

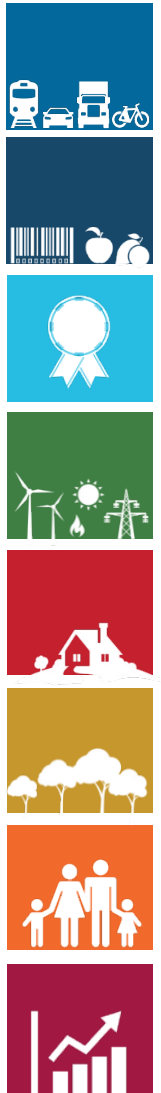


Seventh EU-Central Asia High-Level Conference

“Regional approaches for EPRs”

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Environmental Performance Reviews

Where EPR stands

ENVIRONMENT



1st Cycle

1994 – 2004 (2011); 20 countries



2nd Cycle

2000 – 2013; 18 countries



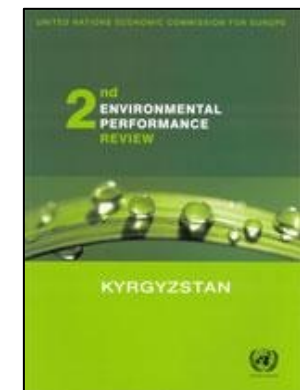
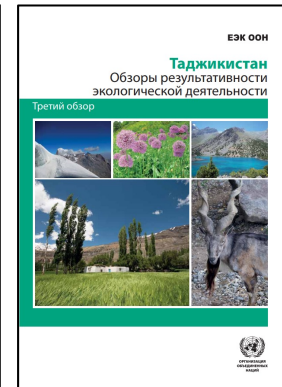
3rd cycle

2012 – ongoing; 16 countries



4th cycle

2023 - ongoing



UNECA: Mauritania (2023), Morocco, 2021, 2012

ESCAP: Mongolia (2017)

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What is a country-level EPR?



ENVIRONMENT

Review of progress made by the country in improving its environmental policy

- Voluntary exercise

Recommendations

- Addressed to the country under review
- Agreed by UNECE member States (Committee on Environmental Policy)
- The reviewed country commits to implementation

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Regional EPR approach

ENVIRONMENT



The call for a regional EPR

Report of the CEP on its twenty-seventh session

- (k) Requested the ECE secretariat to continue activities with a regional approach as follow-up to national environmental performance reviews;
- The EPR session during the Nicosia ministerial provided an opportunity for UNECE countries and Central Asia to discuss a regional EPR
- A regional EPR could only be initiated if Central Asian countries express such an interest to UNECE

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Regional EPR: opportunities and benefits



ENVIRONMENT

The opportunities and benefits of a regional EPR

- Many similar environmental challenges; transboundary issues within CA
- A growing weight of regional cooperation and joint declarations e.g. UN Water Conference, Central Asia Pavillion at Glasgow CoP, joint statements clarify common issues and intent
- A number of large regional platforms e.g. Green Central Asia, CAWEP, Blue Peace, ADB Water Pillar, IKI programmes on nexus and SIPA – a weight of analysis, research and dialogue is ongoing

A regional EPR can draw attention to donors on some of the key regional challenges focussing attention and bringing new programmes to life

- Some regional plans already consulted and approved e.g. Regional Programme for Sustainable Development in CA already adopted
- Other documents e.g. a Regional Adaptation Plan are under discussion
- A regional EPR can inspire similar work in other regions and also be a “go to” reference document for organisations working in Central Asia

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Regional EPR approach



ENVIRONMENT

Approach

A brainstorming meeting between interested development cooperation partners and stakeholders, an early discussion with CA countries needs to inform next steps as ownership is key

A regional approach on some key thematic could work e.g. climate zones (mountains, steppes, cold desert)

Focused on limited number of chapters

If the Regional EPR could be linked to already funded regional programmes, it is likely that donors will be more interested in a coherent regional product rather than a standalone activity

Recommendations should be action focussed, maybe in the form of an action plan and linked to financing opportunities



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