



Introduction

The Science-Policy Forum is an integral component of the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-2), which will convene from 23-27 May 2016 under the overarching theme of *Delivering on the Environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. This is the first time that such a Forum is being organized and provides an excellent opportunity to bring together the different stakeholders from both sides of the science-policy interface.

Objectives of the Forum

The purpose of the Science-Policy Forum is to engage a wide audience of policy-makers, scientists, researchers, and civil society stakeholders in an active discourse on the science and knowledge required to deliver on the environmental dimension of sustainable development. The dialogue will also address the challenges and new opportunities emerging at the science-policy interface with the aim of enhancing a collective understanding across both sides of the interface; strengthening the science-policy dialogue and recommending concrete measures for collective action in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Forum provides an innovative setting in which policy-makers, the research community and knowledge users can hear about the latest findings from UNEP's GEO 6 Regional Assessments and many other new global and thematic assessments and reports and examine how science-policy processes can support future decision-making within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Who should attend?

Policy-makers and advisors; the scientific and research community including citizen scientists; representatives of Member States and Major Groups and Stakeholders engaged in supporting the delivery of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; media and communications specialists.

Expected Outcome

The Science-Policy Forum will prepare a Summary which will be brought forward to the Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum, 21-22 May 2016 and to the second session of the UN Environment Assembly, 23-27 May 2016.

Partners

UNEP is pleased to be working with different networks, initiatives and science communities across the UN, including the UNU, specialist agencies, Future Earth, GEF and GEOSS.

Outline Agenda

The Science -Policy Forum will take place in plenary and breakout sessions, and informal evening events. A number of inspirational speakers will address the various sessions. The Forum will also include a number of product launches.

Thursday 19 May 2016	
Press Conference on Highlights of the Science Policy Forum	
Official opening of the Forum and keynote address by UNEP Executive Director, Achim Steiner	
High-level Panel Discussion: Understanding the challenges and new opportunities at the Science-Policy Interface to deliver on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	
The Forum will then break out into two parallel tracks, each with three sessions of two hours duration, to address the challenges and opportunities in strengthening the science-policy interface across key themes in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	
Sustainable Consumption and Production; Resource Efficiency	Oceans, Coastal Areas and Marine Ecosystems
Lunch break	
Water-Food-Energy Nexus	Natural Capital
Forestry, Mining and Extractives	Air Quality, Urban, Sand and Dust Storms
Evening event	
Friday 20 May 2016	
Launch of UNEP's 2016 Frontier Issues Report	
Sharing Knowledge for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: UNEP Live	
Lunch break	
Highlights of the GEO-6 Regional Assessments and the Global Gender and Environment Outlook Report	
The Science-Policy Interface – Going Forward	
Official closure of the Forum	
Evening event: The Forum Unplugged	

Registration

Formal invitation letters will go out to the constituencies of the partners of the Science-Policy Forum and those engaged in UNEP's activities. Open registration is also available to potential partners and experts who may wish to become involved in delivering the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Further information on the Forum is available here: www.myunea.org