

D. Science for Policy and Action

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A. Background: Programme Direction and Envisaged Impact

Programme Objective:

Empowering Governments and stakeholders to make evidence-based decisions through environmental assessments which are guided by environmental data and information.

Programme Outcomes:

Outcome 1

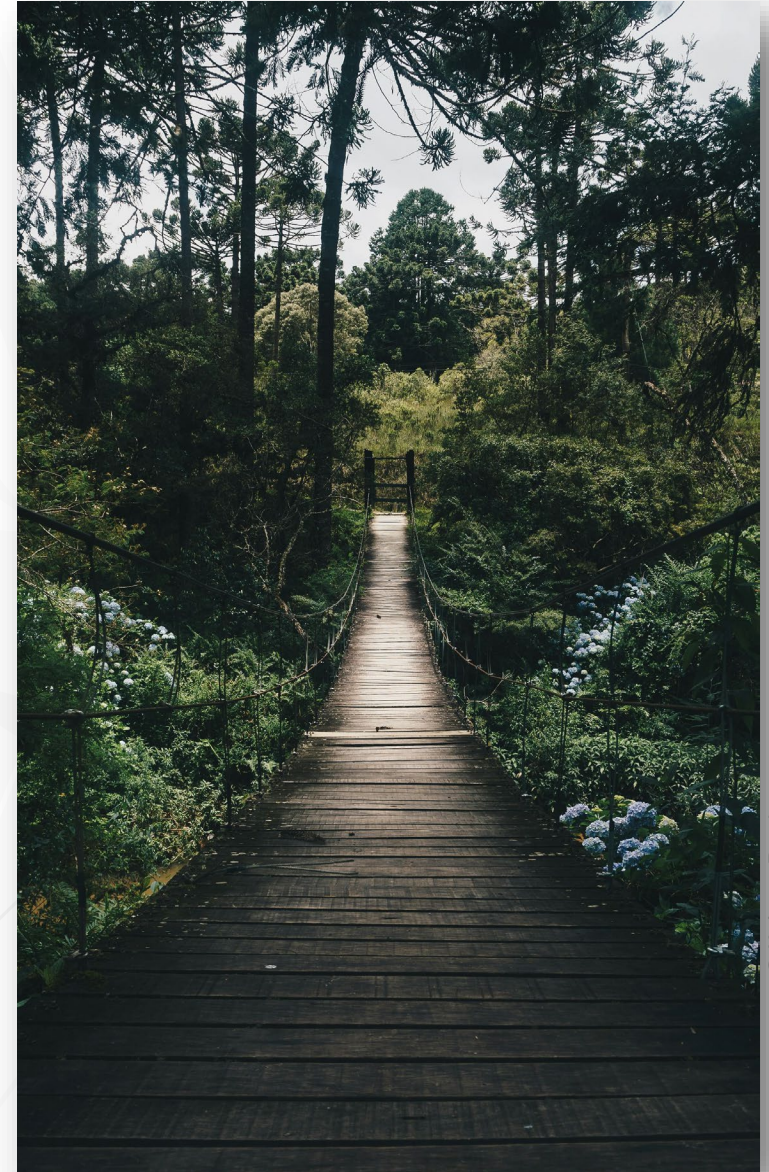
Early Warning services and timely reliable environmental data, statistics and accounts support policy making and stakeholder action

Outcome 2

Scientific assessments support environmental policy-making and stakeholder actions

Outcome 3

Strengthened Science-Policy Interface & Capacity enrich environmental policy-making and stakeholder action



A. Background: Envisaged Impact and Strategic Coherence

Objective

Policy-Making and stakeholder actions are guided by environmental data and information



Envisaged Impact

National, regional and international policies are aligned with, and management practice is acting on "What the (Environmental) Science Says"



Synergies with other sub-programmes

Environmental Governance

Digital Transformation

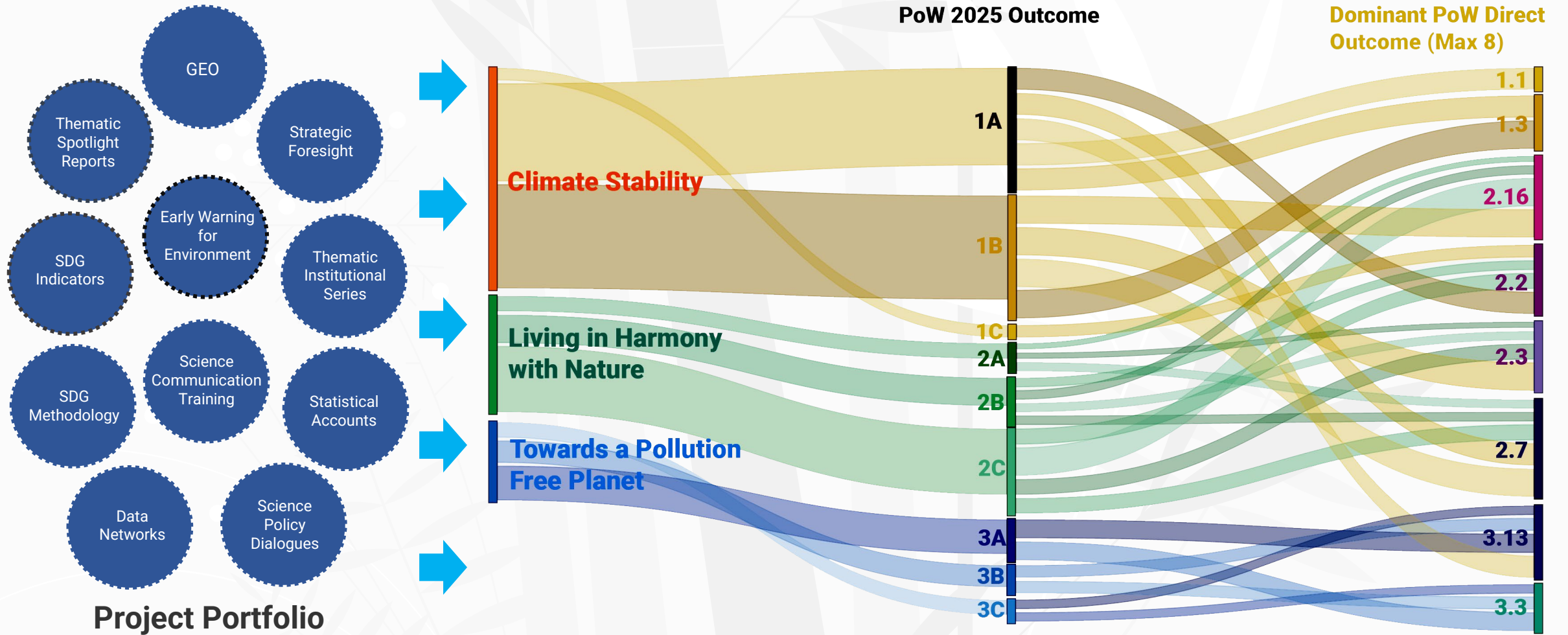
Science-Policy Interface



A. Background: Science for Policy and Action



A. Background: Foundational Contributions to MTS and PoW



B. Project Portfolio: Overview



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Geographic coverage:

- Initiatives implemented across **141** countries.
- Current implementation portfolio:
 - **12** initiatives with global scope
 - **4** initiatives with regional scope
 - **4** single country initiatives

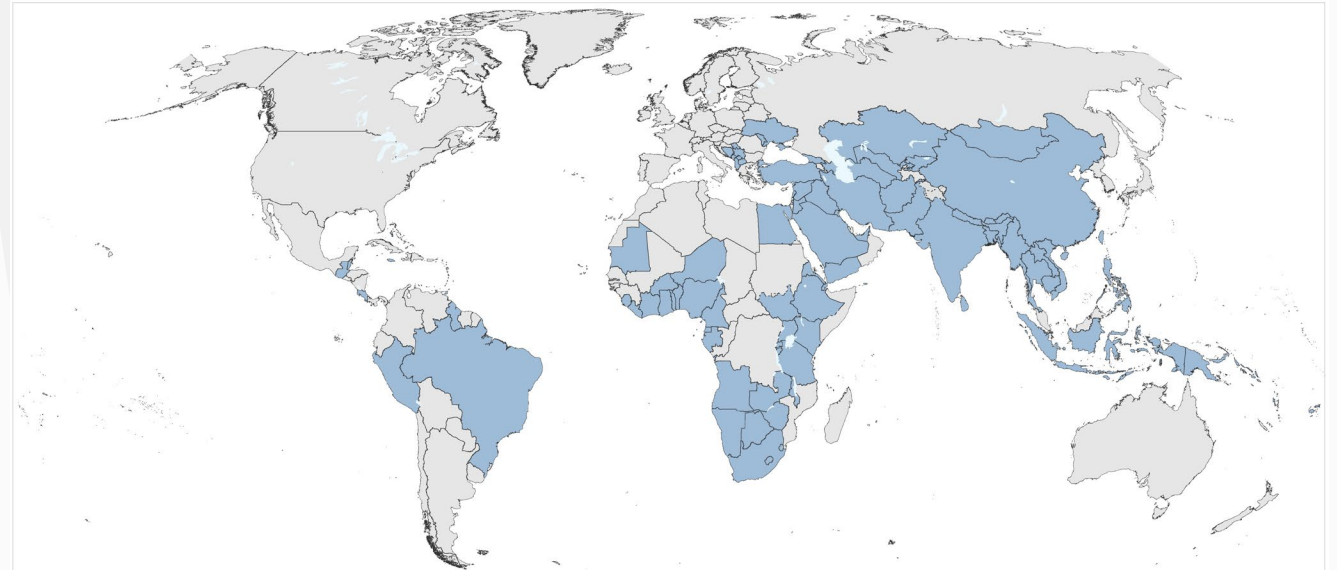
Project portfolio:

- **8 projects** under implementation (66 million USD budget)
- **10 projects** in design pipeline (17.82 million USD proposed budget)

Source of funds:

- 37.5 % projects supported through GEF funding
- Rest are supported through Environment Fund and others

Countries UNEP is a signatory to the Cooperative Agreements



Countries that UNEP is a signatory to the Cooperative Agreements

B. Results: Science for Policy and Action

Support to Climate Stability



Photo Credit: Envato Elements / ivankmit

- Vulnerability mapping of climate change and food security in 12 pilot countries.
- 20 countries assisted to strengthen capacity in climate early warning systems through finance provided by GCF or the SOFF

B. Results: Science for Policy and Action

Support to Climate Stability

Emission Gap Reports



A total of 15 reports produced since 2010

Adaptation Gap Reports



A total of 9 reports produced since 2014

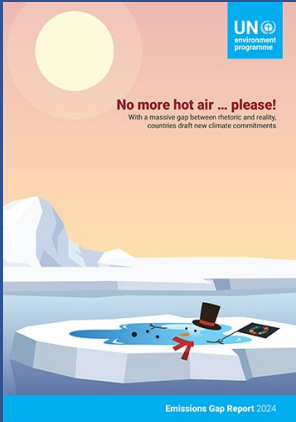
B. Key Results – Country Impacts

Bulgaria

The Government of Bulgaria has used UNEP’s Emission Gap report to guide its climate action strategy particularly its National Energy and Climate Plan.



Photo Credit: Envato Elements / EdVal



Tonga

The Government of Tonga has used UNEP’s Emission Gap report to amplify the need for stronger commitments in reducing emissions by 2030.



Photo Credit: Envato Elements / mduririk

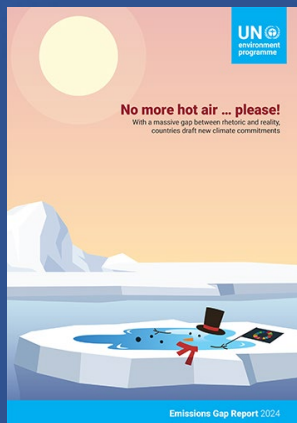


B. Key Results – Global Impacts

Non-exhaustive

European Parliament

The European Parliament has used UNEP's Emissions Gap report to emphasize on the need for stronger climate action and to align EU's policies with the report's findings.



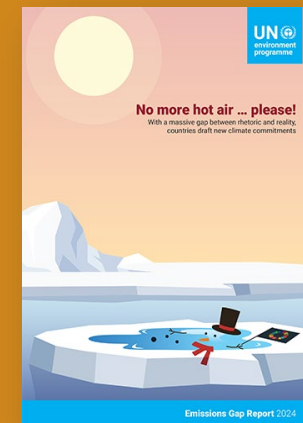
Africa Group of Negotiators

The African Group of Negotiators has used UNEP's Adaptation Gap report to emphasize on the need for increased and more equitable adaptation finance in the African region.



The African Group

The Africa Group has used UNEP's Emission Gap report to advocate for stronger Climate action that should align to the Paris Agreement.



B. Results: Science for Policy and Action

Support to Living in Harmony with Nature

- Frontiers Report coming 2 July 2025
- National Environmental Summary reports for 54 countries addressing food security, water scarcity and environmental degradation
- Supported 5 countries in Natural Capital Accounting aligned with the UN System of Environmental Economic Accounting Framework
- Citizen-science data integrated into National Water Monitoring Programs



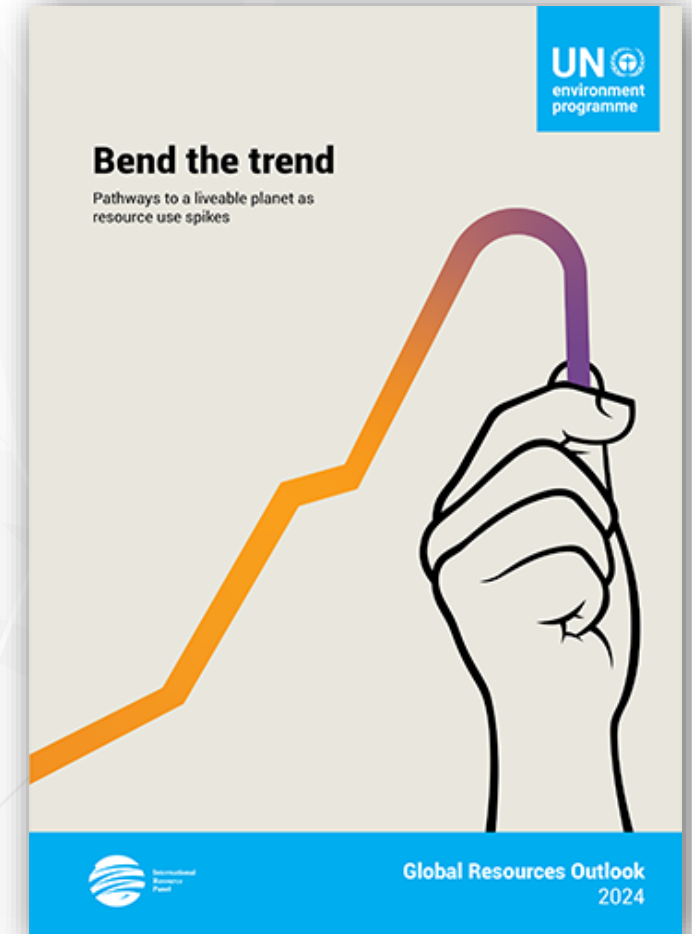
Coming soon:
Frontiers 2024/25
Emerging Issues of
Environmental Concern



B. Results: Science for Policy and Action

Support Towards a Pollution Free Planet

- *Building Circularity into Nationally Determined Contributions* Toolbox is being piloted in Ecuador, Viet Nam, and Zimbabwe
- Building on the Global Resources Outlook recommendations, **Brazil** has taken concrete policy and enforcement steps to reduce deforestation, promote renewable energy, and develop sustainable finance mechanisms
- **Germany's** response included advancing circular economy initiatives within the EU framework, particularly in battery production and resource efficiency, consistent with the report's call for systemic change in resource use.

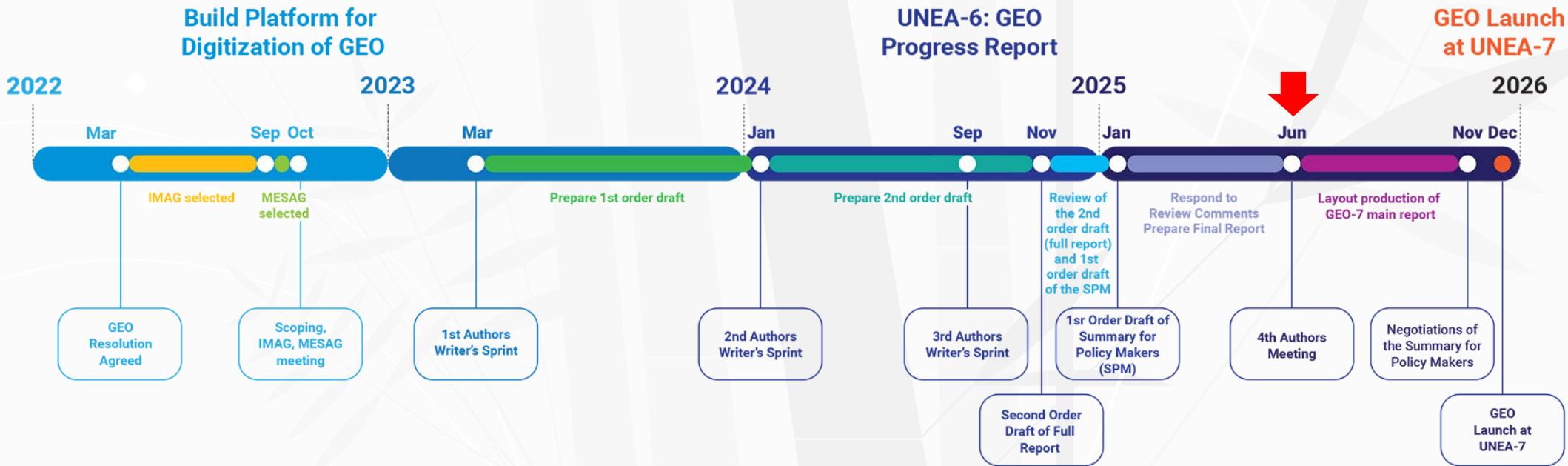


B. Expected Results: Science for Policy and Action

Cross-Cutting Support: Solutions Pathways for Climate, Nature, Pollution: GEO-7

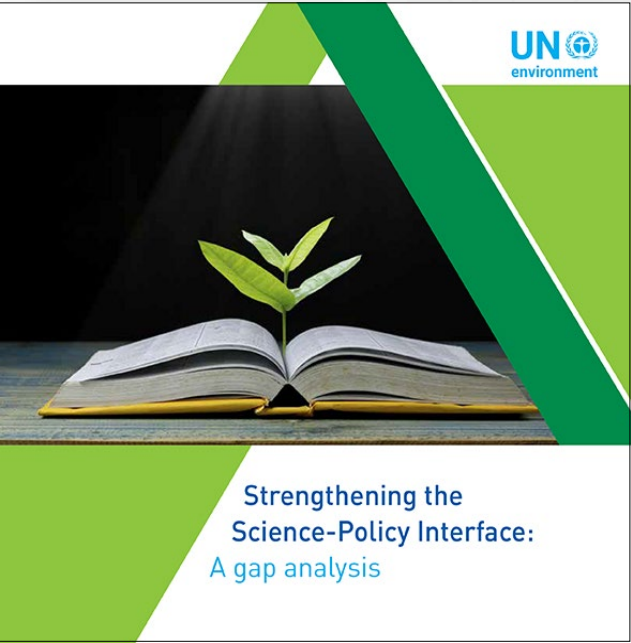


GEO-7 will map out solution pathways



B. Results: Science for Policy and Action

Cross-Cutting Support to the Science-Policy Interface and Environmental Governance



D. Lessons Learned

Lessons

- Inclusive and Multi-stakeholder Engagement
- Building Capacity, Partnerships and Sharing Best Practices
- Numerous assessments which continue to document that *'things are bad and getting worse'*...do not seem to result in sufficient change to address the threats and concerns.

Adaptations

- With its solutions-focus, the 7th Global Environment Outlook will attempt to shift the conversation from *'things are bad and getting worse'* to conversations around specific actions that can be taken at the national level to meet our climate, nature and pollution reduction targets



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C. Strategic Risks and Opportunities: Science for Policy and Action

Opportunities

- Leveraging Digital Technologies
- Strengthening Global and Regional Science-Policy Interfaces
- Addressing Emerging Issues Proactively

Strategic Risks

- Complexity and Interconnectedness of Environmental Crises
- Insufficient Data and Scientific Gaps
- Rapidly Changing Global Context
- Resource and Capacity Constraints



D. Looking Ahead: Science for Policy and Action

United Nations General Assembly Resolution:
UNEP/EA.4/RES.23
Keeping the world environment under review:



**United Nations
Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment
Programme**

United Nations Environment Assembly of the
United Nations Environment Programme
Fourth session
Nairobi, 11–15 March 2019

Resolution adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 15 March 2019

4/23. Keeping the world environment under review: enhancing the United Nations Environment Programme science-policy interface and endorsement of the Global Environment Outlook

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Mindful of the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, as outlined in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, and other relevant resolutions that reinforced its mandate, including to keep the world environmental situation under review, and recalling Governing Council decision 27/11 of 22 February 2013 on the state of the environment and the contribution of the Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,¹ in particular paragraph 88 (d), which called for the Environment Programme to “[p]romote a strong science-policy interface, building on existing international instruments, assessments, panels and information networks, including the Global Environment Outlook, as one of the processes aimed at bringing together information and assessment to support informed decision-making”,



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Thank you



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