

# UN Environment work on the environmental dimensions of the SDGs

---

## Aims and Approaches

---

Saving our planet, lifting people out of poverty, advancing economic growth... these are one and the same fight. We must connect the dots between climate change, water scarcity, energy shortages, global health, food security and women's empowerment. Solutions to one problem must be solutions for all.

— Ban Ki-moon

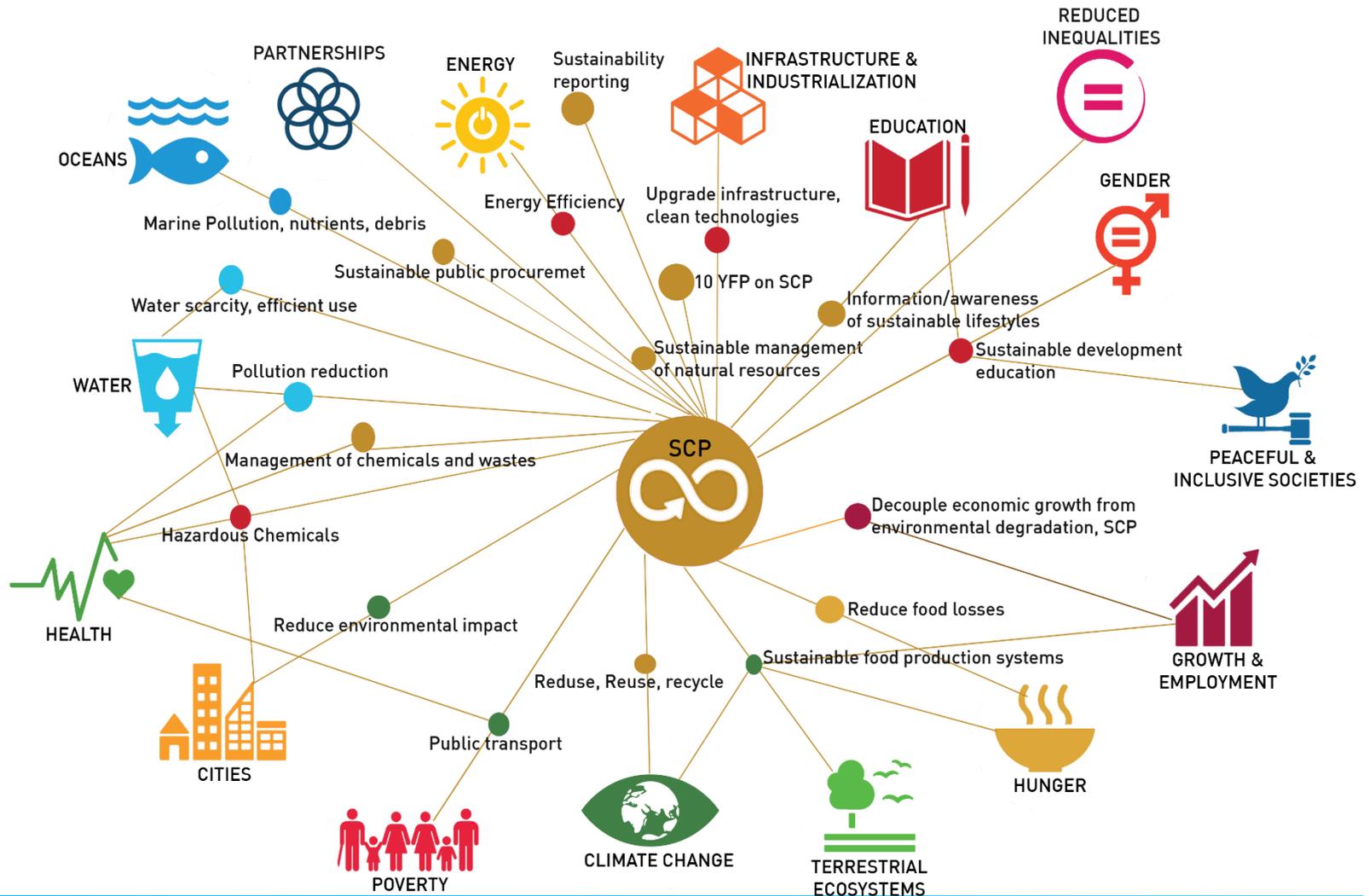
---

# UN Environment and the integrated approach

---



# The integrated approach – SDG 12



# Key UN Environment Programmes

---

Key UN Environment programmes supporting the Integrated Approach include:

- Poverty Environment Initiative
- Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
- Natural Capital Accounting
- Sustainable Consumption and Production

Aim to provide supportive policy guidance on mainstreaming these issues into national policy agendas and build capacity to compile and use policy relevant statistics

---

# The role of UN Environment in indicators

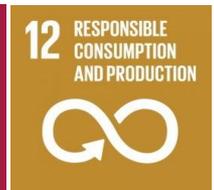
---

- UN Environment is the custodian for 26 indicators.
- Leading methodological work and capacity building work on geospatial indicators and disaggregated information which is particularly important for environmental assessment.
- Supporting improved data use and integrated analysis which allows policy makers to have a holistic look at the environment as opposed to indicators in silos.
- For more information go to: [uneplive.unep.org/projects](https://uneplive.unep.org/projects)

# UN Environment Indicators



Water quality, water resource management, freshwater ecosystems and water, and sanitation



Sustainable consumption and production, including material flow accounts, chemicals and wastes, environmental policy, food waste and fossil fuels.



Ocean related indicators on marine litter, acidification, marine management and coverage of protected areas



Protected areas, including mountains, and national targets for the Convention on Biological Diversity



Environmentally sound technology and sustainable development policy

# Status of work

---

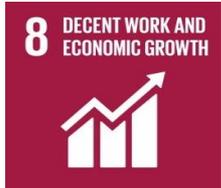


Water quality, water resource management, freshwater ecosystems and water and sanitation

- Step-by-step methodologies available from:  
[www.unwater.org/publications/step-step-methodologies-monitoring-sdg-6-global-indicators](http://www.unwater.org/publications/step-step-methodologies-monitoring-sdg-6-global-indicators)
- We are promoting a fully geospatial approach toward monitoring water quality and water related ecosystems that would support local and basin level decision making
- We have a partnership with the European Space Agency, NASA and GEO Secretariat to support countries in using existing Earth Observation products

# Status of work

---



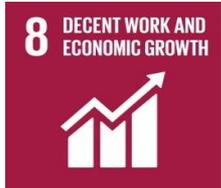
Sustainable consumption and production, including material flow accounts, chemicals and wastes, environmental policy, food waste and fossil fuels.

Methodologies and pilot testing are currently rolling out over the next 6-12 months:

- **Material flow accounts** (8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.1, 12.2.2) tell us about the resource extraction and use of an economy. It covers 4 main sub-topics biomass, fossil fuels, metal ores and non-metallic minerals.
- **Fossil fuel subsidies** (12.c.1) provide advice to countries on compiling and using information based on the price gap approach or a direct costing of policies.
- **Corporate Sustainability Reporting** (12.6.1) currently working to define what are the elements needed for a CSR report depending on company size and how we can provide guidance on compiling reports at the national level.

# Status of work

---



Sustainable consumption and production, including material flow accounts, chemicals and wastes, environmental policy, food waste and fossil fuels.

Methodologies and pilot testing are currently rolling out over the next 6-12 months:

- ***Chemicals and wastes statistics:*** (12.4.1, 12.4.2 and 12.5.1; also linked to 11.6.1): The final methodology on 12.4.1 is based on BRS reporting transmission rates. For the recycling rate and hazardous waste generation and disposal we are just getting started in trying to develop a standardized methodology.
- UN Environment is working with FAO on measuring food waste and loss.
- The other indicators under this goal are policy process indicators.

# Status of work

---



Ocean related indicators on marine litter, acidification, marine management and coverage of protected areas



Protected areas, including mountains, and national targets for the Convention on Biological Diversity

- ***Land accounts and freshwater ecosystem extent and quality*** (14.5.1, 15.1.1, 15.4.1 and linked to 6.6.1 and 15.3.1): Our approach is consistent with the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Protected areas are widely already established and reported.
- ***Ocean statistics*** (14.1.1 and 14.2.1): Linking monitoring of the SDG indicators on Oceans to the 18 Regional Seas indicators which provide a framework for measuring Oceans.
- ***Environmental Protection Expenditure*** (15.a.1 and 15.b.1): Linked with SEEA and the UNDP Biofin methodology.

# Status of work

---



Environmentally sound technology and sustainable development policy

- **Investment in EST** (17.7.1): Focusing currently on looking at investment in EST in the energy and climate change sector through conducting national level analysis of financial transfers.
- **Policy related statistics** (17.14.1 and linked to 6.5.1 on water management, 12.1.1 on SCP mainstreaming, and 12.7.1 on sustainable public procurement). The work on 6.5.1, 12.1.1 and 12.7.1 is well developed and based on surveys of national policies. The survey on policy coherence of sustainable development (17.14.1) is at the early stages of development and will focus on a number of different mechanisms including national monitoring systems.

# UN Environment and the SDGs in the region

---

Regional level engagement:

- ✓ Partnership ESCWA and League of Arab States
- ✓ Arab Forum on Sustainable Development
- ✓ Arab Sustainable Development Report
- ✓ Implementation Framework for the Environmental Dimension
- ✓ RCM Working Group on 2030 Agenda
- ✓ RCM Working Group on SDG Data
- ✓ Regional UN Development Group support to UNCTs Teams

Country level engagement:

- Through UN Country Teams and directly with counterparts
-

# Thank you

---



Melanie Hutchinson  
Regional Development Coordination Officer  
UN Environment West Asia  
Bahrain

Email: [Melanie.Hutchinson@unep.org](mailto:Melanie.Hutchinson@unep.org)

---

[www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org)