following chapters summarize the topics and identify the activities that fall under them. At the end of the document, table 2 presents a chronological list of the events necessary to carry out the activities and the necessary resource requirements, and identifies the corresponding tasks.

I. Sustainable Development Goals and green economy

10. Making progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals provides an enormous opportunity for learning and building on existing efforts that have been carried out by the Working Group. Ongoing and planned reporting activities provide opportunities to identify shortcomings and find solutions, and there is a clear call from member States to provide assistance on how to define, collect and analyse environmental information and data to measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and green economy.

11. Challenges emphasized by the Working Group in measuring progress towards the Goals include the absence of references to the Sustainable Development Goals in national strategic documents, methodological and procedural obstacles and insufficient data and knowledge about international methodologies and standards. Among the key challenges highlighted in the vision document are the considerable data requirements and analysis needed to track progress and, for countries that have already started integrating Sustainable Development Goals into their national development plans, the customization of indicators. A host of solutions were also noted, including efforts to promote legislative improvements, increased information exchange, the engagement of international experts and capacity-building focusing on Sustainable Development Goal- and green economy indicator-related methodologies and data collection for national use.

12. In relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and the Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy (ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/6), the objective is to build on past achievements and lessons learned in connection with the establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) and the sharing of environmental indicators. This will be done through the activities of both the Working Group and the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, in collaboration with relevant partners, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and other ECE divisions.

13. The work related to the Sustainable Development Goals and green economy will focus on complementing activities to support the development of national reporting mechanisms so that member States can self-monitor and self-evaluate their progress on SEIS establishment. Ultimately, this work will contribute also to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to improving green economy monitoring capabilities.

14. The Working Group will also help to strengthen capacities of national environmental authorities and statistical agencies so that the member States are able to prepare regular, indicator-based reports on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and green economy.

Activity 1

Objective: Strengthen national capacities of countries in Europe and Central Asia for the production of environmental indicators to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Implementation period: 2018-2019.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group and United Nations Development Account project on the production of environmental indicators to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Lead entity: ECE.

Activity 2

Objective: Provide methodological guidance and capacity-building for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals and green economy and the production of the ECE set of environmental indicators through the regular sessions of the Working Group.

Implementation period: 2017-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group and Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

II. Reporting and assessment

15. Environmental reporting and assessments set the stage for the compilation of robust information or an evidence base as an essential component for better policymaking. This is the core area of work for the Working Group — specifically, to help improve national capacities to monitor and evaluate the environment. Reporting and assessment are the main drivers behind all the activities being carried out by the Working Group, through its sessions, its collaboration with the Joint Task Force and its work with other organizations, such as the European Environment Agency, OECD and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

16. The challenges in monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and green economy are being addressed by the Working Group to enable informed decision-making processes, both nationally and regionally, in the environmental sector. However, inputs provided by the member States demonstrate that national operational expertise and capacities to monitor the environment continue to be insufficient.

17. Even though much progress has been made, reporting and assessment challenges emphasized by the Working Group include the absence of integrated national monitoring programmes and methodologies and the absence of bilateral (or multilateral) and inter-agency mechanisms that would enable knowledge exchange. It was also noted that the financial viability and sustainability of national monitoring systems needed to be improved and that there was a clear and continuing demand for capacity-building strategies and activities, both at the regional and national levels.

18. The Working Group will continue to deliver guidance to help make national monitoring programmes an efficient and practical tool for environmental policy, including

assistance towards the development and improvement of national environmental monitoring systems, their technical specifications and modernization. This includes increased, targeted efforts to build capacity on the use and harmonization of indicator-related methodologies, data collection and quality assurance and quality control aspects of environmental data and indicators for national and international reporting obligations, taking into account the call for increased cooperation and communication.

19. The work on reporting and assessment will also focus on facilitating the establishment of SEIS by 2021 — as called for in the Batumi Ministerial Declaration — and to assist in the streamlining of regular state-of-the-environment reporting by 2020.

20. Another objective of reporting and assessment work is to support common activities being carried out by ECE, the European Environment Agency and UNEP, as set out in the common approach laid out by the three organizations. This objective should be operationalized in tandem with efforts to provide guidance on how to monitor progress towards the 2030 Agenda and green economy.

Activity 3

Objective: Advance environmental governance and performance throughout Europe and Central Asia through the regular sessions of the Working Group and the use of tools to improve environmental data collection, environmental monitoring and reporting. This activity will include the development of guidelines on: (a) the SEIS reporting application; (b) the ECE set of environmental indicators; and (c) addressing specific human and institutional capacity needs for monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. It will also include the production of publications that, for example, address the integration of environmental, social and economic data and the preparation of training materials.

Implementation period: 2018-2020.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 4

Objective: Evaluate the performance of ECE countries in establishing and implementing SEIS against the SEIS targets and performance indicators adopted by the Committee on Environmental Policy. This activity will include: (a) production of country profiles and recommendations on how SEIS can be further strengthened for 2018 and 2020; (b) a mid-term progress report on SEIS establishment in Europe and Central Asia for 2018; (c) production of a final SEIS progress report for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference in 2021; and (d) contributing to the next regular pan-European environmental assessment.

Implementation period: 2018-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 5

Objective: Organization of workshops and conferences that will allow ECE countries to improve their capacities to prepare and streamline regular state-of-the-environment, indicator-based assessments and thematic assessments using comparable indicators and assessments, in accordance with SEIS principles and practices.

Implementation period: 2017-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group and Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: Yet to be decided.

III. Environmental statistics

21. The preparation of a vision for the Working Group was seen as an opportunity to clarify the different objectives of the Working Group and the Joint Task Force and to consider their interlinkages. The Joint Task Force principally deals with the production of environmental statistics and indicators, whereas the Working Group's focus is on national, regional and international environmental monitoring, reporting and assessment. More specifically, the Joint Task Force focuses on the information and data that feed into the environmental reports and assessments covered by the Working Group. This link explains the need for close cooperation between the two bodies. The Joint Task Force also offers statistical capacity-building, through the provision of technical assistance and training in the pan-European region.

22. To make progress in the area of environmental statistics the Working Group and the Joint Task Force must continue to work closely together in setting priority areas for action, and the activities carried out by the two bodies must be done in synergy. This will, among other things, entail the continued and close cooperation between the ECE Environment and Statistical Divisions.

23. One objective of the work on environmental statistics will be to ensure that the Working Group and Joint Task Force continue to provide a platform through which bilateral (or multilateral) and inter-agency communication on the production of environmental statistics can be stimulated. This should include addressing concerns about methodologies in the field of environment statistics and the comparability of environmental indicators and statistics across the pan-European region.

24. The Working Group will also address the demand for the integration of economic, social and environmental considerations and the call for capacity development in this regard. The work being carried out through the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting should be considered by the Working Group more extensively in the years to come and, in particular, the relevance this work will have for monitoring and reporting on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The Working Group recognizes that sustainable development will not be possible without taking into account information and data from economic, social and environmental sources, and the formidable challenge that underlies this task. In this context, it will be relevant to ensure that the sharing and increased accessibility of all environmental statistics is coherent with SEIS principles and to build linkages that help to facilitate cooperation with the Joint Task Force.

Activity 6

Objective: Provision of practical guidance and recommendations on the application of the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT) during the nineteenth session of the Working Group.

Implementation period: 2017.

Implementation mechanism: Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: United Nations Statistics Division.

Activity 7

Objective: Increase capabilities to integrate economic, social and environmental data for environmental policymaking. The nineteenth session of the Working Group will address: (a) the important and complex work of measuring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals; (b) data interoperability (e.g., geospatial and administrative data); and (c) pre-existing gaps between sectors, with variations in terms of the access to and content of data (e.g., on air and water).

Implementation period: 2017.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group.

Lead entity: ECE.

Activity 8

Objective: Strengthening the capacities of national environmental authorities and statistical agencies of the ECE countries to produce regularly updated, high quality and comparable environmental indicators, within the framework of SEIS and the ECE set of environmental indicators. This will be achieved through capacity-building during the regular sessions of the Joint Task Force and complemented through the foreseen guidelines (see activity 3) and other planned activities (e.g., workshops and conferences).

Implementation period: 2017-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 9

Objective: Support ECE countries in the development of regional strategies for the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting. This will focus on the provision of capacity-building activities and methodological guidance on the System, in close collaboration with the ECE Statistics Division, through the sessions of the Joint Task Force.

Implementation period: 2018-2019.

Implementation mechanism: Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

IV. Cross-cutting goals and objectives

A. Capacity-building

25. The Working Group aims to strengthen the human capacities needed to address key challenges with regard to regional and national capacity gaps. This work includes guidance on the production of regionally and internationally agreed environmental data flows and indicators in a manner coherent with the principles of SEIS for indicator-based assessments and reporting obligations. It also requires taking into consideration new data demands that will surface in the years to come.

26. The Working Group has played an important role in establishing SEIS on many levels, for example, by building capacity, gathering and assessing data and advocating for the implementation of SEIS in the pan-European region. The range of actions for the future will build on this expertise when considering the type of capacity-building support that can be provided by the Working Group.

27. The main objective of capacity-building will be to increase the capacity of the target countries to monitor and report on the environment. It is foreseen that the Working Group will continue to produce guidelines and (scalable) methodologies that address capacity-related challenges and gaps unique to the pan-European region. Another goal will be to scale-up technical assistance activities, by training national stakeholders on how to improve the production of and access to environmental information and data for monitoring and assessment as part of building organizational capacity.

28. Capacity-building is not only about human resource development. The approach will be integrative and consider the sustainability of capacity-building efforts, national ownership and policy-level impacts. Perhaps even more important will be to help create a systemic and enabling environment through the sessions of the Working Group and the development of tools, guidelines and methodologies, addressing key capacity gaps and new data demands. The long-term focus is thus not only on outputs, but also to harness the processes that lead to these outputs, which is a key strength of the Working Group.

Activity 10

Objective: Detailing of regional and national capacity gaps, in collaboration with the Joint Task Force, in information and data needed for producing the ECE set of environmental indicators, the European Environment Agency core set of indicators, the OECD green growth indicators and the Sustainable Development Goal indicators. This will include identifying data and information gaps in the target countries. This work will be interlinked with the production of country profiles and recommendations on how SEIS can be further strengthened for the twentieth session of the Working Group in 2018 (see activity 4).

Implementation period: 2017-2018.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group and Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 11

Objective: Organization of capacity-building activities through the sessions of the Working Group that will help the ECE countries to produce regionally and internationally agreed environmental data flows and indicators in a manner coherent with the principles of SEIS for indicator-based assessments and reporting obligations. This work will be significantly

interlinked and complementary to activities 1 and 5, and based on the capacity gaps and national priorities identified through activity 10.

Implementation period: 2017-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group and Joint Task Force.

Lead entity: Yet to be decided.

B. Communication and cooperation

29. The Working Group recognizes the importance of cooperation and the strategic value in addressing the lack of cooperation, in particular as this may help to streamline activities and improve the efficiency of environmental monitoring and reporting.

30. The work on communication and cooperation will seek to deepen the collective effort to promote the sharing of knowledge, experiences and technology to support capacity-building and human resource development in the pan-European region leading up to 2021. To do so, the Working Group must consolidate its regional relevance and establish a distinct position in which it can play a constructive and complementary role together with other international, regional and subregional forums. The Working Group will also need to increase participation in its activities to cover the pan-European region as a whole.

31. Communication and cooperation efforts will also seek to enhance the Working Group's role as an active forum for dialogue and collective action on regional issues of common concern and promote the Group's engagement with relevant stakeholders, including international organizations. Also, it is important to consider how the Working Group could improve its cooperation with the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements, such as the ECE environmental treaties. In this regard, it will be crucial to enhance the Working Group's capacity to support cooperation through the review and restructuring of existing areas of cooperation to promote focused, activity-driven and results-oriented cooperation.

Activity 12

Objective: Organize a workshop, involving all relevant thematic networks and interested parties, including secretariats of conventions and other national and international institutions, to elaborate the working modalities of an environmental information and assessment network of networks.

Implementation period: 2017.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 13

Objective: Operationalize proposed recommendations and guidance provided through the workshop (see activity 12) to ensure the sustainable implementation of a regional environmental information and assessment network of networks.

Implementation period: 2018-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group.

Lead entity: ECE in collaboration with relevant stakeholders.

Activity 14

Objective: Engaging other relevant knowledge-sharing actors working on capacity-building in related areas of work, such as the Group on Earth Observations, the Global Environment Facility-funded Cross-Cutting Capacity Development projects and UNEP Live, in the activities of the Working Group.

Implementation period: 2017-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Working Group.

Lead entity: ECE.

C. Mobilization of resources

32. Improved access to, and deepening of, financial resources to support the range of actions to be carried out by the Working Group will be crucial for the implementation of all the activities set out in this document.

33. The aim will be to ensure that the Working Group mobilizes direct support from prospective contributors and international organizations, leading up to the establishment of SEIS by 2021 and the monitoring and reporting related to the Sustainable Development Goals.

34. To achieve the objectives set out in this document, it will be necessary to enhance the long-term stability of the Working Group, to guarantee that it can carry out all the activities — with all the costs this implies — and to provide it with the financial capability to increase the scale and impact of its activities. Ensuring additional financial support will for this reason be essential.

Activity 15

Objective: Continue efforts to mobilize resources and support from regional and international organizations to enable the Working Group to increase its capacity-building assistance.

Implementation period: 2017-2021.

Implementation mechanism: Not applicable.

Lead entity: ECE.

Table 2

Outline of activities leading up to 2021

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Financial resources</i>	<i>Tasks^a</i>
2017	Nineteenth session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	2, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15	US\$ 50,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Timetable of the Working Group's activities for 2018 (official document).
	Thirteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 15	US\$ 15,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	SEIS review criteria: Data quality (official document). Energy and biodiversity indicators (official document).
	Fourteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 10	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the thirteenth session.
	Workshop on the working modalities of an environmental information and assessment network of networks	12, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize the workshop and oversee its implementation. Initiate and maintain communications with (new) partners and supporters. Prepare scoping document on the establishment of the environmental information and assessment network of networks, also for submission to the Committee on Environmental Policy.
2018	Twentieth session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 14, 15	US\$ 50,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Timetable of the Working Group's activities for 2019 (official document). Guidelines on SEIS reporting (official document). SEIS country profiles (official document(s)). Develop training materials on production of regional or international environmental indicators.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Financial resources</i>	<i>Tasks^a</i>
	Fifteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15	US\$ 15,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the fourteenth session.
	Sixteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the fifteenth session.
	Regional conference on reviewing the use, harmonization and streamlining of indicator-related methodologies, data collection and quality assurance and quality control aspects of environmental data and indicators for national and international reporting obligations	1, 5, 11	US\$ 48,000 required for financial support <i>(funding available for seven target countries)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize the conference.
	National workshops on how to streamline the production of regionally and internationally agreed environmental data flows and indicators in a manner coherent with the principles of SEIS for indicator-based assessments and reporting	1, 5, 11	US\$ 42,000 required for financial support <i>(funding available for seven target countries)</i>	Work with relevant national stakeholders to organize the workshops. Prepare training materials.
	Events organized in connections with the establishment of an environmental information and assessment network of networks	13, 14, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize relevant meetings and oversee their implementation.
2019	Twenty-first session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	2, 3, 4, 11, 14, 15	US\$ 50,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Timetable of the Working Group's activities for 2020 (official document). Mid-term SEIS progress report (official document). Contributions to the mid-term assessment of the outcomes of the Batumi Conference. Contributions to the European Environment Agency State and Outlook 2020.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Financial resources</i>	<i>Tasks^a</i>
	Seventeenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 9, 15	US\$ 15,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the sixteenth session.
	Eighteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 9, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding partly available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the seventeenth session.
	Regional conference on new and existing state-of-the-art indicator frameworks for monitoring the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda at the national level, and activities to support its implementation, including the establishment of reporting mechanisms and procedures for the methodological review of Sustainable Development Goal indicators	1, 5, 11	US\$ 48,000 required for financial support <i>(funding available for seven target countries)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize the conference.
	National workshops on how to improve the institutional knowledge base for data collection standards and the use of monitoring and assessment tools for regular indicator-based assessments to measure progress towards the environment-related Sustainable Development Goals	1, 5, 11	US\$ 42,000 required for financial support <i>(funding available for seven target countries)</i>	Work with relevant national stakeholders to organize the workshops.
	Events organized for the environmental information and assessment network of networks	13, 14, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize relevant meetings and oversee their implementation.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Financial resources</i>	<i>Tasks^a</i>
2020	Twenty-second session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	2, 3, 4, 11, 14, 15	US\$ 50,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Timetable of the Working Group's activities for 2021 (official document). SEIS country profiles (official document(s)). Guidelines on specific human and institutional capacity needs as regards to monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Contribution to the next regular pan-European environmental assessment. Launch of the SEIS e-learning platform.
	Nineteenth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 15	US\$ 15,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the eighteenth session.
	Twentieth session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the nineteenth session.
	Training and capacity-building workshop(s): Focus and content to be determined	5, 15	US\$ 40,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	To be confirmed.
	Events organized for the Working Group's environmental information and assessment network of networks	13, 14, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize relevant meetings and oversee their implementation.
2021	Twenty-third session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	2, 4, 11, 14, 15	US\$ 50,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Timetable of the Working Group's activities for 2022 (to be confirmed). SEIS progress report for the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. Contributions to the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. Contributions to the next regular pan-European environmental assessment.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Financial resources</i>	<i>Tasks^a</i>
	Twenty-first session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 15	US\$ 15,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the twentieth session.
	Twenty-second session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators	2, 7, 8, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Thematic documents to be agreed at the twenty-first session.
	Training and capacity-building workshop(s): Focus and content to be determined	5, 15	US\$ 40,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	To be confirmed.
	Events organized for the environmental information and assessment network of networks	13, 14, 15	US\$ 35,000 required for financial support <i>(funding not available)</i>	Work with relevant stakeholders, the European Environment Agency and UNEP to organize relevant meetings and oversee their implementation.

^a Common tasks for all meetings include the organization of the logistics (venue, interpretation, programme of work, etc.), oversight of the conduct of the meetings, the preparation of related documentation and promotional activities. For the meetings of the Working Group and the Task Force, common tasks will also always include the preparation of an agenda and a meeting report as official United Nations documents. Only other targeted tasks (such as the preparation of reports on specific themes or training materials) are detailed in this table.