

Newsletter Issue# 13, April - June 2024  
**United Nations Office for Sustainable Development**  
**Quarterly Newsletter**



# UNOSD

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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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 April to June 2024. 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).

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**UNOSD Highlights**



## Under-Secretary-General Mr. Li Junhua Visit to UNOSD

25 June 2024, Incheon, Republic of Korea

On 25 June 2024, Mr. Li Junhua, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of UN DESA, visited the UNOSD office located in Incheon, Republic of Korea. USG Li was briefed on UNOSD's mission and objectives as well as its current work and activities related to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development among developing countries with a focus on SDG-6, 7, 11, 12, 13 and 15 for LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS.

USG Li commended UNOSD team for implementing effective and impactful capacity development programmes as well as demand-driven and tailored policy advisory services to the Member States particularly on climate change, water and sanitation, and waste management. USG Li also remarked on UNOSD's efforts to maximize synergies by working closely with other Division branches and fostering new partnerships with other organizations. Moreover, USG Li encouraged the office to continue its hard work and contribution to realize the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.



## Project "Water in the World We Want" Phase 4 Asia Workshop and Open Discussion at the 2024 Dushanbe Water Conference

11-12 June 2024, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

From 11 to 12 June 2024, UNOSD organized the Asia workshop for the Phase 4 of the Project "Water in the World We Want": Accelerating the achievement of water-related SDGs - Using SDG 6 Policy Support System (SDG-PSS) to support countries for water-related sustainable development " in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

The [SDG 6 Policy Support System \(SDG-PSS\)](#), the key output of this project, was developed during its first phase (2016-2018) to help create evidence on the enabling environment of SDG 6 at the national level in countries with limited or missing data. Five countries – Ghana, Tunisia, Pakistan, Costa Rica, and the Republic of Korea – implemented the first stones of the project in a 'champion system', in which one water-related policymaker and one water professional in each country were responsible for promoting the project and providing coordination for the development of the SDG-PSS, a web-based tool to help navigate limited data conditions, relying on trends, information, and broader estimates.

The workshop aimed to engage more countries in using SDG-PSS to promote multinational collaboration and ensure knowledge exchange for effective use of the tool while informing policy and decision-makers on the enabling environments of SDG-6. In addition, the workshop set the scene for efforts to the extended use of SDG-PSS while addressing challenges in accelerating the achievement of SDG 6.

The workshop was co-organized by UNOSD, United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea (MOE), the Korea Environment Corporation (K-eco), UNESCO International Centre for Water Security and Sustainable Management (UNESCO i-WSSM), the Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-water), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Following the Asia Workshop, UNOSD organized a panel discussion as a side event for the 2024 Dushanbe Water Conference. The panel discussion invited experts and participants from the regional workshop to share the outcomes of the regional workshop and showcase the achievements of the project to interested parties in Dushanbe. The discussion raised an awareness of the project and elaborated on the opportunity for those less familiar with the tool to ask questions and gain an initial understanding of the tool.

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

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## 6th Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory System Training Workshop

28 May - 1 June 2024, Bangkok, Thailand

UNOSD organized the 6th GHG Inventory System Training Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand from 28 May to 1 June 2024. The 6th Greenhouse Gas Inventory System Training

Workshop aimed to provide an opportunity for countries in the Asia-Pacific region 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 NDCs under the Paris Agreement. While Asia, including the Pacific region, emits the largest volume of GHG, producing about half the world's carbon dioxide, member states are still having difficulty managing and collecting the GHG-related data.

With this backdrop, the workshop focused on giving intensive hands-on training on GHG inventories including a demonstration on the estimation and reporting of emissions using the IPCC Inventory Software and its interoperability with the ETF reporting tool for GHG inventories. The workshop also focused on the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), an integral component of Paris Agreement, the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), electronic reporting of the information in the national inventory report and the ETF reporting tools in line with the evolving international climate architecture.

Nearly 50 participants from the government, national research institutions, and academia concerned directly with the development and management of national GHG inventory systems and reporting of national inventory report to the UNFCCC attended the workshop.

This workshop was co-organized by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Department of Climate Change and Environment of Thailand.

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

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## Scoping Mission to Madagascar

12-17 May 2024, Antananarivo, Madagascar

From 12 to 17 May 2024, UNOSD conducted a scoping mission to Madagascar to meet with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) of Madagascar and other organizations to discuss potential collaboration. The scoping mission was organized as a response to the request from the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Madagascar for policy advisory services.

The potential area of collaboration focus on waste management which is a serious and pressing issue in Madagascar. Consequently, Madagascar has been selected as a regional hub for the forthcoming Policy Support System (PSS) on Waste Management and Resource Circularity. Madagascar will serve as a regional focal point and host training workshops in the country. This will demonstrate Madagascar's visibility and commitment on tackling waste management issues.

During the scoping mission, UNOSD held one-day training workshop on "Exploring Practice and Policy for Waste Management and Resource Circularity" on 15 May 2024 to provide a comprehensive overview on policies and practices on waste management by engaging relevant experts from the Korea Environment Corporation (K-eco) and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI).



## 2024 Executive Training Course for Policymakers on the 2030 Agenda for the SDGs

7-10 May 2024, Incheon, Republic of Korea

From 7 to 10 May 2024, UNOSD held the 2024 Executive Training Course for Policymakers on the 2030 Agenda for the SDGs in Incheon, Republic of Korea. The training course gathered around 70 international participants who are responsible for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and development of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) as well as those working on the climate change agenda and development of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) from developing countries including the countries in special situations (LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS).

The main objective of the 2024 Executive Training Course was to enhance the knowledge, skills, mindsets, and overall capacities of member states in implementing sustainable development planning, policymaking, and policy shaping through an integrated approach.

In addition, the training course focused on ensuring accelerated actions for the Decade of Action while emphasizing the importance of a 'whole-of-government' and 'whole-of-society' approach to equip the participants with practical yet transformative policymaking skills for the SDGs and climate action. Each module covered critical concepts and opportunities surrounding the interlinkages between VNRs and NDCs, complemented by concrete policy practices and country cases.

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

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## The Benchmarking Mission of the Namibia National Planning Commission (NPC) to the Republic of Korea

2-5 April 2024, Seoul & Sejong, Republic of Korea

In response to the Namibian Government's request for a benchmarking mission, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) has followed up through the UNOSD to support the formulation of the Sixth National Development Plan (NDP6) and the planning process.

In this regard, UNOSD is facilitated the organization of the benchmarking mission for 20 Namibian public officials who are involved in the development of the NDP6. The program took place from 2 to 5 April 2024 in Seoul and Sejong, Republic of Korea and aimed to enhance Namibia's knowledge and capacity for evidence-based and results-oriented planning, addressing Namibia's expressed challenges and priorities.

For the programme, UNOSD facilitated the Namibian delegation's meetings with various Korean ministries and national agencies located in Sejong, Republic of Korea to learn from Korea's experiences and policies for economic growth and development. The ministries and agencies include the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA), Ministry of Science and ICT (MSIT), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT), and the Korean Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade (KIET).

The benchmarking mission was organized by the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) with the support of the Korean Association for Public Administration (KAPA) and Yonsei University.

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

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## Upcoming UNOSD Programmes and Events (July - September 2024)



### 2024 International Mayors Forum

2-4 July 2024, Jakarta, Indonesia

2024 International Mayors Forum will be held from 2 to 4 July 2024 in Jakarta, Indonesia co-organized by UNOSD, the Special Region of Jakarta, and the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) Asia and the Pacific (ASPAC), and Local2030.



leadership skills with design-thinking, critical-thinking, and engagement through dialogues, lectures, and exercises.



## National Wetlands Inventories (NWI) Training Programme

9-13 September 2024, Seocheon, Republic of Korea

UNOSD, in partnership with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, will organize a series of training programme to support UN Member States and Contracting Parties to the Convention to develop the National Wetlands Inventories (NWI) as a means to improve national capacities on wetlands assessment, monitoring, planning and decision making.



## Mongolia Workshop for Advanced MODFLOW Training

24-26 September 2024, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

UNOSD will organize the Mongolia workshop for Advanced MODFLOW (U.S. Geological Survey modular finite-difference flow model) from 24 to 26 September 2024 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. More details will be updated later.

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## UN DESA Events & Publications



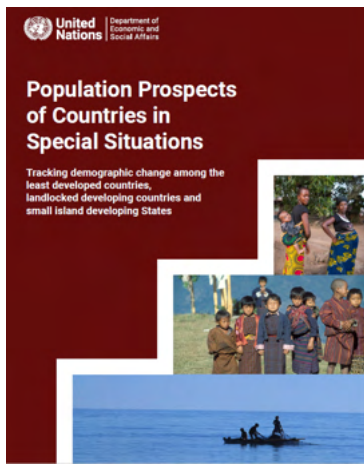
## Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2024

The 2024 Financing for Sustainable Development Report: Financing for Development at a Crossroads finds that financing challenges are at the heart of the crisis and imperil the SDGs and climate action. Only an urgent, large-scale and sustainable investment push can help us achieve our global goals. The report provides a comprehensive report on the challenges and solutions related to financing gaps for sustainable development.

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

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## Population Prospects of Countries in Special Situations

The World Population Ageing 2023 examines the potential of LDCs to benefit from the demographic dividend. Through an analysis of demographic, social, economic and health-related indicators, as well as associated policies and investments, the report assesses the challenges and opportunities of translating favourable demographic trends into economic and developmental gains.

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

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## Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category - Inclusion, Graduation and Special Support Measures

Population Prospects of Countries in Special Situations provides an up-to-date overview of current and future major population trends in the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in connection with the opportunities and challenges these trends present for achieving sustainable development.

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

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