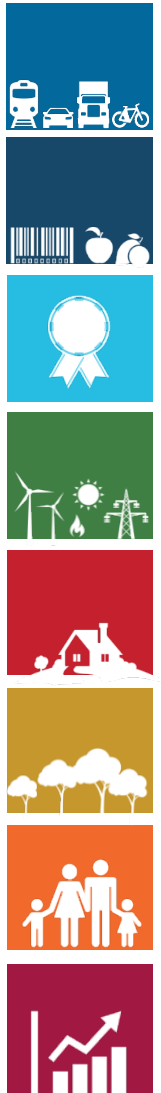




UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews in the countries of Central Asia

EU-Central Asia Working Group on Environment and Climate Change
Brussels, 12-13 February 2020

Antoine Nunes, UNECE



What is an EPR?



Review of progress made by the country in improving environmental policy

- Voluntary
- Done by experts from UNECE member States and international organizations
- Strong involvement of the country under review

Recommendations

- Addressed to the country under review
- Agreed by all UNECE member States

EPRs in Central Asia

ENVIRONMENT



3rd EPR of Kazakhstan (2019)



ENVIRONMENT

Key successes in the past:

Shift to gas started;
Globally threatened species stabilized;
Intensive afforestation, esp. in Aral Sea;
River basin management;
Focus on radioactive waste;
Green economy as a priority

Priorities for the future:

Reform env.payments ;
Modernize power plants;
Support RES;
Extend protected areas;
Water use in agriculture;
Chemicals management;
Modern waste infrastructure;
Address growing non-communicable diseases

3rd EPR of Uzbekistan (2020)



ENVIRONMENT

Key successes in the past:

High attention to Aral Sea;
Works in Amudarya delta;
MSW reforms;
Investments in water supply;
Energy efficiency at
enterprise-level;
Electrification of railways;
Environmental education;
Nationalization of SDGs

Priorities for the future:

Make data publicly available;
Ensure public participation;
Join MEAs;
Improve env. assessment;
Automate monitoring;
Water losses in agriculture;
Support RES – solar;
Industrial wastewater;
Uranium tailings and POPs

Key benefits of EPRs

ENVIRONMENT



- Raise the profile of national environmental authority and environmental policies
- Increase awareness of SDGs
- Provide recommendations on strengthening environmental policies and environmental aspects of sectoral policies
- Provide references/priorities for donors and international organizations

Opportunities for EU-Central Asia cooperation

ENVIRONMENT



- EU support for implementation of EPR recommendations
 - Capacity building
 - Expertise
 - Funding, investments
- EU countries participation in next EPRs in Central Asia
- Participation of EU countries and Central Asian countries to the Expert Group on EPRs



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