

Newsletter Issue #18, July - September 2025

United Nations Office for Sustainable Development
Quarterly Newsletter



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The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) was established in 2011 as a technical arm of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

This issue will cover UNOSD's news, activities, and events from July to September 2025. The newsletter includes not only UNOSD news, but also other useful events, tools, and frameworks related to the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA).

UNOSD Highlights



The 7th Greenhouse Gas Inventory System Training Workshop

15 to 18 July 2025, Almaty, Kazakhstan

UNOSD co-organized the 7th Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory System Training Workshop from 15 to 18 July 2025 in Almaty Kazakhstan with UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency - Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) and hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan. The workshop invited 33 working-level experts from 11 countries who are directly involved in developing national GHG inventories.

The workshop provided an opportunity for countries from the Africa and Asia-Pacific regions to build capacity and engage in policy dialogue on providing a national inventory report of greenhouse gases and utilizing national GHG inventories for the design and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement with an emphasis on improving the collection of activity data in the energy sector as well as considering overlaps in the IPPU (industrial processes and product use) and waste management sectors.

Through the workshop, the participants enhanced their capacity on developing GHG inventory system through deeper understanding of the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) and the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) utilizing the IPCC guidelines and reporting tools. They also gained hands-on experience in collecting, managing and reporting raw activity data and emission factors in the energy sector.

All the information and presentation materials of the event can be accessed [HERE](#).

Event Page



Waste Management and Circular Economy Study Tour for Comoros, Ghana, Madagascar, and Morocco

29 July to 1 August 2025, Incheon, Republic of Korea

UNOSD organized the “Waste Management and Circular Economy Study Tour” for more than twenty country representatives and experts from Comoros, Ghana, Madagascar, and Morocco from 29 July to 1 August 2025 in Incheon, Republic of Korea supported by the Incheon Metropolitan City.

The objective of the study tour was to enhance the capacity of waste management experts by providing practical and theoretical training on strategizing and implementing effective and sustainable waste management practices by reflecting on the Republic of Korea’s development pathway. The participants gained exposure to Korea’s advanced waste management systems through a combination of classroom-based training and structured field visits.

For instance, the participated visited various waste management treatment facilities such as the Korea Environment Corporation, Incheon Environment Corporation, Samyang Ecotech, Hanam Union Park, Mapo Resource Recovery Facility, Nanjido Hanuel Park, Sudokwon Landfill Site, and Goyang Biomass Energy Facility to learn about step-by-step waste management processes from waste generation and separation, to recycling, incineration, and final disposal through landfilling. The study tour offered first-hand insights into innovative practices that could inform the improvement of waste management infrastructure and policies in the respective countries.

All the information and presentation materials of the event can be accessed [HERE](#).



2025 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Youth Summer Camp

19 to 21 August 2025, Seoul, Republic of Korea

UNOSD, in partnership with the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), organized the 2025 SDGs Youth Summer Camp from 19 to 21 August 2025 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The summer camp gathered nearly 30 international youth participants.

The summer camp focused on tackling plastic pollution crisis following key discussions and outcomes of the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-5.1 and 5.2) which aimed to develop a global plastic treaty.

Given this context, the summer camp aimed to build and enhance knowledge of youth on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, foster youth leadership skills with design-thinking, critical-thinking, and engagement through dialogues and exercises on successful plastic-related SDGs implementation, and provide meaningful opportunities for the participants to interact with one another.

During the summer camp, the participants were challenged to create innovative social media messages to raise awareness and encourage accelerated solutions on combating global plastic pollution. UNOSD and GGGI also invited experts and practitioners from international organizations, academia, government sector and the private sector to share their insights on plastic pollution to facilitate productive dialogues and discussions.

All the information and presentation materials of the event can be accessed [HERE](#).



Western Africa Workshop on Waste Management and Circular Economy

26 to 28 August 2025, Accra, Ghana

UNOSD organized the "Western Africa Workshop on Waste Management and the Circular Economy: Bridging data gaps, enhancing technical capacity, and facilitating evidence-based policymaking to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals" from 26 to 28 August 2025 in Accra, Ghana. The workshop was attended by 22 country representatives from 14 countries in the African region.

The workshop enhanced understanding of waste management and circular economy principles, and the importance of data systems to improve data collection, monitoring, and evidence-based policy making using the [Waste Management Policy Support System \(WMPSS\) tools](#), encouraged the Member States to organize national task forces and inter-ministerial coordination to ensure coherent data and policy design and implementation, and generate actionable insights and recommendations to guide the design of sustainable and inclusive waste management systems. The workshop also highlighted the integration of gender, youth and the informal sector in circular economy strategies.

In addition, UNOSD conducted a bilateral meeting with the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Liberia and a bilateral meeting with H.E. Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim, Minister of Local Government, Chieftaincy, and Religious Affairs of Ghana to discuss ongoing collaboration and way forward in the areas of waste management and circular economy.

All the information and presentation materials of the event can be accessed [HERE](#).



National Wetland Inventory Training Programme Module 2: Earth Observation Techniques and Knowledge: Best Practices to Support National Wetland Inventories

8 to 12 September 2025, Incheon, Republic of Korea

UNOSD co-organized the National Wetland Inventory Training Programme Module 2 with the National Institute of Ecology (NIE) of the Republic of Korea and the Secretariat of the Convention of Wetlands from 8 to 12 September in Incheon, Republic of Korea. The training programme invited international experts and practitioners who are engaged in developed national wetland inventories.

In Module 2 of the National Wetland Inventories training, country participants were introduced to spatial wetland data. They were familiarized with key properties of relevant spatial datasets and explore available global data sources through hands-on activities and online presentations. As a result, the participants learned how to create a prototype database and map using open-access GIS tools, as well as how to analyse the strengths and limitations of different spatial products while developing strategies to navigate and overcome technical challenges.

Most importantly, the training programme offered opportunities for experts to engage in peer-to-peer exchange, deepen understanding of building robust national wetland inventories, and acknowledge the critical role of fieldwork in complementing data collection from earth observation.

All the information and presentation materials of the event can be accessed [HERE](#).

Event Page

Upcoming UNOSD Programmes and Events
(October - December 2025)



2025 International Mayors Forum

14 to 16 October 2025, Toyota City, Japan

UN DESA (UNOSD and UNCRD) and UN-Habitat will co-organize the 2025 International Mayors Forum from 14 to 16 October 2025 in Toyota City, Japan in cooperation with the Government of Japan hosted by Toyota City, Japan.

The objective of the International Mayors' Forum is to provide an annual platform to local and regional governments for policy dialogue and knowledge sharing on key aspects related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

The Forum will also serve as a strategic opportunity for local, regional, and national governments to explore ways that can further the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit of the Future's Pact for the Future, the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in 2025, and the Paris Agreement, thereby accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.



2027 Global Sustainable Development Report Asia and the Pacific Regional Consultation

4 to 6 November 2025, Incheon, Republic of Korea

The Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG) of UN DESA will organize the GSDR regional consultation in cooperation with UNOSD and UN ESCAP on November 4-6 2025 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

The consultation will be an opportunity for the IGS to interact with the participants from the Asia and the Pacific region to help compile evidence of key challenges to achieving the SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region, and lessons learned grounded in science that can start to inform a final push to scale up progress to 2030 and beyond.

UN DESA Publications

The Sustainable Development Goals Report
2025



The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2025

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2025 marks the tenth annual stocktaking of global progress toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report reveals real and substantial development gains during the past decade. Since 2015, the world has made notable strides in expanding access to education, improving maternal and child health, and bridging the digital divide.

The full report can be found [HERE](#).

[Read More](#)



SIDS & UN DESA

Partners for a prosperous,
sustainable and resilient future for
small island developing States

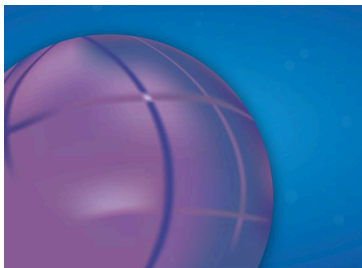
2025

SIDS & UN DESA: Partners for a prosperous, sustainable and resilient future for Small Island Developing States

UN DESA supports and works together with small island developing States (SIDS) on a range of initiatives tailored to the unique sustainable development challenges facing these island nations. This document highlights the ways in which UN DESA provides analysis, capacity development and intergovernmental support in line with the Department's six action areas.

The full report can be found [HERE](#).

[Read More](#)



World Economic Situation and Prospects

SEPTEMBER 2025

World Economic Situation and Prospects 2025 September Update

The world economy is projected to grow by 2.5 per cent in both 2025 and 2026 — below the 2.8 per cent recorded in 2024 and the pre-pandemic average of 3.2 per cent (2010–2019). The 2025 forecast has been raised by 0.1 percentage points since May, while the 2026 outlook is unchanged, with both remaining well below expectations at the start of the year.

The full report can be found [HERE](#).

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