



# Empowering governments and other stakeholders in evidence-based decision-making



**ENVIRONMENT UNDER REVIEW**

**With the advent of Big Data, Earth observation technologies and citizen science, it is now possible to access contextualized, near real-time information on the state of the environment. Policymakers need access to such information and assessments to develop policies that are environmentally sound and that contribute to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

UNEP’s Environment Under Review Subprogramme bridges the gap between the producers and users of environmental information and works to improve knowledge management, data sharing and environmental reporting. Using the UNEP Live platform (uneplive.unep.org), policymakers and concerned citizens can track local levels of air pollution, monitor resource use, and access maps, publications and other resources. But important data gaps remain. UNEP is working with governments and other partners to close those gaps and improve the tracking of progress towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed goals and targets.

### Integrated environmental assessment

We facilitate policymaking based on environmental information available on open platforms. The **Global Environment Outlook (GEO)** mobilizes the best-available scientific knowledge to inform policymakers about the latest environmental data and trends at regional and global level.

### Early warning

By identifying and analyzing emerging environmental issues, UNEP enables policy planning that reflects the latest knowledge and developments. The **Frontiers** series spotlights such emerging issues.

### Data & information management

UNEP works with partners to enhance countries’ capacity to generate, access, analyze and communicate environmental information. The **Indicator Reporting Information System** was developed to facilitate data sharing and environmental reporting.

**AVAILABLE ON UNEP LIVE:  
NATIONAL DATA FLOWS FROM  
193 COUNTRIES**  
  
**10 COMMUNITIES  
OF PRACTICE WITH OVER  
1,500 MEMBERS**  
**AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS TRACKING PORTAL**

## Empowering people with data and knowledge

Launched in 2014, UNEP Live is a dynamic online platform that links to and shares national, regional and global data and knowledge. The platform includes data flows at all levels, a global reporting obligations database for each country, a powerful Web Intelligence platform that tracks stakeholder perceptions and emerging trends in real-time, an SDG synergies portal, and ten Communities of Practice with over 1,500 members. Visit us at [uneplive.unep.org](http://uneplive.unep.org) and help us share information and grow our knowledge on the changing environment.

## Revolutionizing air quality measurement

Each year, air pollution causes more than 7 million premature deaths, 88% of which occur in low- and middle-income countries. In response, UNEP has helped to pioneer a monitoring device that measures air quality at a fraction of the cost of high-end alternatives. The device, whose design has been made public, could revolutionize air quality measurement in the developing world. Meanwhile, the prototype is being tested in Nairobi in cooperation with the Kenyan government.



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## Our flagships



## Our Plan

The Environment Under Review Subprogramme invests in long-term processes, tools and partnerships to keep the environment under review. With \$1.2 million, we can organize the next series of six Regional Environment Information Network conferences, which take stock of environmental trends, identify priorities and emerging issues, build partnerships and strengthen data and assessment capacity. And with \$2.4 million, we can roll out an air quality monitoring programme in 20 developing countries to support decision-making and promote better health and gender equality.

We welcome donor support for the continued development of UNEP Live and to help us transfer the Indicator Reporting Information System to interested countries to enhance data sharing among ministries and facilitate reporting for national assessments, the SDGs and to multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).

As the UN's focal point for the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda, UNEP highlights how MEAs contribute to the SDGs, as visualized on the SDG synergies portal. In collaboration with partners, we coordinate inputs to the global indicator framework for SDGs and the Global Sustainable Development Report. We stand ready to help countries strengthen their environmental statistics capacities, which can help them track their progress towards the SDGs. To that end, we are seeking funding to implement the SDG indicator and monitoring framework and to further develop SDG indicators.

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