Joint UNEP-UNECE presentation on current and planned projects including on capacity development

25th session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment
Geneva, 2-3 May 2023

Ms. Christine Kitzler, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Mr. Tomas Marques, UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Europe Office

OUTLINE

1. **UNECE and UNEP Capacity development and technical support on National State-of-the-Environment Reporting (NSoER)**

2. **UNECE EU4ENV project (2021-2024)**

3. **UNEP capacity building on Environmental information in Central Asia (2019-2022)**

4. **UNEP-ITU-UNITAR project on E-waste data in the Western Balkans (2021-2023)**

National State-of-the-Environment Reports

- Information on quality of the environment and environmental pressures, in the context of economic development and policy responses
- Provides timely information for decision-makers and the public
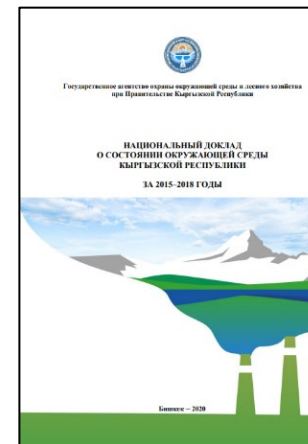- Continuous process: setting targets, monitoring, data analysis, reporting, setting targets…

http://newecodoklad.ecogosfond.kz/2017/kz/
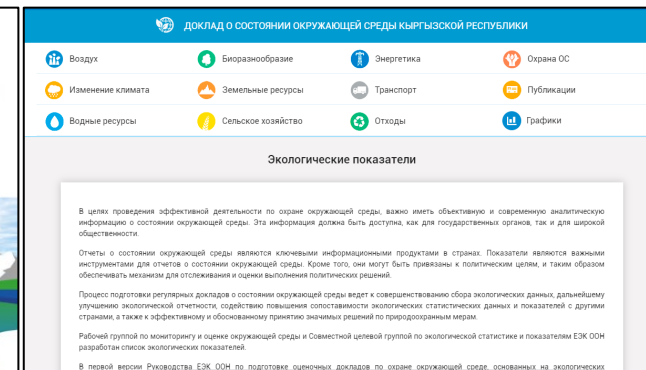
2021 NSoER of Kazakhstan
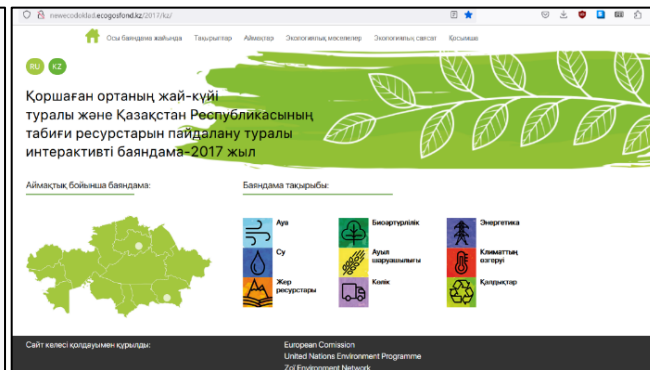
Online interactive version of 2017 NSoER of Kazakhstan

https://ecoreportkg.info/

2015-2018 NSoER of the Kyrgyz Republic

NSoER interactive data portal

Indicators and reporting:

- Environmental indicators support collection of objective analytical information about the state of the environment

- Indicators track progress and support evaluation

- Indicators can be tied to policy goals

- Environmental indicators have been developed by UNECE

- UNECE Guidelines for the preparation of governmental reports on the state and protection of the environment
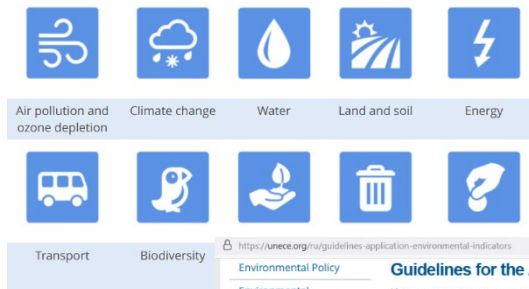
Old structure
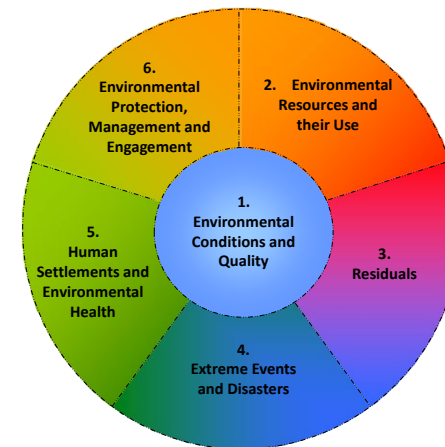
New structure according to FDES

The revised list of UNECE environmental indicators as approved by the UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators are available under:
https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-10/2213241E.pdf

https://unece.org/guidelines-application-environmental-indicators

Aarhus Convention:

- Adopted in 1998, entered into force in 2001
- Protects every person's right to live in an environment adequate to their health and well-being
- Links environmental rights and human rights
- Links government accountability and environmental protection
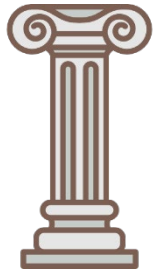
I. Access to information
National State-of-the-Environment Reports *(Art. 5, para 4)*
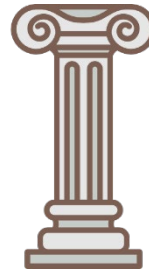
II. Public participation in decision-making
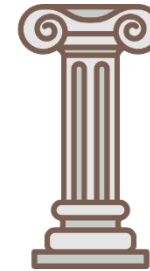
III. Access to justice

National State-of-the-Environment Reports

- Information on quality of the environment and environmental pressures
- Must be published regularly (minimum 3-4 years)
- Many ECE countries produce annual NSoERs
- Must be publicly disseminated and progressively become available in electronic databases

Joint UNEP-UNECE project on NSoER in Uzbekistan (2022-2023):

- Technical support and capacity building for development of new NSoER for the Republic of Uzbekistan

- Timeframe for implementation: mid-2022- October 2023

Joint UNEP-UNECE project on NSoER in 2 Central Asian countries (2024-2025):

- Technical support and capacity building for development of new NSoERs in two Central Asian countries (TBC based on demand/expression of interest)

- Timeframe for implementation: 2024-2025

Planned updating of the UNECE guidance and publication on "Environmental Monitoring and Reporting: Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia" and UNECE-UNEP joint regional training on NSOER development using the new updated guidelines:

- Planned updating of 2003 UNECE guidance and publication on planned regional capacity development workshop for countries in EECCA region

- Timeframe for implementation: 2024
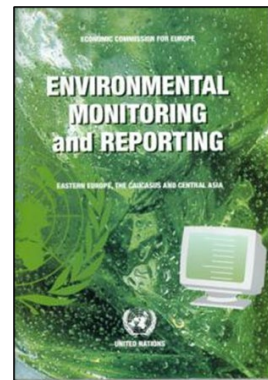
EU4Environment – Water and Data (2021-2024)

UBA, ADA, OiEau, OECD, UNECE

Two pillars:
- Water resources: support a more sustainable use of freshwater resources
- **Environmental data: extend and improve the use of sound environmental statistics**

Environmental Data action areas

Output 2.5	International sharing of data and networking (UNECE, UBA, OECD)
Activity 2.5.1	Reviewing status and gaps of international reporting obligations (UNECE / UBA)
Activity 2.5.2	Enhance co-operation of EEA/Eionet and UNECE with EaP countries on environmental monitoring and assessment (UNECE / UBA)
Activity 2.5.3	Support SEIS implementation and SDG monitoring in the EaP countries (UNECE / UBA)

Implementing partners

umweltbundesamt   Austrian Development Agency   OiEau International Office for Water   OECD BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES   UNECE

Co-funded by
With funding from
Austrian Development Cooperation   RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

Environmental data: extend and improve the use of sound environmental statistics

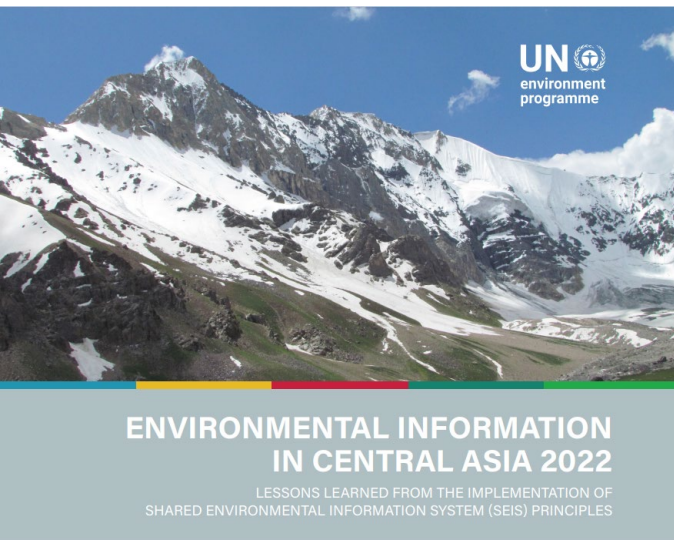**Upcoming UNECE supported activities (together with EAA and UNEP)**

- Planned regional training workshop on air quality and emissions to air statistics and indicators on 4-5 May 2023 to support reporting on SEIS

- Review of the environmental theme air in 2023, by using the SEIS assessment framework while employing the revised UNECE environmental Indicators.

- 20th session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics And Indicators on 16-18 October 2023

- Addressing of gaps in international reporting through capacity development (e.g. during 25th session of WGEMA and regional training on air quality and emissions to air statistics and indicators

- Training on waste statistics and indicators in 2024

Projects comes to an end in 2024: Countries are invited to think already now about further needs that could be covered under a new project

2022 update of 2019 UNEP project report on Environmental Information in Central Asia

- Lessons learned from the implementation of Shared environmental information system (SEIS) principles in Central Asia during 2016-2022
- Stock-taking of relevant UNEP and UNECE capacity-development initiatives on environmental data sharing and on National-State of Environment reporting in support of SEIS implementation in Central Asia
- Outlines a way forward to make SEIS an everyday reality and essential tool for environmental information management in Central Asia

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION IN CENTRAL ASIA 2022
LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SHARED ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (SEIS) PRINCIPLES

ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКАЯ ИНФОРМАЦИЯ В ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОЙ АЗИИ 2022
ОПЫТ, НАКОПЛЕННЫЙ ПРИ ВНЕДРЕНИИ ПРИНЦИПОВ СОВМЕСТНОЙ СИСТЕМЫ ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКОЙ ИНФОРМАЦИИ (SEIS)

- Available for download in both EN and RU :

  https://zoinet.org/product/seis-ca-2022/

Update on progress of joint UNEP-ITU-UNITAR capacity development data project for the generation of an "E-Waste Monitor for the Western Balkans"

▪ Project rationale:

- Internationally comparable e-waste statistics and information on e-waste management in the Western Balkans is limited

- Provide technical assistance to 5 Western Balkan countries to assess e-waste statistics

- Implementation by ITU Europe Office, UNEP Europe Office & Vienna Office and UNITAR-SCYCLE, as well as respective administrations and statistical offices of the beneficiary countries.

Albania

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Montenegro

North Macedonia

Serbia

Update on progress of joint UNEP-ITU-UNITAR capacity development data project for the generation of an "E-Waste Monitor for the Western Balkans"

▪ Aims and Objectives:

Project **aims** to collect statistics, map the situation of e-waste management and legislation in the beneficiary countries as well as build subregional capacities in the field of e-waste monitoring and reporting.

The project has the following **objectives**:
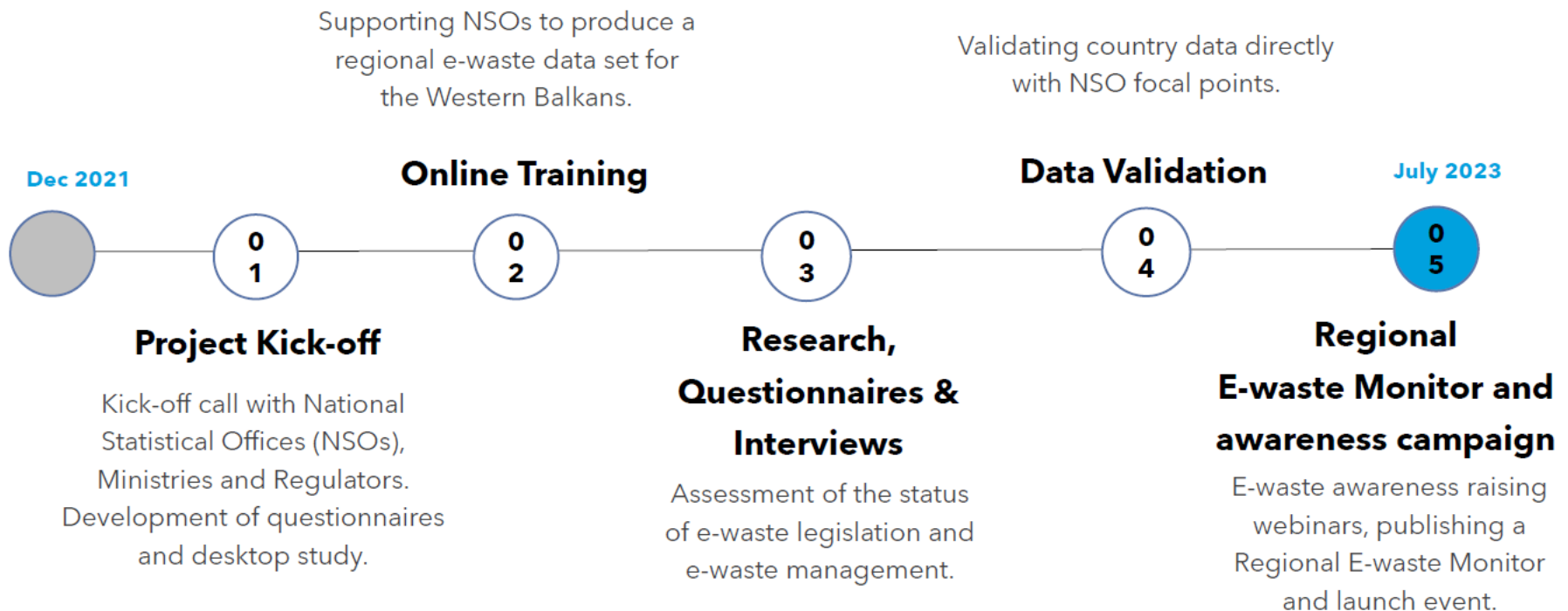
- **Train NSOs** to produce e-waste data for **monitoring of SDG** 12.5.1.

- Contribute to the development of **internationally comparable e-waste statistics**.

- **Inform** policy makers, industries, and business about regional e-waste data.

- Support the development of national and regional counter-measures through policies, regulations, awareness raising and industrial response.

Update on progress of joint UNEP-ITU-UNITAR capacity development data project for the generation of an "E-Waste Monitor for the Western Balkans"

- Project activities and timeline:

Dec 2021

Supporting NSOs to produce a regional e-waste data set for the Western Balkans.

Online Training

Validating country data directly with NSO focal points.

Data Validation

July 2023

0 1   0 2   0 3   0 4   0 5

Project Kick-off

Kick-off call with National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Ministries and Regulators. Development of questionnaires and desktop study.

Research, Questionnaires & Interviews

Assessment of the status of e-waste legislation and e-waste management.

Regional E-waste Monitor and awareness campaign

E-waste awareness raising webinars, publishing a Regional E-waste Monitor and launch event.

Update on progress of joint UNEP-ITU-UNITAR capacity development data project for the generation of an "E-Waste Monitor for the Western Balkans"

- Expected key results:

RESULT 1: **FIVE COUNTRY PROFILES ELABORATED**, WHICH INCLUDES AN ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF E-WASTE LEGISLATION AND E-WASTE MANAGEMENT USING DESKTOP RESEARCH, QUESTIONNAIRES AND FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEWS

RESULT 2: **FIVE NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICES (NSO) TRAINED** TO PRODUCE A REGIONAL E-WASTE DATA SET FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS, INCLUDING ESTIMATES WHERE DATA MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE.

RESULT 3: **VALIDATED PROFILES FOR THE FIVE COUNTRIES** BY NSO THROUGH ONLINE ONE-TO-ONE FOLLOW-UP WITH EACH OF THE FIVE COUNTRIES.
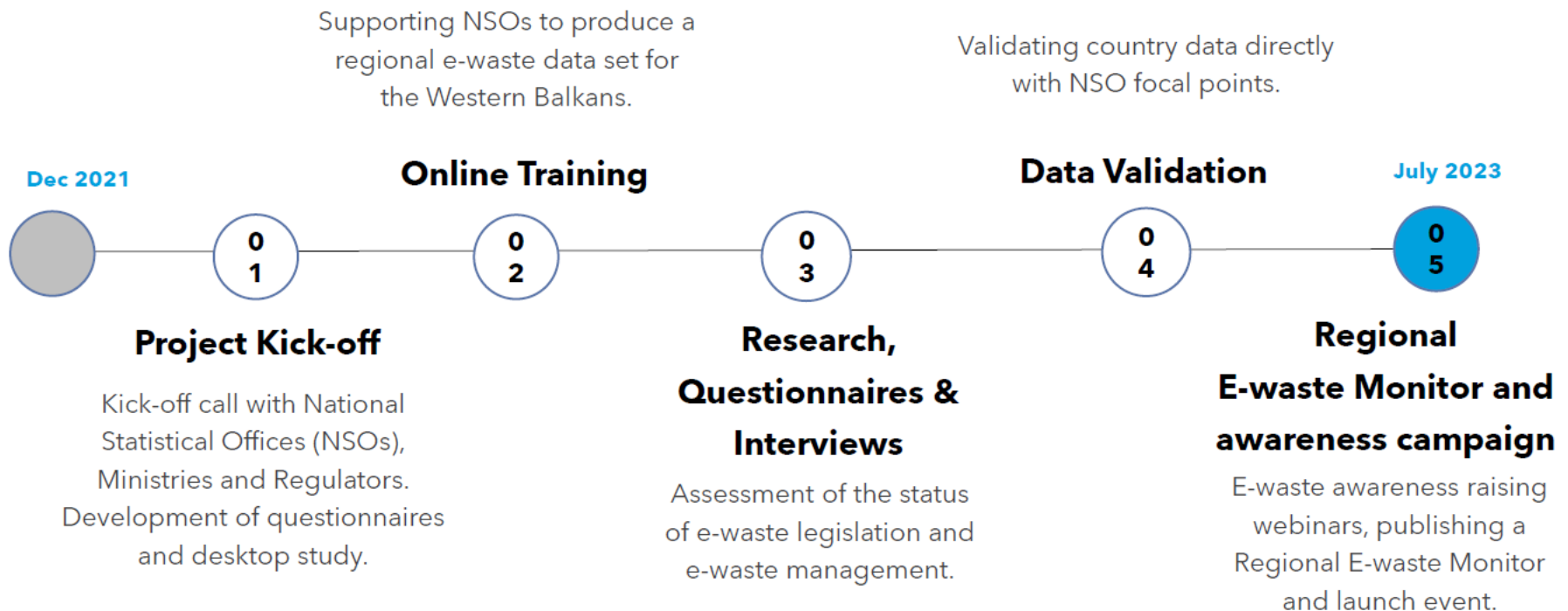
RESULT 4: **REGIONAL E-WASTE MONITOR FOR THE WESTERN BALKANS REPORT** FEATURING COLLECTED DATA AND PUBLISHED ON THE WEBSITE OF THE GLOBAL E-WASTE STATISTICS PARTNERSHIP.

Update on progress of joint UNEP-ITU-UNITAR capacity development data project for the generation of an "E-Waste Monitor for the Western Balkans"

- Project activities and timeline:

Supporting NSOs to produce a regional e-waste data set for the Western Balkans.

Validating country data directly with NSO focal points.

Dec 2021

Online Training

Data Validation

July 2023

01

02

03

04

05

Project Kick-off

Kick-off call with National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Ministries and Regulators. Development of questionnaires and desktop study.

Research, Questionnaires & Interviews

Assessment of the status of e-waste legislation and e-waste management.

Regional E-waste Monitor and awareness campaign

E-waste awareness raising webinars, publishing a Regional E-waste Monitor and launch event.

Previous Regional E-Waste Monitors (incl. the Regional E-Waste Monitor for the CIS region

https://ewastemonitor.info/gem-2020/

https://ewastemonitor.info/regional-e-waste-monitor-cisgeorgia-2021/

https://ewastemonitor.info/regional-e-waste-monitor-for-the-arab-states-2021/

https://ewastemonitor.info/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/REM_LATAM_2022_ENG_Final.pdf

Thank you!

Ms. Christine Kitzler, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
Mr. Tomas Marques, UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Europe Office