Newsletter, Issue 3, September - December 2021 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 Goas (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 October to December 2021. 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).

New Year's Message from UNOSD

Dear UNOSD Partners and Friends,

On behalf UNOSD, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all partners for their exceptional support for the office which has made our programmes and activities much more meaningful and fruitful. 2021 was particularly a challenging year due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic. Although the pandemic is limiting our office from hosting more interactive forums and events, UNOSD has made vigorous efforts to adapt to the new normal and implement its priorities and mandate to build back better and greener. UNOSD will continue to actively engage stakeholders from all levels of society in accelerating and realizing global agendas namely the 2030 Agenda in the Decade of Action, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2050 Carbon Neutrality, and more sustainable and resilient recovery while leaving no one behind.

In doing so, UNOSD will take more innovative approaches and actions to

provide as much knowledge sharing and capacity building tools and opportunities as possible. However, this would not be possible without multilateral cooperation and partnerships. Hence, UNOSD will enhance existing partnerships and forge new ones to expand its sphere of influence and create synergies with various stakeholders to tackle essential and timely challenges and issues. In this vein, UNOSD would like to encourage its partners to be fully engaged to consolidate such collective action. We fully wish that the momentum we withheld will continue in 2022 to bring closer the end to the pandemic and better future.

To conclude, we wish all UNOSD partners and their families a Happy New Year and we hope you will stay safe and well.

Best Wishes,

Chun Kyoo Park, Head of Office United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD)

UNOSD Highlights & Activities



Side Events at the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)

4-9 November 2021, Glasgow, United Kingdom, Hybrid

During the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties held in Glasgow, United Kingdom, UNOSD organized 3 side events at the SDG Pavilion and the Korea Pavilion to address timely topics on building back better and greener and accelerating progress on GHG emission management and reduction. Various speakers and experts from relevant fields enriched the side events through their insightful knowledge and analysis. During the mission, UNOSD has also strengthened and forged its partnership with other UN offices, governments, and organizations.

#1 Side Event: The role of fossil fuel subsidy reform (FFSR) and renewable energy investment for a green recovery: Building capacities for fossil fuel to renewable energy (FFRE) transition - 4 November 2021 / 12:15 PM - 1:30 PM / SDG Pavilion

#2 Side Event: Green Deals to Accelerate Ecosystem Restoration, Climate Action and Sustainable Development Goals Implementation - 4 November 2021 / 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM / Korea Pavilion

#3 Side Event: "Advancing Greenhouse Gas Inventory Systems" - 9 November 2021 / 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Korea Pavilion

All presentation materials and contents of the event can be accessed <u>HERE</u>.

Event Page





The 4th Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific

5-7 October 2021, Hybrid Suwon Convention Center, Suwon, Republic of Korea

UNOSD participated at the "**4th Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific**" held in Suwon, Republic of Korea. The forum hosted a high-level session on discussing key issues related to strengthening policy support for green recovery in the Asia-Pacific Region, achieving carbon neutrality through nature-based solution, and adopting a communique for enhancing international partnership and solidarity in the Asia-Pacific region. H.E. Ms. Jeoung-ae Han, the Minister of Environment of the Republic Korea and H.E. Mr. Demetrio do Amaral de Carvalho, the Secretary of State for Environment of Timor-Leste visited UNOSD's promotional booth during the forum. Meanwhile, Mr. Chun Kyoo Park, the Head of UNOSD, delivered a keynote speech at the Youth Environmental Innovation Challenge.





UN-ROK 30th Anniversary Event: Policy Dialogue on the Future of Multilateralism and the Role of the Republic of Korea

Friday, 22 October 2021, 09:00-14:30 KST, Online

In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Republic of Korea's membership to the United Nations, UNOSD has participated at the UN-ROK 30th Anniversary Event joined by UN funds and programmes operating in the Republic of Korea together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Association of Korea. The organizations jointly organized a special panel discussion on key challenges to sustainable development and the role of the Republic of Korea in shaping the future of multilateralism. Ms. Yujeong Kim, Senior Development Management Expert, participated as a panelist for the panel session on "Multilateral Climate Action for People and Planet".

Event Page

Upcoming UNOSD Events (July-September 2021)

2022 International Mayors Forum 24-27 January 2022, 20:00-22:30 KST, Online



UNOSD is organizing the **"2022 International Mayors Forum"** to discuss strategies and measures to enhance local governments' knowledge and skills around a series of essential topics to build back better and greener from the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, while also accelerating progress for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. The forum will be held online.



4th Greenhouse Gas Inventory System Training Workshop

22-25 February 2022, Online

Between 22-25 February 2022, UNOSD will organize the "**4th Greenhouse Gas Inventory System Training Workshop**". The workshop will be held online to provide practical training programme for governments, stakeholders, and experts on managing and utilising Greenhouse Gas inventories as a key tool for improving MRVs for GHG emssions and reduction. The details of the workshop will soon be finalized and disseminated on UNOSD website.



UNOSD Internship - Revised

UNOSD offers students and youth with internship opportunity to acquire experiences working at the United Nations and its work environment while making a significant contribution to UNOSD activities and mandate. Starting in 2022, UNOSD will implement new dates and periods for the internships to provide more opportunities to the interns. The revised schedule is as follows:

Winter-Spring Period: mid-December to end of April

Spring-Summer Period: mid April to end of August

Fall-Winter Period: mid-August to end of December

The details of the internship can be found <u>HERE</u>.

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UN Official Reports & UN DESA Publications



Glasgow Climate Pact

The 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties was concluded with nations adopting the Glasgow Climate Pact in aiming to turn the 2020's into a decade of climate action.

The package of decisions consists of a range of agreed items, including strengthened efforts to build resilience to climate change, to curb greenhouse gas emissions and to provide the necessary finance for both. The nations agreed to work to reduce the gap between existing emission reduction plans and what is required to reduce emissions, so that the rise in the global average temperature can be limited to 1.5 degrees.

As part of the package of decisions, nations also completed the Paris Agreement's rulebook on market mechanisms and non-market approaches and the transparent reporting of climate actions.

The full version of the pact can be found <u>HERE</u>.





2021 Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category

The Handbook on the Least Developed Country Category contains comprehensive and authoritative information on criteria defining the category, graduation procedures, and international support measures for LDCs. This new edition contains updates to LDC criteria and procedures as well as new information particularly on "smooth transition" provisions for countries graduating from the LDC category.

The handbook, prepared by the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), is intended for government officials, policymakers, researchers and other stakeholders interested in the LDC category.

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The full report can be found <u>HERE</u>.

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