

# Access to Information: a fundamental tool to accomplish SDGs

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# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**1** NO POVERTY



**2** ZERO HUNGER



**3** GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



**4** QUALITY EDUCATION



**5** GENDER EQUALITY



**6** CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**7** AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES



**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



**12** RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



**13** CLIMATE ACTION



**14** LIFE BELOW WATER



**15** LIFE ON LAND



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



**17** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
**GOALS**

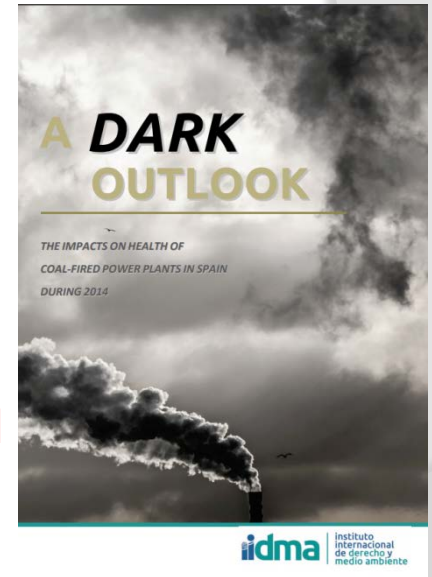


**Target 9 requires by 2030 to substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination whose indicator is mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution**

Studies of the WHO and impacts on health from coal plants:  
PRTR info was fundamental

**Article 5.8 of the Aarhus Convention requires Parties to develop mechanisms with a view to ensuring that sufficient product information is made available to the public in a manner which enables consumers to make informed environmental choices, still a lot of efforts to make on information on hazardous chemicals.**

Barriers: absence of info and resistance to provide info



**LIFE AskREACH helps consumers and companies to apply the “Right to Know” about substances of very high concern in consumer goods**

## 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**Target 3.-** improving water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally, by 2030  
Indicator: proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality.



monitoring of water bodies is necessary to follow-up their quality, this monitoring generates environmental information which has to be collected by public authorities according to article 5(1) and disseminated according to article 5(9).

**Target 5.-** implementation of integrated water resources management at all levels whose indicator is the degree of implementation



These management is always reflected in water management plans which according to article 5(3)(c) have to be disseminated through electronic means.



Different targets are meaningless without access to environmental information such as the 10-year framework programmes for sustainable production and consumption or the reduction of waste to be measured through national recycling rate, tons of material recycled.

## Conclusions and proposals

- Intimate relation between access to environmental information and the achievement of SDGs evidences the urgent need to fully implement and enforce the right to access information under the Convention not only formally (in theory and words) but in practice at all levels (international, national and local)
- It is urgent to start developing a new binding instrument (s) under Article 5 (8) to protect consumers within the scope of the Aarhus Convention as part of the human right to decent environment but also to enjoy the human right to health
- After 20 years of the adoption of the Convention it is time to impel the further development of the Convention to reflect major advancements in technology since it was adopted to adapt to the times of its implementation