

Monitoring SEIS across Europe and European Neighbourhood countries' input to this process (present and future)

Final event of the ENI SEIS II East project



Contributions to ENI SEIS II East project

“Access to information” pillar of the project



- Allowed assessment of level of maturity, benefits & future directions for countries' digital transformation and use of e-government & open data frameworks for management & dissemination of environmental information
- Paved way for modernizing nationwide environmental information systems using modern digital technologies
- Strong commitment of Aarhus Convention Parties critically important for achieving these objectives
- Coherent mobilization of domestic resources and international assistance remains decisive for success
- Supported transfer of knowledge & expertise beyond EaP countries, through *Task Force on Access to Information* and contributions to drafting updated *Recommendations on Electronic Information Tools* aimed at Parties
- Activities under the Convention will continue providing an effective platform for governments and stakeholders to discuss trends in dissemination of environmental information and other experiences after project ends
- Cooperation with partner organizations such as EEA very important for ensuring synergy in supporting countries in enhancing their digital environmental information systems

Contributions to ENI SEIS II East project

International governance, SEEA and environmental



- UNECE provided a platform for discussions involving all countries of the region, especially Central Asia, the Caucasus and Eastern & South-Eastern Europe
- EU-funding support enabled participation of up to 12 environmental experts and statisticians in each of
 - 2 meetings of Working Group on Environmental Monitoring & Assessment
 - 3 meetings of Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics & Indicators (with UNECE Statistical Division)
 - 3 OECD/UNECE seminars and a workshop on System of Environmental-Economic Accounting
- Most recent SEEA seminar looked at measuring the Circular Economy and the Environmental Goods and Services Sector
- SEEA programmes in 4, perhaps all, Eastern Partnership countries (2017)
- Experts participated in review of UNECE environmental indicators and guidelines on application, covering
 - Air pollution and ozone depletion, climate change, water, biodiversity, agriculture, energy, transport, waste and financing
 - Benefitted from expertise of UNECE Sustainable Transport & Energy Divisions, UNECE secretariats of Air, Water & Aarhus Conventions, Secretariat of Climate Convention, UN Statistics Division, IUCN, FAO and, on e-waste, ITU
 - Benefitted also from examples given by the countries, & others, reflecting their growing competence and expertise

Contributions to ENI SEIS II East project

SEIS



- Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (Batumi, 2016) invited countries to continue their efforts and develop national information systems to have SEIS in place in Europe & Central Asia by 2021
- Mid-term review conducted in 2018, with all countries with economies in transition reporting
 - Demonstrated considerable progress in addressing all three SEIS pillars (content, infrastructure and cooperation)
 - Identified areas requiring improvement (e.g., institutional & organizational arrangements, timeliness & punctuality, accuracy and relevance)
- Invitation sent to member States to support final SEIS progress review
 - Online reporting tool developed by UNEP, with UNECE support
 - Results to be presented at next Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference (2021/2022)
 - Expect to see further evidence of the impact of the ENI SEIS II East project
- SEIS and its principles already active to high degree to support organization, regularization and coordination of the pan-European environmental knowledge base. Strengthened ownership
- Hopefully, SEIS fully available by 2021 to underpin environmental policy development in the region, identify emerging regional issues and provide regional input to global processes

Contributions to ENI SEIS II East project

Trilateral cooperation and future



- Support to the countries will continue, though without the national activities of the project
 - Working Group & Joint Task Force (October)
 - Platform to discuss the establishment of SEIS
 - Opportunity to present findings of ENI SEIS II East project
 - Other projects (notably with UNEP)
- In the future, aim to explore and accompany countries in developing more innovative approaches to environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting, in support of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, building on the results of ENI SEIS II East project
- More generally, and beyond the project, we value highly our cooperation with both EEA and UNEP to share expertise, platforms and opportunities, as each brings its strengths to the partnership

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