



GSEU

GEOLOGICAL SERVICE | FOR EUROPE

Guillaume Bertrand¹,
Meta Dobnikar²,
Zoltán Horváth³

(¹ BRGM; ² GeoZS; ³ SZTFH/SARA)

UNFC in European Geological Surveys

UNECE Resource Management Week 2024 – EGRM-15, 22-23 April 2024, Geneva



**Funded by
the European Union**



The Geological Surveys of Europe



UNECE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WEEK 2024
ASSURING SUSTAINABILITY IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
22 - 26 APRIL 2024 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA

www.geologicalservice.eu

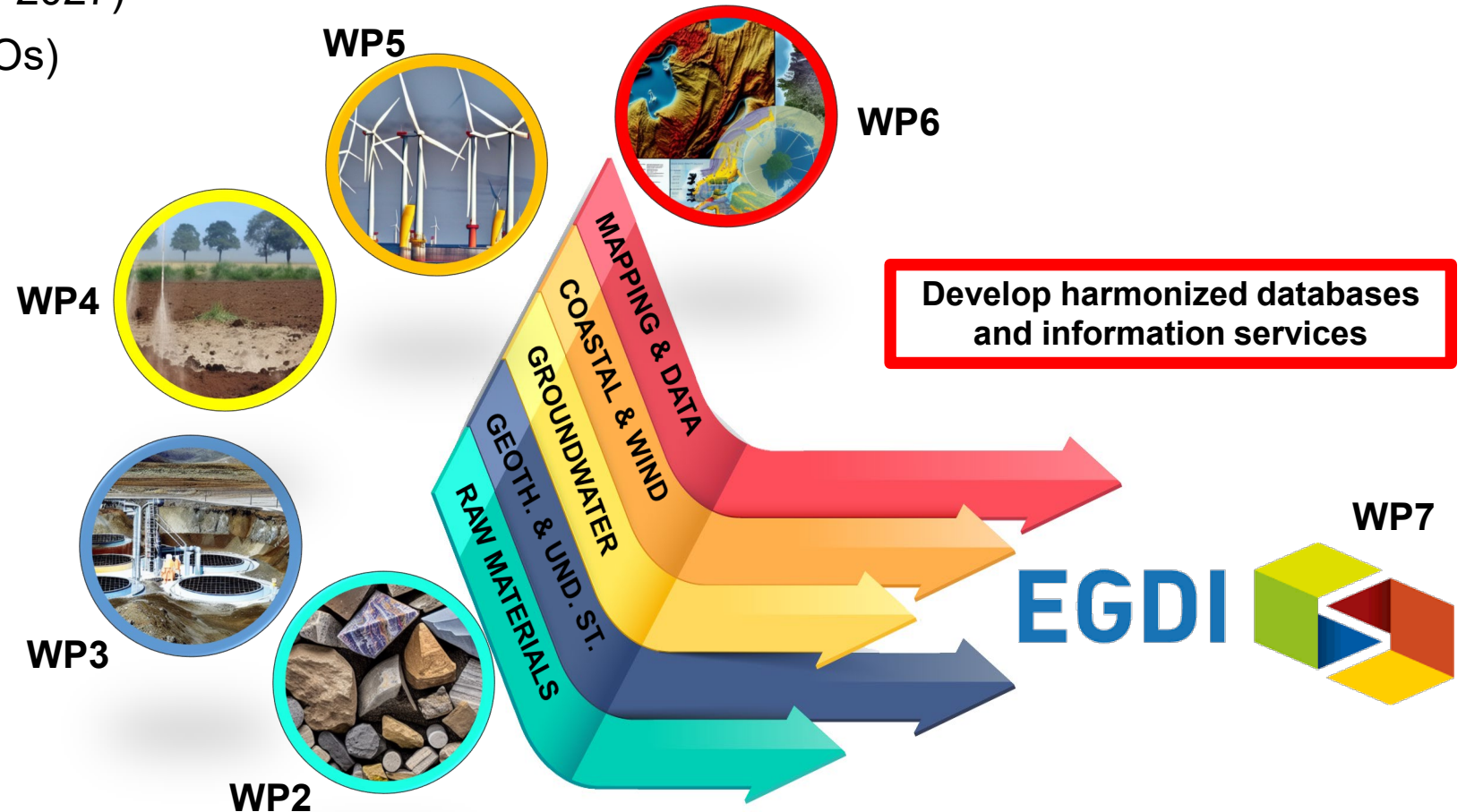


Overview of the GSEU – Geological Service for Europe project

- Coordinated by EuroGeoSurveys
- 5 years (Sept. 2022 to Aug. 2027)
- 48 partners (European NGOs)

Main objectives of GSEU

- Establish a Geological Service for Europe, permanent collaborative network of European GSOs.
- Provide European institutions, enterprises, and citizens with high-quality geoscientific expertise and data, aggregated at the EU-level.





Overview of the GSEU – Geological Service for Europe project

Raw Materials WP:

- Lead by BRGM (GS of France);
- Contribution from 32 GSOs;

Objectives:

- Re-evaluate the European potential in primary onshore and offshore and mining wastes;
- Develop the use of the UNFC classification system for mineral resources;
- Develop a European International Center of Excellence on Sustainable Resources Management;

Organized in 4 tasks:

- EU primary and secondary onshore CRM resources
- EU offshore CRM resources;
- EU International Center of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management;
- UNFC for resource management;

RM





Overview of the GSEU – Geological Service for Europe project

Task « EU ICE SRM » :

- Lead by GeoZS (GS of Slovenia);
- Contribution from 21 GSOs;

Main objectives and impacts:

- Develop a European ICE SRM, promoting the deployment of UNFC and UNRMS that will be embedded within the GSEU;
- Improve sourcing of primary and secondary CRM in Europe, by promoting and building capacity in UNFC/UNRMS and integrating information on the availability of natural resources;
- Build a strong EU-level expertise on CRM intelligence in support to provision of information compliant to UNFC;



Photo S. Bertrand, CC BY 2.0 license





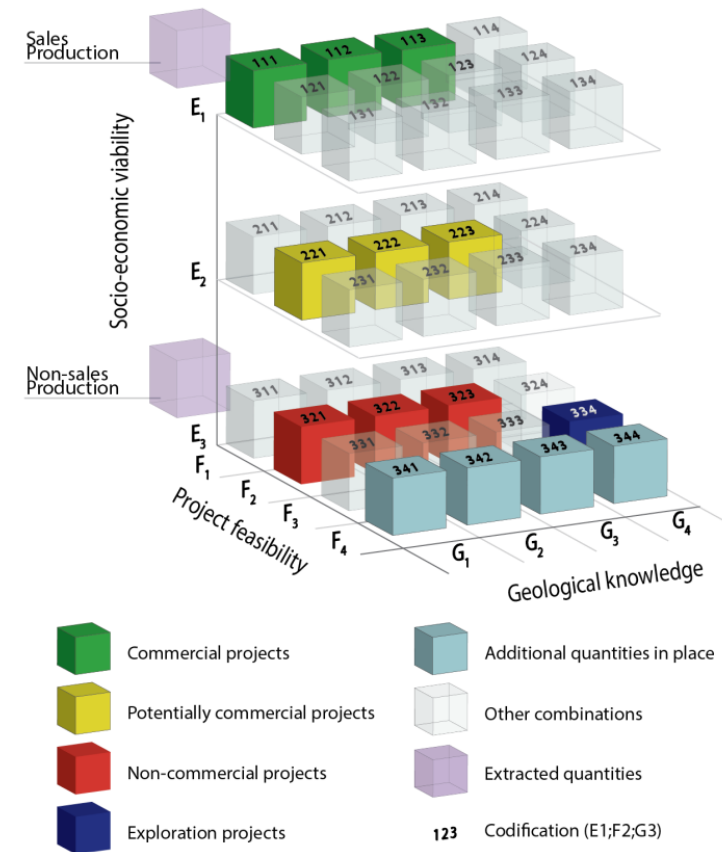
Overview of the GSEU – Geological Service for Europe project

Task « UNFC for resource management »:

- Lead by SARA (GS of Hungary);
- Contribution from 20 GSOs;

Main objectives and impacts:

- Develop a joint UNFC methodology for all GSEU data providers, application of UNFC for primary and secondary RM and serving UNFC data to the EGDI ;
- Support increased sourcing of primary/secondary CRM in Europe, based on proper methodology for using UNFC and appropriate FAIR data in UNFC system;



From “United Nations Framework Classification for Resources - update 2019”, ECE Energy Series No. 61, by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, ©2020 United Nations. Used with the permission of the United Nations.





UNFC in European GSOs – a baseline assessment

The challenge of CRM in Europe

Dependencies of European industries on third countries is a threat in a context of growing demand and geopolitical unstabilities;

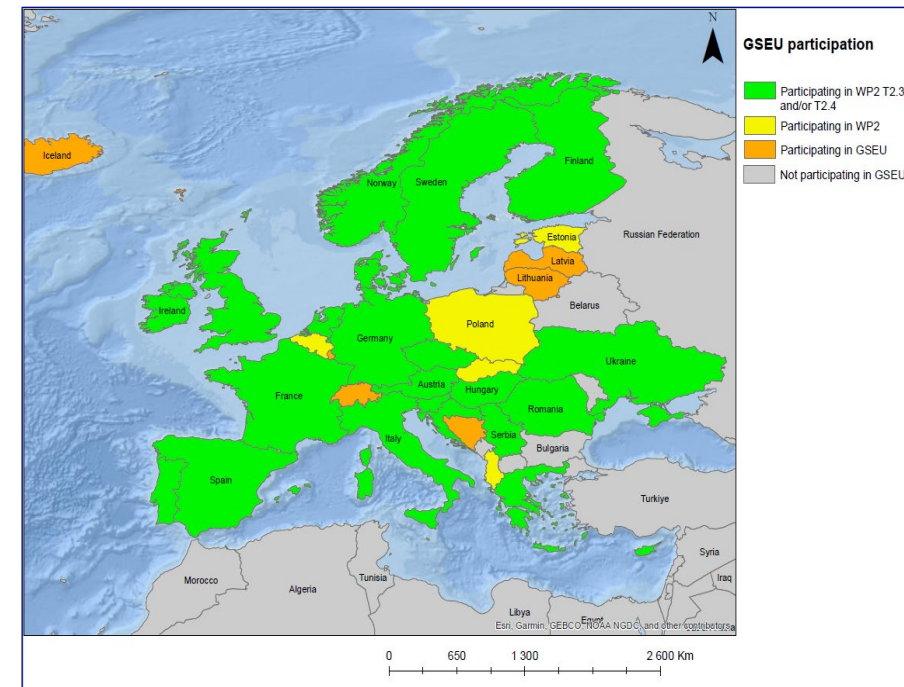
Increasing awareness in Europe led to important steps with high ambitions, such as the CRM Act.

The CRM Act, a game changer that strongly relies on UNFC :

- UNFC for the strategic project application to the Commission (art. 5);
- UNFC for reporting of national exploration programmes (art. 19);
- UNFC for risk monitoring of new projects (art. 21);
- UNFC for reporting on extractive waste facilities (art. 27).

What is the state of UNFC in European GSOs:

- Survey questionnaire addressed to GSEU partners (European GSOs) in winter 2022-2023 → point of view of GSOs;
- 34 responding organizations;



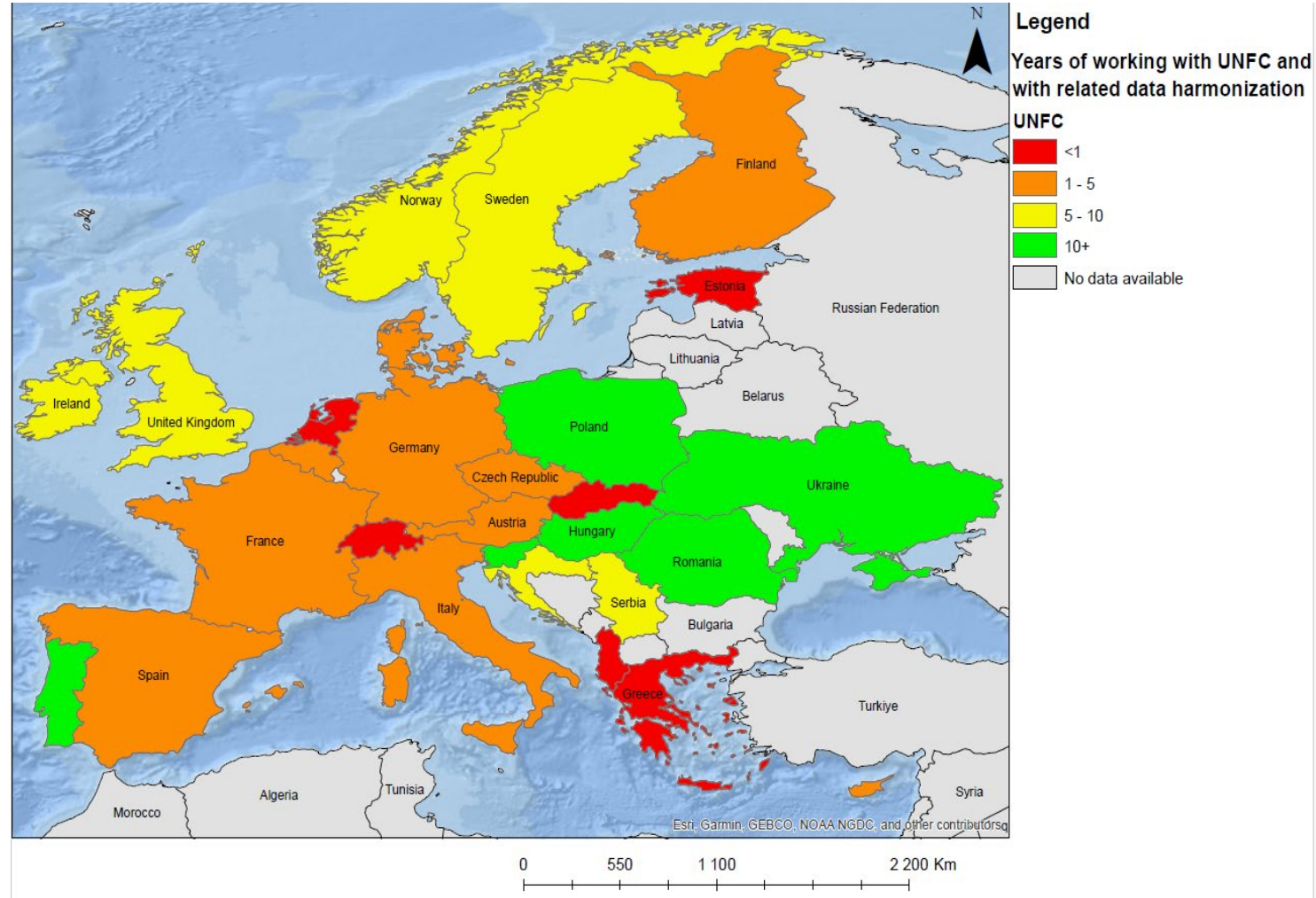


UNFC in European GSOs – a baseline assessment

Experience of GSOs in using UNFC (years of practice)

- Only part of E Europe and Portugal were using UNFC 10 years ago;
- ... plus UK, Scandinavia and part of W Balkan 5 years ago;
- Most European GSOs are using UNFC today → positive momentum in the use of UNFC across Europe.

Most European countries have experience with UNFC and are, at some level, prepared for UNFC data provision.





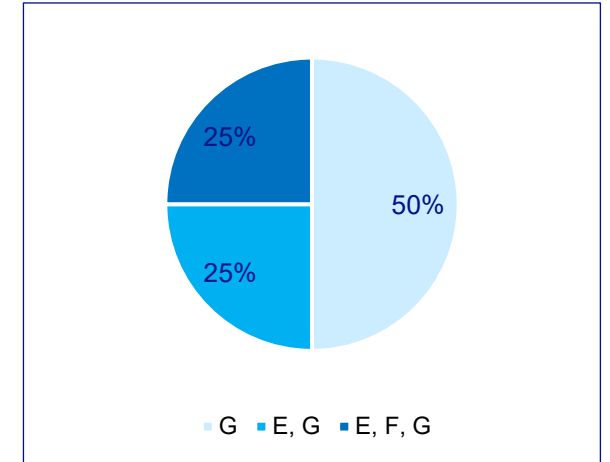
UNFC in European GSOs – a baseline assessment

UNFC categories related data handled by partners :

- All countries manage G data;
- Half of the countries manage E and G data;
- One fourth (7) of the countries manage E, F and G data;
- Several GSOs mention that other authorities may have more data;

Guidance documents (incl. good practices, case studies, etc.):

- 9 countries have guidance documents and more produced UNFC studies → good base of expertise for data harmonization at European scale;
- Still, many countries are missing guidance documents → GSEU is working at preparing guidance documents to fill this gap;





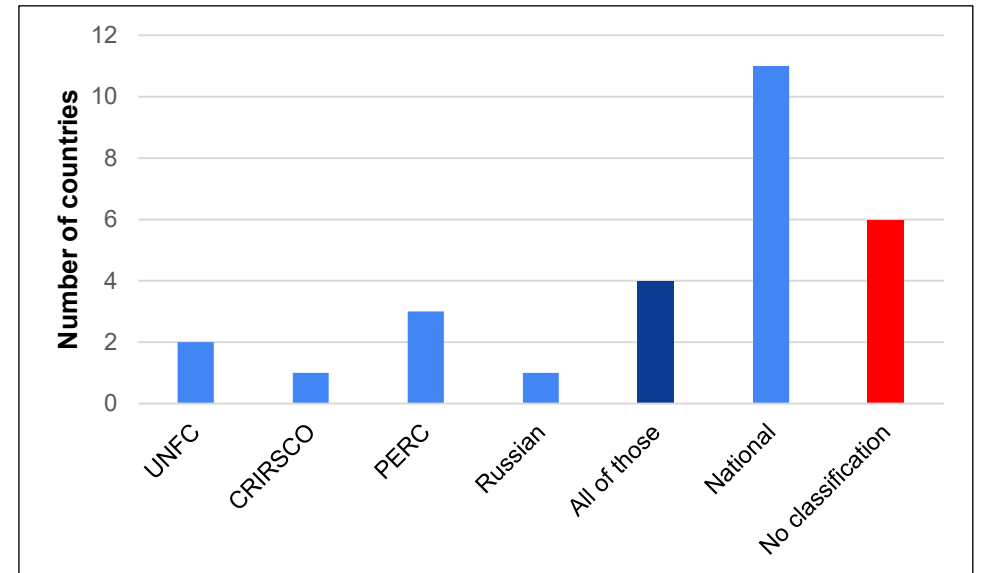
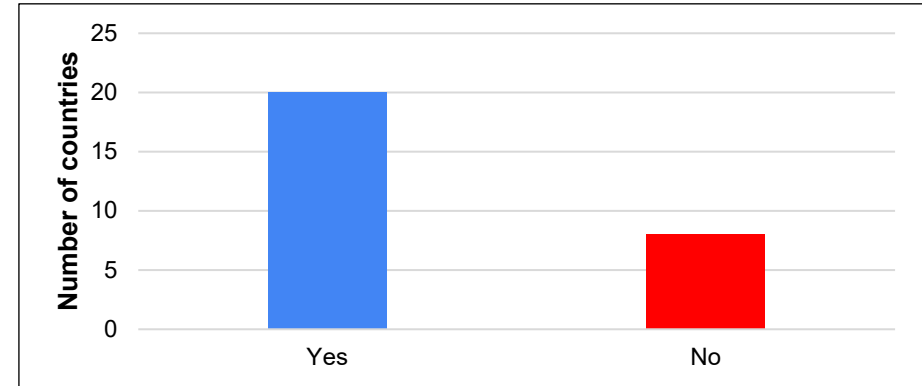
UNFC in European GSOs – a baseline assessment

National/regional legislative background for classification of primary raw materials

- 20 out of 28 countries (71%) have national/regional legislative background for classification of PRM;
- A majority of countries is legally bound to classify PRM;

Applied reporting standards or classification systems

- National systems are used in most cases;
- Two countries use UNFC as legal classification tool (ROU, UKR);

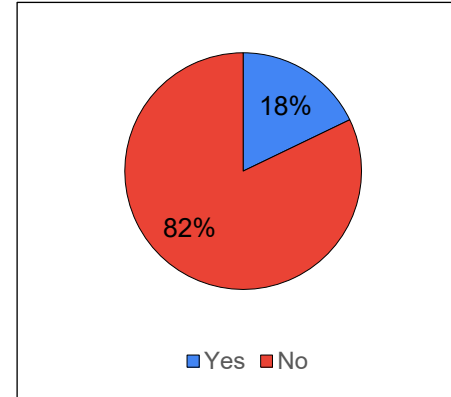




UNFC in European GSOs – a baseline assessment

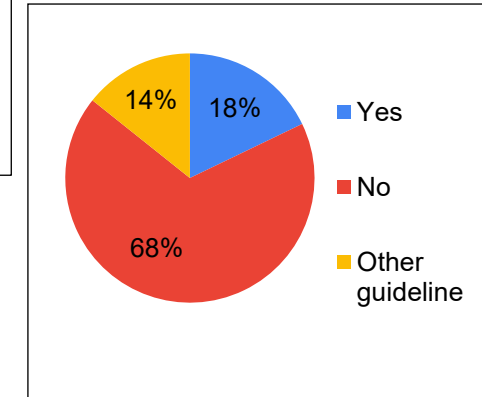
Bridging between national data and international codes or systems:

- Only 18% of countries use such bridging;



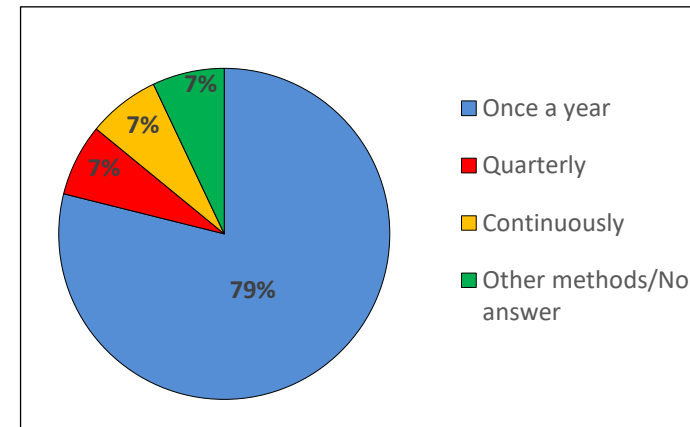
Development of UNFC guidelines

- 68% of countries have not yet developed UNFC guidelines;
- Only 18% have;



Frequency of classification update

- Most countries (approx. 80%) update PRM classification yearly;





Preliminary SWOT analysis – PRM and UNFC related legislation



STRENGTHS

- Most countries have organizations/authorities in charge of raw materials;
- More than 2/3 of countries have national/regional background for classification of raw materials;

- Implementation of central European database and data collection will foster UNFC application;
- Legally binding data collection (e.g. CRM Act) will be a strong driver for UNFC development;



OPPORTUNITIES

WEAKNESSES



- Duties and responsibilities are often scattered among several authorities;
- Application of UNFC is heterogeneous across countries;

- Poor/limited communication between authorities and GSOs may hinder the development of UNFC;

THREATS



SWOT ANALYSIS



Preliminary SWOT analysis – UNFC activities and expertise



STRENGTHS

- Increase of UNFC activities in most GSOs since approx. 10 years;
- National and international activities contributed to the deployment of UNFC in Europe;

WEAKNESSES



- Many countries are lacking proper UNFC experience;
- This may hinder proper EU-level data collection and long-term UNFC data maintenance;

SWOT ANALYSIS

- Projects and initiatives (GSEU, NoPE, ICE SRM, etc.) will increase UNFC expertise;
- Cooperation will facilitate proper development and use of UNFC (templates, guidances, etc.)

- Lack of proper development of expertise may hinder the development of UNFC and, in turn the implementation of the CRM Act;



OPPORTUNITIES

THREATS





Conclusion

Completed or on-going UNFC-related GSEU actions to address these threats and weaknesses:

- Study on methodology and guidance for EU-level data harmonization with UNFC;
- Preliminary organisational scheme, business plan and working plan of the EU ICE SRM;
- Development of the EU ICE SRM IT platform;
- UNFC data provision template (collab. With UNECE and Futuram);
- Various UNFC promotion and support actions (communication, expert groups, etc.);
- UNFC « train the trainers sessions » (spring 2024) in Ljubljana;

UNFC trainers coverage in EU MS

EU MS	EU MS
Austria	Ireland
Belgium	Italy
Bulgaria	Latvia
Croatia	Lithuania
Cyprus	Luxembourg
Czech Republic	Malta
Denmark	Netherlands
Estonia	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	Romania
Germany	Slovakia
Greece	Slovenia
Hungary	Spain
	Sweden

23 EU MS with UNFC trainers !





Conclusion

Main learnings and take away messages

- Raw materials are of strategic importance in almost all European countries;
- The CRM Act is a key driver for rapid implementation of UNFC in Europe;
- GSOs have an important role to contribute to resource management through better integration of UNFC;
- All European countries have organizations that collect raw materials data; there is a need to improve their expertise in UNFC and to develop communication between these organizations;
- The pan-European situation is still heterogeneous, due to various national situations and the use of diverse reporting codes;
- Guidance and training to develop UNFC expertise are key to ensure its proper implementation;
- The GSEU project, led by EuroGeoSurveys, contributes to capacity building, via the development of the EU ICE SRM;





GSEU

GEOLOGICAL SERVICE | FOR EUROPE

<https://www.geologicalservice.eu>



g.bertrand@brgm.fr

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHOR AND DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Thank you for you attention!



Funded by
the European Union



The Geological Surveys of Europe



UNECE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WEEK 2024
ASSURING SUSTAINABILITY IN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
22 - 26 APRIL 2024 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA