Review of progress of SEIS implementation

Environmental data Gaps and Needs, Palestine

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Environmental data Gaps and Needs,

Introduction

This presentation is intended for users and producers of data.

Serves as a basis for discussion and aims to identify the main reasons for the data gaps and the actions to be taken to fill these gaps.

Main questions to be addressed:
Problems related to the availability of environmental data
Legal requirements for the collection, processing ,validation and communication of data, in accordance with environmental law; and practical improvement needs to build, make the system more efficient, more reliable and more usable in order to provide timely and accurate environmental data to decision makers and the general public (e.g Jordan, Austria)

Governance

- National SEIS teams in place - inter-institutional and across disciplines - with Review and Monitoring capacities and in convergence with countries' participation in regional governance processes

Content

- H2020 data flow partly in place using common tools and integrated with other relevant regional data flows (SDG)
- Indicator factsheets produced

Infrastructure

- Data Reported on on InfoMAP in view of structuring and integrating regional data sets

Results of SEIS Implementation

Activity	H2020 Themes	Comments/ reasons
1.Data monitoring, production, collection	Water** Waste IE	Data about water is available and reported. During the exercise some delays were encountered in receiving comments or corrections, but at the end the water indicators were produced. For the waste some of these indicators are not available and not reported due to data shortage and unavailability Concerning IE situation is poor and data availability and collection needs some additional efforts.
Data reported to InfoMAP	Water Waste IE	The available data was reported on InfoMAP
Data accessibility / external dissemination	Water Waste IE	Data about water is accessible, available and updated For waste also data are available for some indicators, some indicators could be estimated The situation of waste indicators is not sufficient due to data unavailability of some H2020 indicators Data for H2020 IE indicators is insufficient data
Information System	Water Waste IE	PWA have their own Information System MolG (Ministry of Local Government) also have their GEOMOLG from which data about waste is obtained Industrial Pollution Inventory from point sources (facilities) available at EQA but current data in it was collected through small studies and establishment's surveys . Work on a Restructured Industrial Pollution Inventory was accomplished in November 2019 and data was to be transferred to new

Reporting obligations / Agenda 2030/ H2020 indicators

\+ *H2020 Indicators+ Basel convention*

How do we get there?

Waste and Industrial emission data Gaps → Establishing regular H2020 data flows

Water indicators

Water data : 100% available and accessible
Palestinian water Authority has developed a Water Information System, EQA has password and can access the information system
PCBS get data from PWA upon request.

Waste indicators

Waste only some data available due to following problems :
Currently there is no waste information system available. MoLG provides GIS data (Landfill coordinates) MoLG receives data/monthly reports on quantity of waste landfilled from JSCs /landfills. EQA and PCBS get the data upon request

- ✓ Accessibility problem
- ✓ Availability problem

Industrial emissions indicators

Industrial emission data is collected through surveys and inspectors. Pollution inventory system exists –the system is being modernized and enhanced and will contain datasets/ times series. The system is not open to the public as it contains some sensitive data, but EQA can provide a password to the relevant institutions to access the system. EQA goal is to further develop the system and make it partly accessible to the public (aggregated data and indicators). The environmental inspectors are responsible of collecting the data during their field visit. The data is then entered manually in the system. The inspection are done in case of complains or problems in addition to regular checks. During the inspection some emissions are measured.

For the implementation of the SEIS-H2020 indicators a calculation is needed to convert the concentrations into quantities

- ✓ Industries doesn’t have any access to the system
- ✓ Difficulties to calculate quantities of emission

State of Environment Report

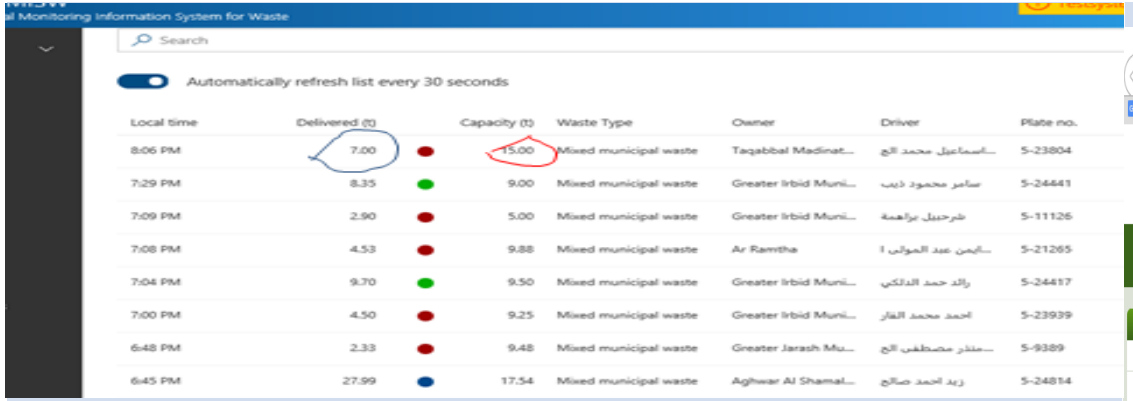
- EQA is currently in the process of receiving support from SIDA - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, for establishment of process enabling EQA the regular production of a State of Environment Report

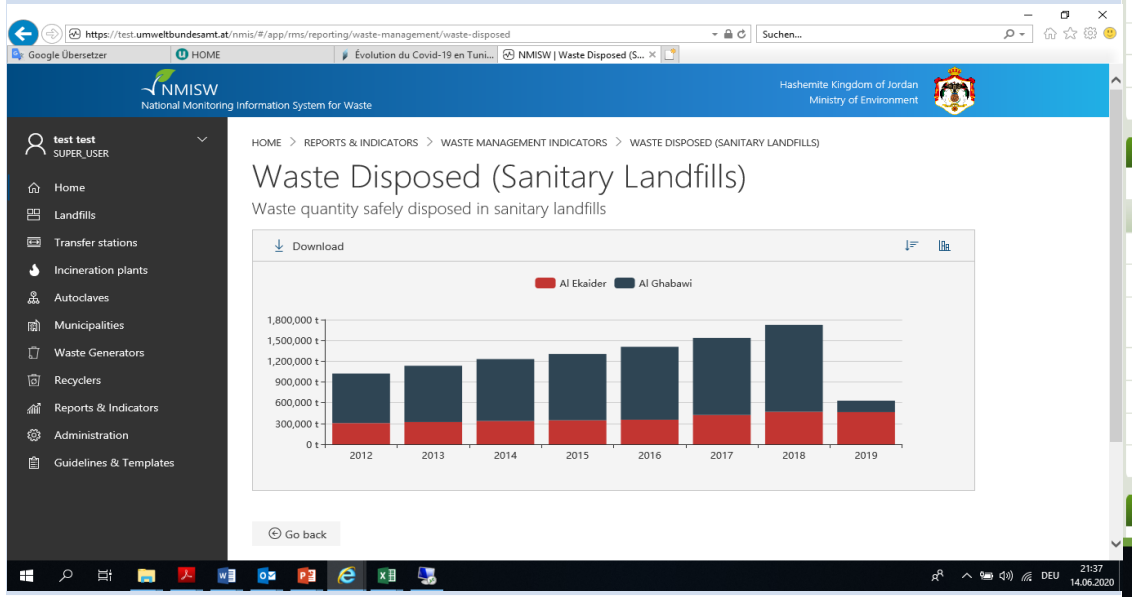
Example Jordan / Austria according to SEIS principles

National Monitoring Information System for Waste in Jordan (NMISW)	Electronic Data Management (Austria)
Waste framework law adopted in March 2020	Law (Abfallwirtschaftsgesetz)
Bylaw for establishing a waste information system with clear definition of roles and responsibilities of each institution	
Convention/agreement between different institutions for the maintenance of the system and protection of personal data	Austrian Waste Management Law, § 22 (4), specifies that the electronic register must be operated as an information network system in accordance with Article 4 (13) of the Austrian Federal Law concerning the protection of personal data 2000 and that the Federal Minister for the Environment must act as "operator" in accordance with the provisions of this law
The information system is online and give direct access to Department of Statistics , Ministry of Water resources, Ministry of Local Administration, Great Amman Municipality, Municipalities, and landfill operators	Ministry of Environment, Environment Agency Austria, Ministry of Health, provinces, customs and industries/installations

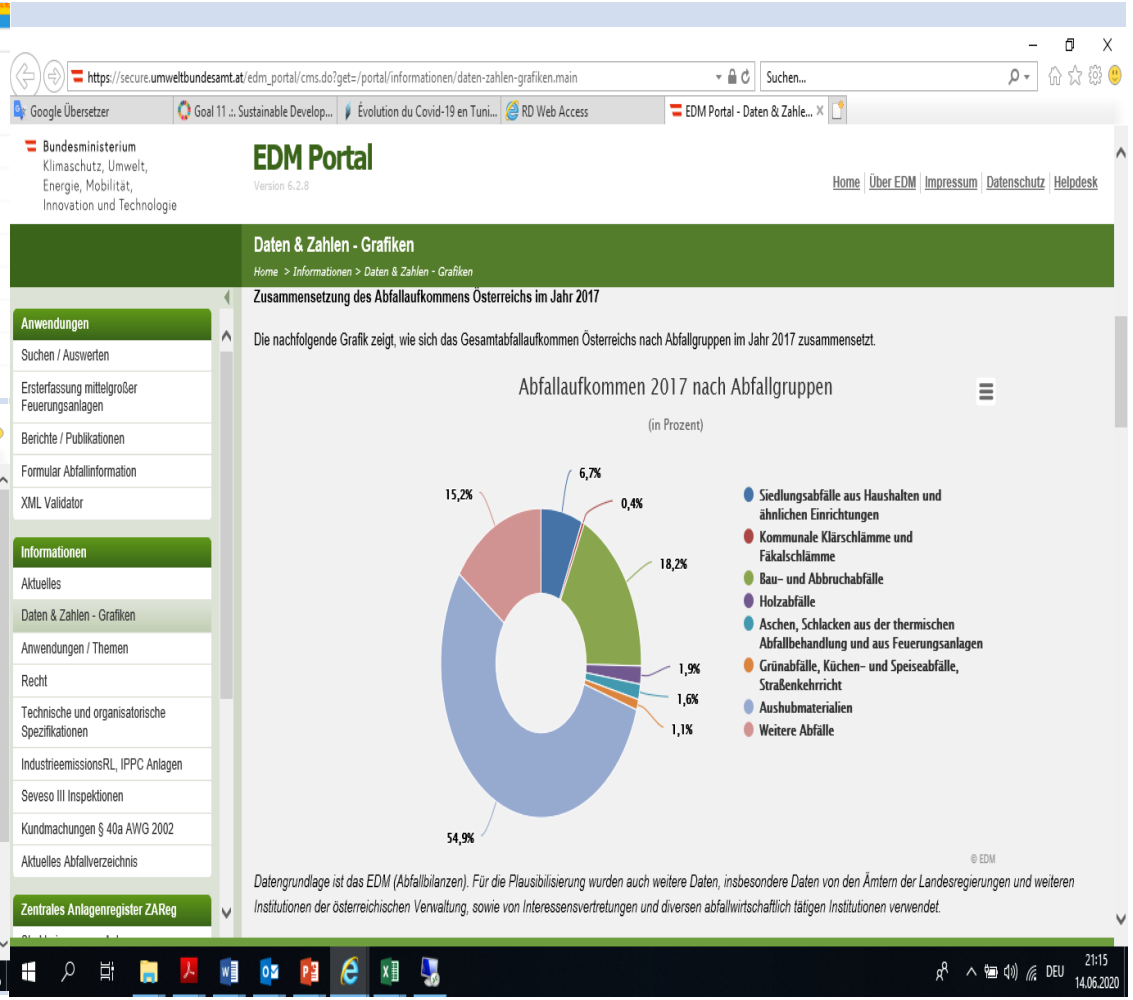
Example Jordan / Austria

Jordan





Austria



SEIS Principles– Waste Information System

1.Managed as close as possible to its source.	●
2.Collected once and shared with others for many purposes	●
3.Readily available to easily fulfil reporting obligations.	●
4.Easily accessible to all users.	●
5.Accessible to enable comparisons at the appropriate geographical scale and the participation of citizens.	
6.Fully available to the general public and at national level in the relevant national language(s).	●
7.Supported through common, free, open software standards	●

SEIS Principles– Palestinian Environmental Information System

An Environmental Information System was established recently and designed to host environmental data /indicators (Core set of environmental indicators) defined through out the SSFA . The system was funded through SEIS (Small Scale Financing Agreement with UNEP/MAP) and is based on open software standards
The system is flexible and designed to gather the data /indicators from all stakeholders : Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Water Authority, Ministry of Local Government , Metrological Dept. etc .
Data is Gathered by different means:
1. Stakeholders are designated privilieges to enter data through a web interface .
2. Some extensive data (Metrological,Water Quality,….) are to be exchanged in automatic manner (machine to machine) through a web API .
3. Possibility of importing from other formats (Excel,xml,…) is explored. After the data is received it is held in a approval queue which must be reviewed and approved by PCBS before being available for public

The Beta testing webportal is available at the following link:www.entities.ps/eqa

Currently EQA is working on acquiring up-to-date infrastructure equipment to host VMware environment were all services of EQA to be hosted including the Industrial Pollution Inventory IS and Palestinian Environmental IS.

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Recommendations

Assessment and upgrading of Pollution inventory system, to allow for example the access to industries and enable them to enter data and information. Explore possibility if help can be obtained and experience exchanged with the European counterparts.

Establishment and Implementation of shared Waste Information System (definition of legal requirements, and definition of responsibilities and sharing , MoLG, Municipalities, Joint service councils) will be a big chance to enhance the data availability and exchange

Infrastructure: need for Monitoring equipment (for ex. Ambient Air Quality,…) for the production of good quality data

Capacity building needs: methodology of calculation of indicators e.g use of concentration to calculate quantities of emissions etc. methodology of calculation of indicators using internationally recognized modules & conversion and correction factors specific to Palestine , e.g use of concentration to calculate quantities of emissions…etc. specifically in the fields of liquid waste & air emmisions.

2.Experience exchange and Capacity building on Data Flows (for example between the Possible Waste information System and the Palestinian Environmental Information System) .

3.Sampling and it’s SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures).

4. Training on important environmental themes such as: “Environment Impact Assessment EIA “ , “ Monitoring and inspection of specific major Industries : Stone and marble sector, tanneries , aluminium coating, e-waste recycling,….etc

Merci pour votre attention

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