Background documents

This compilation of background documents aims at providing a non-exhaustive list of pertinent references to support the substantive discussions at the Regional Forum. It focuses on major documents related to the themes of the Regional Forum, mainly from United Nations, other regional and international organizations and think tanks.

I. The SDGs in the Region in 2017: Status, Key Challenges and Policy Responses

A. Overall SDG status and challenges

UN and UN-affiliated


Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Europe and Central Asia and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: From Transition to Transformation, Sustainable and Inclusive Development in Europe and Central Asia, 2012

Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Europe and Central Asia and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: Joint Positioning by the Regional UN System in Europe and Central Asia, 2016

Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Europe and Central Asia and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: Looking Back, Leaping Forward – Moving from MDGs to SDGs in Europe and Central Asia, 2016

Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Europe and Central Asia and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: Moving from MDGs to SDGs in Europe and Central Asia: Untangling Complexity, Taking Action, Summary of Dialogue with member States, New York, 11 November 2016
Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia and Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Europe and Central Asia: Regional Advocacy Paper (forthcoming)

Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM) for Europe and Central Asia and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: The Millennium Development Goals in Europe and Central Asia, Lessons on Monitoring and Implementation of the MDGs for the Post-2015 Development Agenda, based upon Five Illustrative Case Studies, 2015


United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Istanbul Regional Hub, Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS: Regional Human Development Report 2016, Progress at Risk: Inequalities and Human Development in Eastern Europe, Turkey, and Central Asia, Istanbul, 2016 (Full Report EN, RU; Executive Summary EN, RU)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS: From MDGs to SDGs: Some personal reflections and future suggestions, Intervention by Ben Slay, Senior Advisor, at the Central European Initiative meeting, Sarajevo, 2 December 2016


United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): Global Environment Outlook, GEO-6 Assessment for the Pan-European Region, Nairobi, 2016 (EN, RU)


Other organizations


**B. SDG Implementation at national, subregional and regional level – Status, Steps Taken and Challenges**

**National and local**

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: *Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)*:

- *Synthesis of 2016 VNRs*

- 2016 VNRs from UNECE Region: Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Montenegro, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey


Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: *Country-Level Needs for SDG Implementation in Europe and Central Asia*


**Subregional**

European Commission: Communication: *Next steps for a sustainable European future, European action for sustainability*, Brussels, 2016


European Sustainable Development Network (ESDN) website (including Sustainable Development Profiles of 33 Countries, Case Studies and other Resources)


Regional Cooperation Council (RCC): *South East Europe 2020, Jobs and Prosperity in a European Perspective*, Sarajevo, 2013

Regional Cooperation Council (RCC): *South East Europe 2020 – A review of progress*, 2016


Businesses


C. Support by UN and other stakeholders to SDG implementation

UN and UN-affiliated

Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: Mapping of Sustainable Development Goals and Targets Against UNDAF Priorities in Europe and Central Asia, 2015

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN): An Action Agenda for Sustainable Development, Report for the UN Secretary-General, 2014 (EN, FR, RU)


United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA): Overview of Institutional Arrangements for Implementing the 2030 Agenda at National Level, New York, 2016


United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June 2016:

- Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy (EN, FR, RU)

- Batumi Initiative on Green Economy (BIG-E)

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): Environmental Performance Reviews

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: The Regional Survey on the Planning, Implementation, Follow-up and Review of the Sustainable Development Goals, 2016 (Survey, Summary of Replies)


United Nations Global Compact: UN Global Compact 2017 Toolbox (EN, FR)

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and United Nations Development Group (UNDG): Capacity for Agenda 2030, National Briefings, Training Kit "Preparing for Action"

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Health 2020 Implementation Package (EN, RU)
Other organizations

Council of Europe: Council of Europe Contribution to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 2017


D. Financing for Sustainable Development


United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: Regional Consultation on Financing for Development, Geneva, 23 March 2015


II. Achieving Prosperity, Health and Well-being for All - the SDGs under in-depth review

Health and Well-Being (SDG 3)

Centre Scientifique de Monaco (CSM): Santé – Environnement au CSM, Présentation de Professeur Patrick Rampal, Troisième Réunion des Petits Etats de la Région européenne de l’OMS, Monaco, 11-12 Octobre 2016 (FRENCH)


United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): Batumi Action for Cleaner Air (BACA), adopted at the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, Batumi, Georgia, 8–10 June 2016 (EN, FR, RU)


United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: A Healthy Link: The Protocol on Water and Health and the Sustainable Development Goals, Geneva, 2016 (EN, RU)


World Health Organization (WHO): Compilation of Resources on Health

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Health 2020, A European Policy Framework and Strategy for the 21st Century, Copenhagen, 2013 (EN, FR, RU)

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe, and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Entre Nous, the European Magazine for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Copenhagen

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Conference “Promoting Intersectoral and Interagency Action for Health and Wellbeing in the WHO European Region”, Paris, 7–8 December 2016

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: First Meeting of the Issue-based Coalition on Health: Health and Wellbeing for All at All Ages in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Copenhagen, 2016

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Governance for Health Equity, Taking Forward the Equity Values and Goals of Health 2020 in the WHO European Region, Copenhagen, 2014

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Small Countries Initiative

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Regions for Health Network (RHN)

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Women’s health and well-being in Europe: Beyond the Mortality Advantage, Copenhagen, 2016

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Working Together to Ensure Health and Well-being for All Children and Adolescents (infographic), Copenhagen, 2016


Data on Health:

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe:

- [European Health Information Gateway](#)
- [The European Health Statistics App](#)

**Gender Equality (SDG 5)**

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): [Submission to the High-level Political Forum 2016](#)


United Nations, Regional Working Group on Gender: [Guidance note on Gender and SDGs](#) (forthcoming)


- Regional Synthesis ([EN](#), [FR](#), [RU](#))
- Achievements and Challenges in Promoting Gender Equality in the ECE Region by Country ([EN](#), [FR](#), [RU](#))


United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia: [Towards a Multi-sectoral Response to Gender-Based Violence, Mapping the Current Situation in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region](#), Istanbul, 2015

**Data on Gender:**

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): [Gender Statistics](#)

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women): [Research and Data](#)
Health and Gender

IMPLEMENT Health System Response to Gender-based Violence: Training Manual on Gender-based Violence for Health Professionals, Vienna, 2015

- UNECE Regional Report on "ICPD beyond 2014", Survey Result: Executive Summary (EN, FR, RU)
- Population Trends and Policies in the UNECE Region (EN, RU)
- Issue Brief “Inequalities, Social Inclusion and Rights”
- Chair’s Summary (EN, FR, RU)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Focusing on Adolescents and Youth in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Istanbul, 2014

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Istanbul: Regional Issue Briefs:
- Adolescent Pregnancy in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Issue brief 1, 2013)
- Investing in Young People in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Issue brief 2, 2015)
- Child marriage in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Issue brief 3, 2014)
- Preventing Gender-biased Sex Selection in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Issue Brief 4, 2015)
- Preventing Cervical Cancer in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Issue brief 5, 2015)
- Combatting Violence Against Women and Girls in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Issue Brief 6, 2015)

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Women’s Health and Well-being in Europe: Beyond the Mortality Advantage, Copenhagen, 2016

World Health Organization (WHO), Regional Office for Europe: Strategy on Women’s Health and Well-being in the WHO European Region, Copenhagen, 2016

Prosperity (SDG 9)

Innovation

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): *Innovation Performance Reviews*


- Regional Overview: *Europe and North America*
- Regional Overview: *Asia and the Pacific* (with Central Asia)


**Data on Innovation:**


**Industrialization**

Eurasian Development Bank (EDB): "*Invisible fuel*" - The analysis of opportunities for raising energy efficiency in the industrial sector of the CIS countries, 2014


United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA): *What can Uzbekistan tell us about industrial policy that we did not already know?*, DESA Working Paper No. 147, New York, 2016

**Data on Industrialization:**


**Infrastructure**

Asian Development Bank Institute: *Connecting Central Asia with Economic Centers*, Tokyo, 2014


Regional Cooperation Council (RCC): *Connectivity*, Sarajevo, 2016

The Earth Institute, Columbia University and Ericsson: *ICTs & SDGs, How Information and Communications Technology can Accelerate Action on the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2016

United Nations (UN): *2016 Report of the Secretary-General: Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels*, New York, 2017 (EN, FR, RU)


United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): *SDGs and the UN Transport Conventions*


**Data on Infrastructure:**

International Telecommunication Union (ITU): *World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database*
International Telecommunication Union (ITU): *Measuring the Information Society Report*


### Poverty and Social Protection (SDG 1)

**International Labour Organization (ILO):** *Selected ILO Budapest Publications on Social Security*


### Nutrition and Agriculture (SDG 2)

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):** *Europe and Central Asia, Regional Overview of Food Insecurity, The Food Insecurity Transition*, Budapest, 2017

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO):** *Role of sustainable food and agriculture in implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change*, Budapest, 2016

**Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and Rothamsted Research:** *Agricultural Transformation Pathways Initiative*, 2016

### Oceans (SDG 14)


**United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA):** *Mapping the Linkages between Oceans and other Sustainable Development Goals: A Preliminary Exploration*, DESA Working Paper No. 149, New York, 2017

**United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO):** *Healthy Ocean, Healthy People*, Paris

III. Other Key Cross-Cutting Themes

A. Human Rights

Human Rights Treaty Bodies: Submission to the 2016 HLPF

President of the Human Rights Council: Inputs to the 2016 HLPF: the work of the Human Rights Council in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development


B. DRR and Climate Change

United Nations: Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (EN, FR, RU)


United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change: The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement COP21 for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): Disasters and Changing Climate, Synergies between Sendai Framework and the Paris Agreement COP21 in Europe and the CIS


C. Children

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), Regional Office for Central, Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CEE/CIS): Multi-Country Evaluations, Executive Summaries:

- Including All Children in Quality Learning in CEE/CIS, 2014
- Increasing Access and Equity in Early Childhood Education in CEE/CIS, 2014
- *A Child’s Right to a Supportive and Caring Family Environment*, 2015

- *Progress Towards Achieving the MDG 4 Goals by Reducing Health System Bottlenecks in CEE/CIS*, 2015

- *The impact of juvenile justice system reforms on children in conflict with the law in CEE/CIS*, 2015


IV. Data and Monitoring


Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS Statistical Committee) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia: *Youth in the Commonwealth of Independent States: a Statistical Portrait*, Moscow, 2016 (EN, RU)

Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations System: *Evaluation of the contribution of the United Nations development system to strengthening national capacities for statistical analysis and data collection to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally-agreed development goals*, 2016 (JIU/REP/2016/5)


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Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and Bertelsmann Stiftung: SDG Index and Dashboards, New York, 2016


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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): Conference of European Statisticians’ Road Map on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals, Draft 1 March 2017

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and Regional United Nations Development Group (R-UNDG) for Europe and Central Asia: Regional Ministerial Consultation on Accountability, Monitoring and Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Agenda - The Regional Dimension, Geneva, 15 September 2014

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women): Assessment of opportunities for UN Women to support the development of gender statistics in Europe and Central Asia, 2017

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women): Gender-Related SDG Indicators


World Health Organization (WHO): Reporting burden on Member States: options for reduction and proposal for a joint monitoring framework


Databases and portals:

- United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs:
  -- Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform
  -- Sustainable Development Goals indicators website
  -- SDG Indicators Global Database

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE): Statistical Database

- Data Portal of International Geneva: GVADATA
- International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD): SDG Knowledge Hub