

Non-traditional data sources for SDGs

Session 3: Complementary data for official statistics

Challenge

- When the Sustainable Development Goals Framework was adopted, most of the SDG Indicators under UNEP Custodianship were **Tier III**: “No *internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicators, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested*”

Progressive monitoring approach (1/2)

Globally available and for which UNEP will produce data products

- Agenda 2030 is a country-led and country owned process
- The environmental dimension of the SDGs was relatively new and nationally derived environmental data has not often been captured
- UNEP proposed a Progressive monitoring approach in the development of the methodologies of the indicators under its custodianship. using globally available data, filling data gaps and enabling countries to more rapidly make progress towards achieving SDG targets

Progressive monitoring approach (2/2)

Globally available and for which UNEP will produce data products

Level 1
Global Data Products

Globally available data and for which UNEP will produce data products

Level 2
Regional & National Data

National data collection in all countries

Level 3
Supplementary Data

Supplementary information

Non-traditional data and the SDGs

Globally available data and for which UNEP produces data products

6.6.1: Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time (remote sensing)

12.6.1: Number of companies publishing sustainability reports (AI NLP)

14.1.1a: Index of Coastal Eutrophication Potential (remote sensing)

- Chlorophyll-a deviations
- Chlorophyll-a anomalies

14.1.1b: Marine plastic debris (remote sensing and Citizen Science)

- Plastic patches greater than 10 meters, for Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction or Total Oceans(remote sensing)
- Beach litter count per km² of coastline (citizen science)

Conclusions

- Non-traditional data should be considered complementary to traditional data, not a replacement and enhance the work toward the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- This comes associated with more work on building capacity on the usage of new techniques and tools by our national counterpart. Building the capacity is a key element of the successful implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

Access the indicator and resources

SDG Indicators Database

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/database>

World Environment Situation Room

[Data, Information and Knowledge on the Environment](#)

Supporting Ocean Sustainable Development Goals

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/7586d96501744b15acca45aa9fcf47c5>

Freshwater Ecosystem Explorer

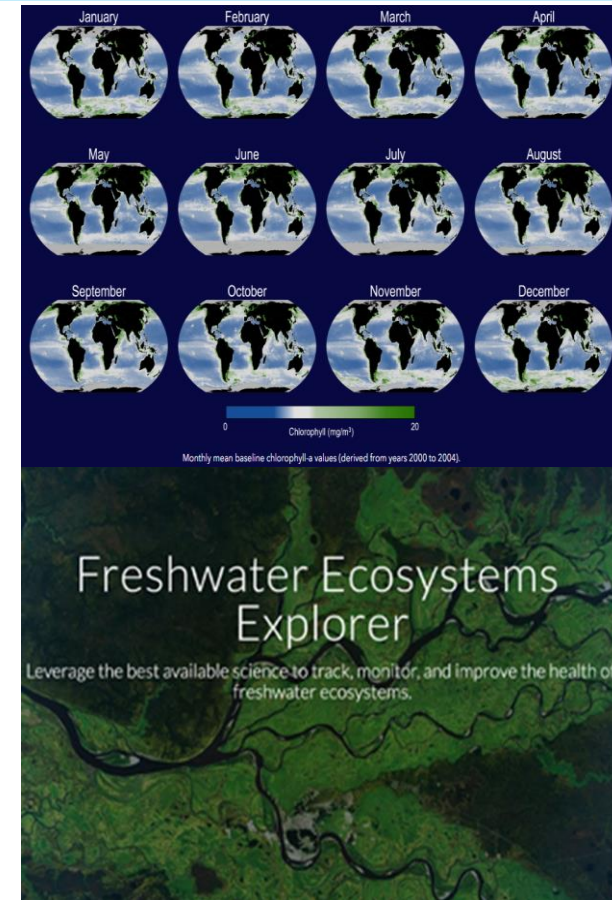
www.sdg661.app

Guidelines for the Monitoring and Assessment of Plastic Litter in the Ocean (GESAMP 2019)

<https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/30009>

Global Community Science Beach Cleanup Guidelines

<https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/42543>



Thank you!



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