



3rd Steering Committee meeting of the ENI SEIS II East project

Reporting progress on SEIS in the pan-European region:
engagement of partners and synergies

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**UNECE**

Setting the stage for continued collaboration

- Common UNECE-UNEP-EEA approach.
- Joint activities in the past include the GEO-6 preparation process, UNEA and SEIS progress reporting in 2016.
- SEIS Assessment Framework and the SEIS mid-term review in 2018.
- ENI-SEIS II East.



Setting the stage for continued collaboration

- Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA)
- Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (JTF)





Support Production and regular update of the regional set of indicators and strengthening environmental statistics and accounting in the six Eastern Partnership countries under ENI SEIS II East Project

- Participation of Eastern Partnership countries' representatives in 19th session of Working Group, 13th, 14th and 15th sessions of Joint Task Force and a seminar on implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting
- Preparation of an analytical report on current status of production and sharing of UNECE environmental indicators in Eastern Partnership countries
- Streamlining of state-of-the-environment reporting, SDG reporting and production of UNECE set of environmental indicators in Eastern Partnership countries



SEIS Assessment Framework

- 25 questions + 11 sub-questions
- 7 categories (review criteria)
- SEIS Performance Score
- Working Group at its twentieth session (Geneva, 3-4 September 2018) agreed to make further adjustments to the SEIS Assessment Framework (ECE/CEP/AC.10/2018/5)



SEIS Mid-term Review

- 34 out of the 53 ECE Member States (not incl. Canada, Israel and the United States of America) submitted a self-assessment.
- EEA pre-filled the questionnaire for 33 of its members and 5 cooperating countries. Default values were used for countries that did not submit a self-assessment.
- 27 countries submitted results for all the 7 data flows.
- It is not possible to determine whether countries are fully on track to establish SEIS in Europe and Central Asia by 2021.
- Full participation in the mid-term review, by all countries in the pan-European region, was not achieved.



SEIS Mid-term Review

- Countries have continued to **harmonize relevant data flows** and improving the quality of environmental indicators since 2016.
- At the thematic level, the highest score was for **A (on air pollution and ozone depletion)**, followed by D (on biodiversity) and C (on water).
- At the data flow level, the highest score was **air quality** (SO₂, PM₁₀, O₃ and NO₂), followed in descending order by total protected areas, ammonium in major rivers and BOD₅ in major rivers.
- Most of the data flows are used for different **purposes** (e.g., environmental assessments) and converted into **different formats** (e.g., tables and maps).
- Countries highlighted **limitations in comparing data flows** across regions and/or between countries.
- Mid-term review shows the value in **continued monitoring of SEIS progress**.



What should be the way forward?





What did we set out to do?

- Declaration: “Greener, cleaner, smarter!” by Ministers of the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.1)

10. While welcoming progress in developing the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) to support a regular process of environmental assessment, we invite countries to continue their efforts and to **further develop their national information systems to have SEIS in place in the countries of Europe and Central Asia by 2021**. In this regard, we note the value of UNEP Live and the Group on Earth Observations as global knowledge-sharing platforms. We welcome the launch of the European regional assessment of the Global Environment Outlook, as the regular pan-European environmental assessment. The GEO-6 Assessment for the pan-European region is built on existing national, sub-regional and thematic assessments, including The European environment - state and outlook 2015 report produced by the European Environment Agency in 2015.





Coming period: 2019/2020

- New project activity launched by the EEA with the advisory support from the secretariat of the UNECE Aarhus Convention and the Protocol on PRTRs under area 2.5 of the ENI SEIS II East
- Strengthening national capacities of selected countries of Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus for improved environmental monitoring and assessment in support of implementing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda
- Continued revision of the SEIS Assessment Framework, updating the online reporting tool, preparations for the 2021 SEIS Review
- Updating or the ECE Guidelines on the Application of Environmental Indicators and a publication on SEIS establishment
- Twenty-fourth session of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (29 - 31 January 2019).

ENVIRONMENT



Thank you!

