



«ESAC – NUCs Workshop: Statistical priorities in the European context: user perspectives and consultation mechanisms»

“Existing climate adaptation frameworks and the role of Earth Observation (EO)”

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Athens, 26 - 27 March 2025



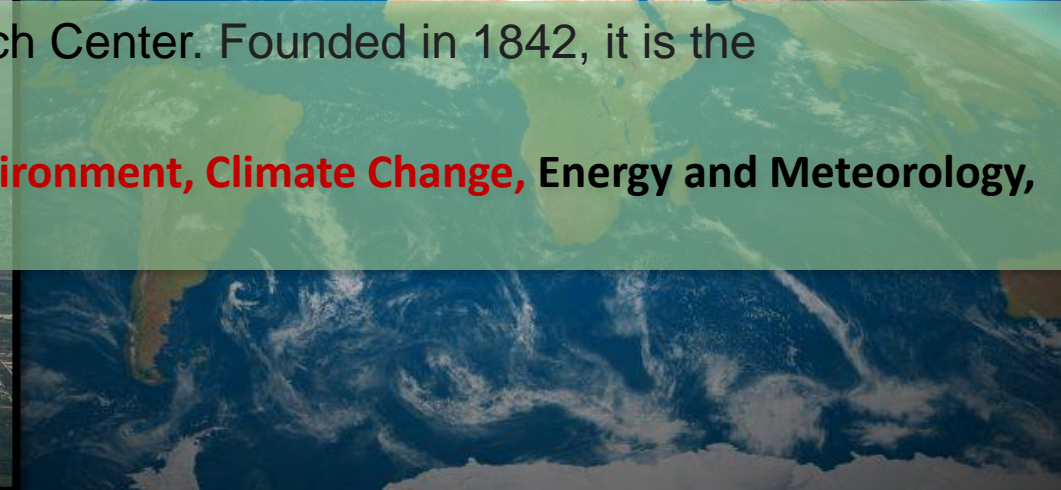


National Observatory of Athens (NOA)



The **National Observatory of Athens (NOA)** is a public law Research Center. Founded in 1842, it is the oldest research foundation in Greece.

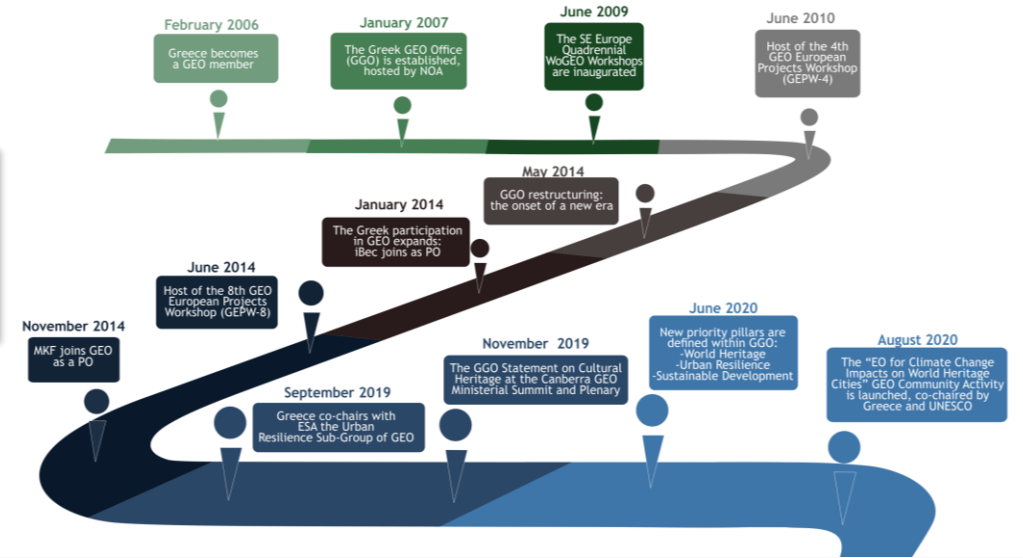
Research in the fields of Astronomy, Astrophysics, **Space applications, Environment, Climate Change**, Energy and Meteorology, Seismology, and Geodynamics.





The Greek GEO Office

The main representative of Greece in the Intergovernmental Initiative of the UN named GEO (Group on Earth Observations) and the national contact point for Earth Observation.



- Leading role in national strategic planning;
- Reference and optimization of EO activities and capacities in the region;
- Promote EO information as an enabler for informed decision making;
- Maximize synergies amongst key EO partners in Greece;
- Play up the leadership of the Greek EO actors at the international stage;
- Synergies in terms of funds raising, capacities and cross-discipline research;
- Foster the exploitation of best practices between EO players.



WHAT IS GEO?

National Governments
100+

Participating Organizations
150+

Work Programme Activities
~50



United Nations



International Institute for Sustainable Development



Sustainable Development Solutions Network
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS



Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data



EARTH OBSERVATIONS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

VISION

Earth Intelligence is universally accessible and our society is empowered to achieve a sustainable future.

MISSION

GEO co-produces user-driven Earth Intelligence solutions that inform better decisions.

OFFER

GEO empowers anyone to use and contribute to Earth Intelligence to make better decisions for people, planet and nature.



GEO EVOLUTION

The future

- **Co-produce transformative programmes** that provide trusted Earth intelligence
- **Increase global equity** through accessible Earth intelligence
- **Integrate new technologies and innovations** into Earth intelligence services
- **Increase the participation of young people**
- **Invest in integrated activities to raise awareness** and resources for Earth intelligence

2005-2015

DATA FOR ALL

Global Earth Observation System of Systems

International sharing and interoperability of Earth observation

User-driven projects

Societal Benefit Areas

2016-2025

SERVICES FOR ALL

Implementation mechanisms: activities, initiatives, flagships and foundational tasks

Regional GEOs

Global engagement priorities

FROM 2025

EARTH INTELLIGENCE FOR ALL

Co-design and integration across value chains and thematic areas

Inclusion, cooperation and equity

Fit-for-purpose operating model



Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)

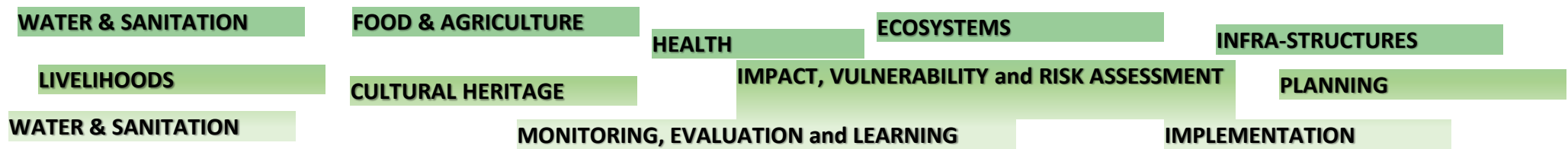
GOAL

Enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2.

OBJECTIVES

The UAE Framework for Global Climate Resilience should guide and strengthen efforts, including long-term transformational and incremental adaptation, towards reducing vulnerability and enhancing adaptive capacity and resilience, as well as the collective well-being of all people, the protection of livelihoods and economies, and the preservation and regeneration of nature, for current and future generations, in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement; should be inclusive in terms of adaptation approaches; and should take into account the best available science and the worldviews and values of Indigenous Peoples, to support the achievement of the GGA.

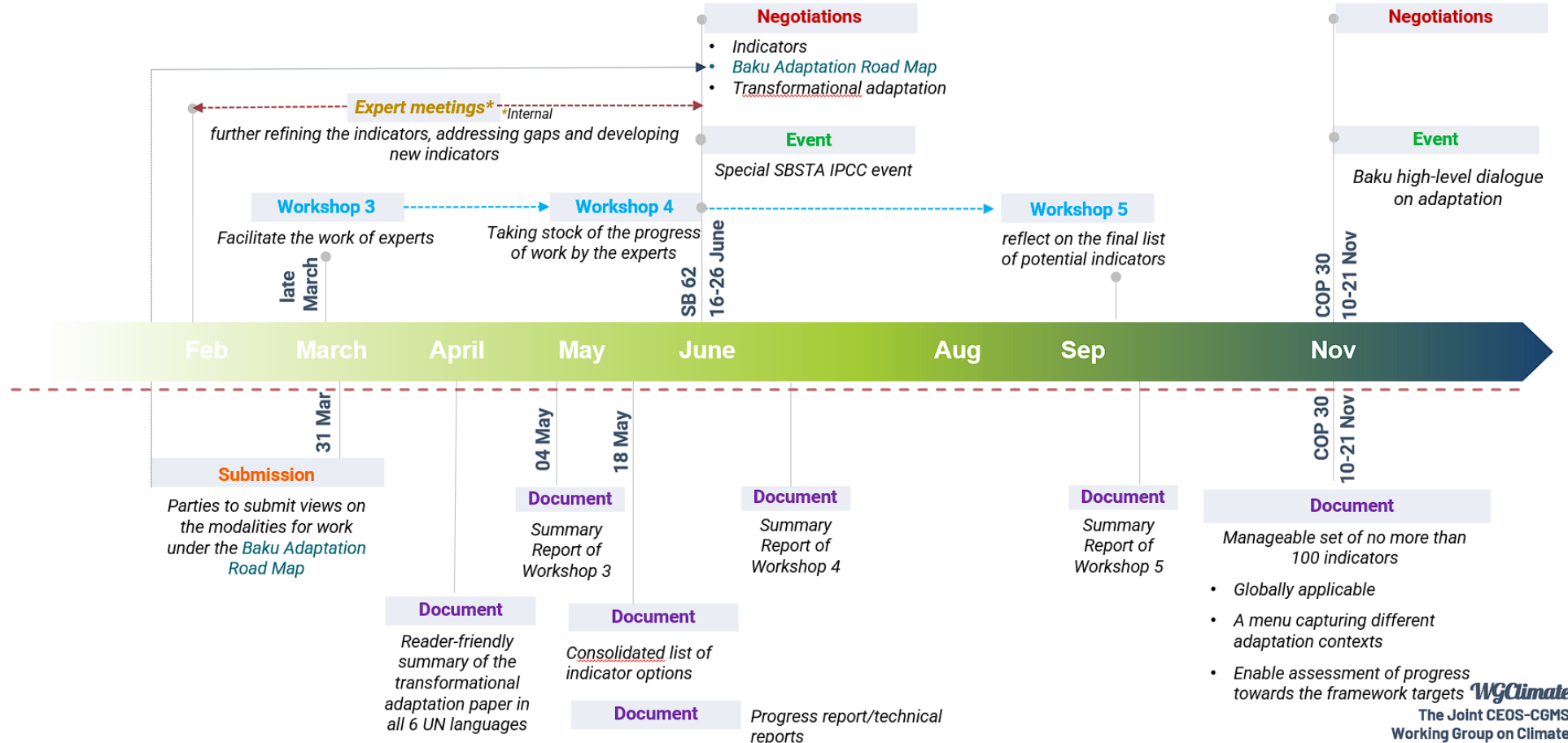
TARGETS



INDICATORS

A two-year UAE–Belém work programme on indicators for measuring progress achieved towards the targets above with a view to identifying and, as needed, developing indicators and potential quantified elements for those targets

Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA)



The European Environment Agency (EEA) is the European pursuant in this process. Criteria for these indicators have been set in [CMA5](#) and [CMA6](#). Approximately 100 Indicators at the end of the process, the SDG equivalent.

Maryam Navi, UNFCCC secretariat, joint WG on Climate between CEOS and CGMS (The Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites). Event: [here](#)



Nature Restoration Law

Official Journal
of the European Union

EN
L series

2024/1991

29.7.2024

REGULATION (EU) 2024/1991 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 24 June 2024

on nature restoration and amending Regulation (EU) 2022/869

ANNEX IV-VI list indicators of interest.

Earth Observation is officially incorporated:

Under Article 2 – Definitions: ‘urban green space’ means the total area of trees, bushes, shrubs, permanent herbaceous vegetation, lichens and mosses, ponds and watercourses found within cities or towns and suburbs, calculated on the basis of data provided by the Copernicus Land Monitoring Service under the Copernicus component of the Union Space Programme, established by Regulation (EU) 2021/696. Convergence between EO and policy is increasing.

ISSN 1831-9424

European Commission

Earth Observation in Support of EU Policies for Biodiversity

A deep-dive assessment of the Knowledge Centre on Earth Observation

Carina A. Gliotone I, Dowell M. Gilmore R, Coll M, Skidmore A, Chirio G, Cairi C, Brink A, Robuchon M, Ferrario I.

2023

EUR 51484 EN

Joint Research Centre

European Commission

Nature Restoration Law
For people, climate, and planet

22 June 2022
#EUGreenDeal

Over half of global GDP depends on nature and the services it provides. Construction, agriculture, food and health sectors all highly depend on it.

More than 75% of global food crops depend on pollinators.

40% of the world's land is degraded. Costs associated with soil degradation in the EU already exceed EUR 50 billion a year.

Our global food systems are responsible for 90% of deforestation, 70% of freshwater use and are the single greatest cause of terrestrial biodiversity loss.

Restoring wetlands, rivers, forests, grasslands, marine ecosystems, and the species they host will help:

- Increase biodiversity and secure the things nature does for free, like cleaning our water and air, pollinating crops, and protecting us from floods.
- Limit global warming to 1.5°C.
- Build up Europe's resilience and strategic autonomy, preventing natural disasters and reducing risks to food security.

New binding targets suggested by the law:

- restore habitats and species protected by the EU nature legislation
- reverse the decline of pollinators by 2030
- no net loss of green urban spaces by 2030 and a minimum of 10% tree canopy cover in European cities
- improved biodiversity on farmland e.g. for grassland butterflies, farmland birds, high-diversity landscape features
- restore drained peatlands
- healthier forests with improved biodiversity
- at least 25.000 km free-flowing rivers by 2030
- restore seagrasses and sea bottoms

Environment

Nature-based solutions

List of more than 370 indicators. It epitomizes the DG-RTD take from several flagship NbS projects on measuring the impact at different scales (per NbS, for the whole city etc., process-based or outcome based).

12 dimensions in total: Climate Resilience, Water Management, Natural and Climate Hazards, Green Space Management, Biodiversity Enhancement, Air Quality, Place Regeneration, Knowledge and Social Capacity Building for Sustainable Urban Transformation, Participatory Planning and Governance, Social Justice and Social Cohesion, Health and Wellbeing, New Economic Opportunities and Green Jobs





JRC vulnerability framework



List of 43 vulnerability (the main target of Adaptation) indicators with Eurostat heavily supporting as a data source. Already feeding the [DRMKC - Risk Data Hub](#).

ISSN 1831-9424

JRC TECHNICAL REPORT

Towards a European wide vulnerability framework

A flexible approach for vulnerability assessment using composite indicators

Eklund, G., Sibilia, A., Salvi, A., Antofie, T-E., Rodomonti, D., Salari, S., Poljansek, K., Marzi, S., Gyenes, Z., Corbane, C.

2023

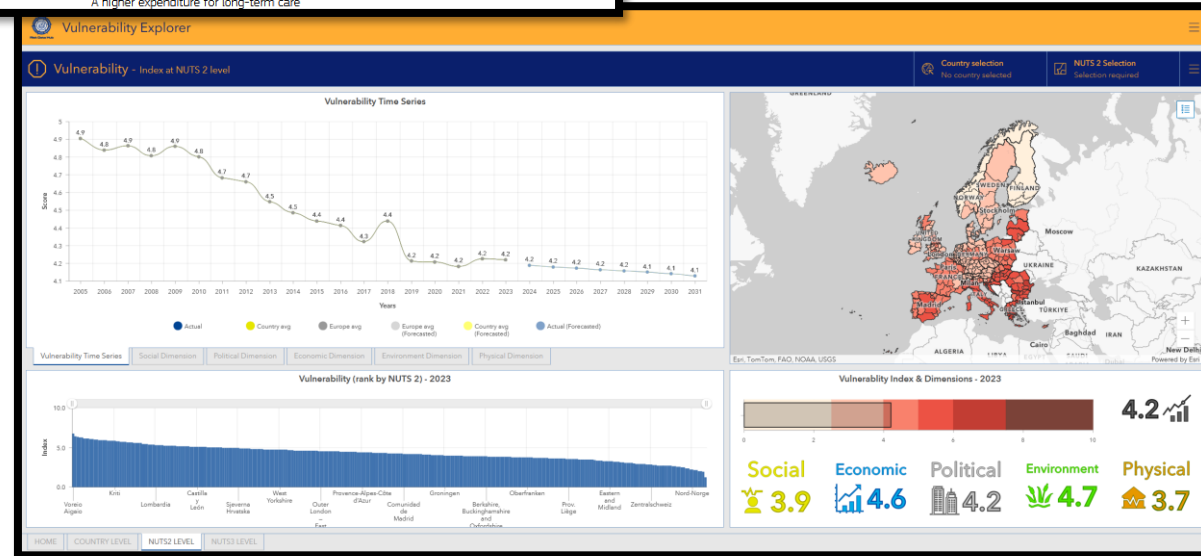
<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC118850>

Annexes

Annex 1. Indicators

Description of the indicators included in the framework. The column *Reference IDs* refers to the IDs of the bibliographic sources contained in **Annex 2**. Each time an indicator is mentioned or its conceptualisation is defined in an article then it is linked to that specific source.

Scale	Hazard-independent Indicator	Description	Type	Sub-type*	Reference IDs
Country	Projected population change	Population change in the future will increase the vulnerability if the population grows. This indicator presents the dynamic of vulnerability. Future projection is used since the current situation is covered by population density and future change has a great impact on vulnerability.	Sensitivity	Cohesion	5, 10, 11, 15, 21, 36, 55, 65
Country	Children at-risk-of-poverty	Children at risk of poverty also indicate a future trend: for children already being at risk of poverty, the likelihood that they will be more vulnerable in terms of financial resources and/or social exclusion should be considered. This can further have an influence on political structures.	Sensitivity	Housing / Cohesion	5, 10, 42, 45, 65
Country	Disabled people with need for assistance	People with need for assistance are more vulnerable because of their dependency. This indicator takes disabled people and people who reported the need for assistance into account since young and old dependency is covered by age-dependency it only covers the working age population (15-64 years). A higher expenditure for long-term care	Sensitivity	Housing / Cohesion	10, 11, 12, 15, 41, 45, 52, 54, 65



Mission Cities

List of 45 indicators. Official indicators mandated by NetZeroCities. Direct outcomes of GHG mitigation action but also co-benefits (poorly monitored). Based on the Covenant of Mayors and CDP-ICLEI practices. Earth Observation and data from the socio-economic domain can support the climate journey of the Mission Cities and beyond.

GHG Emissions/Impact Domain	Impact Subdomain	Indicator
Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)	Total GHG emissions	Total greenhouse gas emissions per year
	Stationary energy	GHG emission per year from stationary energy per year
	Transport	GHG emission from transport per year
	Waste	GHG emission from waste per year
	Industrial processes and product use	GHG emission from industrial processes and product use per year
	Agriculture, forestry and land use (AFOLU)	GHG emission from agriculture, forestry and land use per year
	Grid supplied energy	GHG emission from grid supplied energy per year
	Energy Consumption	Change in the total energy consumption per year
	Energy Efficiency	Change in energy efficiency over the lifetime of the project
	Share of Renewable Energies	Change in the energy mix over the lifetime of the project
	Carbon capture and residual emissions	Amount of permanent sequestration of GHG within city boundary
	GHG emissions	Change of the greenhouse gas emissions per sector during the lifetime of the project
Public Health and Environment	Air quality	Improved air quality
	Noise	Reduction of noise pollution
	Health	Improved physical and mental wellbeing
	Quality of life	Perceived change in the quality of life
Social Inclusion, Innovation, Democracy and Cultural Impact	Citizen & Communities Participation	Improved citizen participation
	Capacity of the public administration	Improvement in skills and awareness
	Social cohesion	Affordability of housing and energy
	Digitalisation	Improved acceptance of digital solutions
	Social Innovation	Number of participative activities implemented per stakeholder group
	Scientific or Communication Outreach of the project	Scientific publications, social campaigns etc
Digitalisation and Smart Urban Technology	Upscaling & Replication	Number of follow-up projects or districts
	Green ICT and Smart Metering	% of households and buildings with reduced energy consumption as a consequence of installing smart energy metres
	Green ICT and Smart Metering	% of households and buildings with reduced water consumption as a consequence of installing smart water meters
	Green ICT and Smart Metering	% of municipal buildings equipped with building energy management systems
	EGovernment	% of city services available online
	Access to information	Business-to-Government (B2G) data sharing
Economy	Urban Data Platforms	Usage of Urban Data Platforms
	Investment in R&I	Improved investments in climate change action
	Skilled Jobs & Employment	Newly created sustainable jobs
	Technological readiness	Number of solutions suggested for implementation in local strategies
	Local Entrepreneurship & Local Businesses	Creation of Start-ups, accelerators or tech innovation
	Increase in Efficiency	Savings in working time achieved
Finance and Investment	Revenues generated	Revenues generated by the project
	Public Spending	Public Capital Invested in Climate Action Projects
	External Financing	Capital Attracted and Invested in Climate Action Projects from External Financing
Resource Efficiency	Capital Efficiency	Emission Reductions Return on Invested Capital
	Waste management and efficiency	Urban waste reduction; Biowaste recovery
	Circular Economy	Re-use of material during construction or renovation
	Water Management	Improved water management
Biodiversity	Land use management	Improved land use management practices (e.g. urban greening)
	Urban Forestry Plantation and Improved Plant Health	Percentage of tree canopy within the city
	Non-Invasive Species and Pollinators	Change in the number of species of birds in built-up areas
Ecological Habitat Connection	Structural connectivity of green spaces	

The screenshot shows the NetZeroCities website interface. At the top, it says "NET ZERO CITIES" with navigation links for "About", "News & Events", "Cities", "Resources", and "The NetZeroCities Portal". Below this, there are three main statistics: "112 Mission Cities", "35 Countries", and "Towards Climate Neutrality by 2030". A grid of four city profiles is displayed, each with a photo and a "FIND OUT MORE" button. The cities shown are Aachen, Germany; Aarhus, Denmark; Amsterdam, Netherlands; and Angers Loire Metropole, France.



KCEO Urban Adaptation Indicators

Framework	Provider
Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities ⁽⁶⁷⁾	United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC)
Sustainable cities and communities — Indicators for resilient cities ISO 37123:2019 ⁽⁶⁸⁾	International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
Repository for Adaptation Indicators ⁽⁶⁹⁾	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Urban Vulnerability Indicators - A joint report of ETC-CCA and ETC-SIA ⁽⁷⁰⁾	European Topic Center (ETC) on Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation / ETC on Spatial Information and Analysis
The Lancet Countdown on health and climate change	Romanello et al. (2022)
Indicators for European cities to assess and monitor the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ⁽⁷¹⁾	European Topic Center ETC/ULS - Urban, Land and Soil systems
Towards a European wide vulnerability framework	Joint Research Center (Eklund et al., 2023)
The climate and ocean risk vulnerability index: Measuring coastal city resilience to inform action	Rouleau et al. (2022)

<https://data.jrc.ec.europa.eu/dataset/41fdfea8-0199-4fc9-83e0-1f960aead367>

Knowledge Center on Earth Observation

List of more than 500 indicators following a top-down approach from a diverse compilation of existing frameworks. Approximately 200 can be monitored and/or supported via Earth Observation.

There are currently no formalized EU-standard or consolidated set of adaptation indicators, especially when addressing the vulnerability dimension of climate-change or -adaptation actions. This work aims to address this gap by delivering an inventory of Urban Climate Adaptation Indicators. It was produced in the framework of the Urban Climate Adaptation Deep Dive by the Knowledge Centre on Earth Observation (KCEO).



Growing collaboration – EIFFEL

Digital portal for building climate change adaptation & mitigation applications

Eiffel
GEOSS APPLICATIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Sustainable Urban Development

Select an Application from the dropdown below:

- App: **Buildings Energy Efficiency** ↓
- App: **Photovoltaic Potential at Rooftops** ↓
- App: **COPERT Road Transport Emissions** ↓
- App: **Air Quality Co-Benefits** ↓

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Developed by DRAXIS

The map shows the Athens metropolitan area with various districts labeled in Greek, including Ερέτρια, Αμάρυνθος, Νέα Παλάτια, Θήβα, Ερυθρές, Δρυμός Πάρνηθας, Μαραθώνας, Νέα Μάκρη, Ραφήνα, Αρτέμιδα, Σκαρामαγκάς, Αθήνα, Πειραιάς, Παιανία, Σπάτα, Κορωπί, Λιμένας Μαρκόπουλου, Καλύβια Θορικού, Αγία Μαρίνα, Κερατέα, Αίγινα, Αίγινα, Αναβύσσοι, Παλαιά Φώκεια, and Λαύριο. Major roads A11, A1, and A6 are also visible.

<https://www.eiffel4climate.eu/>

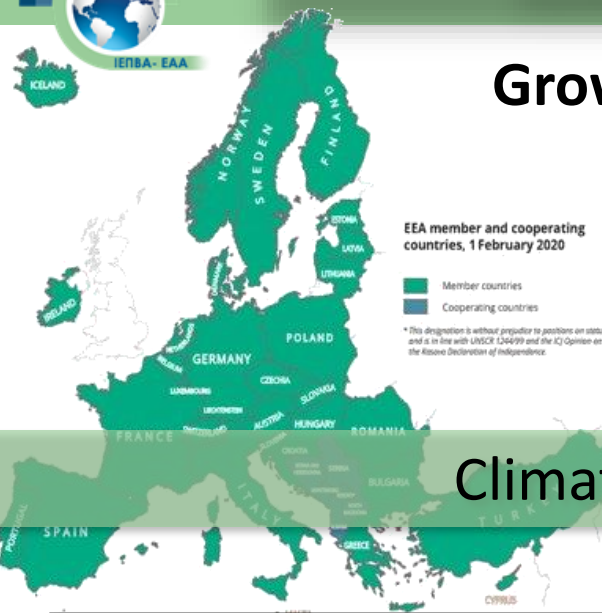
<http://urban-sustainability.apcg.meteo.noa.gr/>

Statistical priorities in the European context: user perspectives and consultation mechanisms

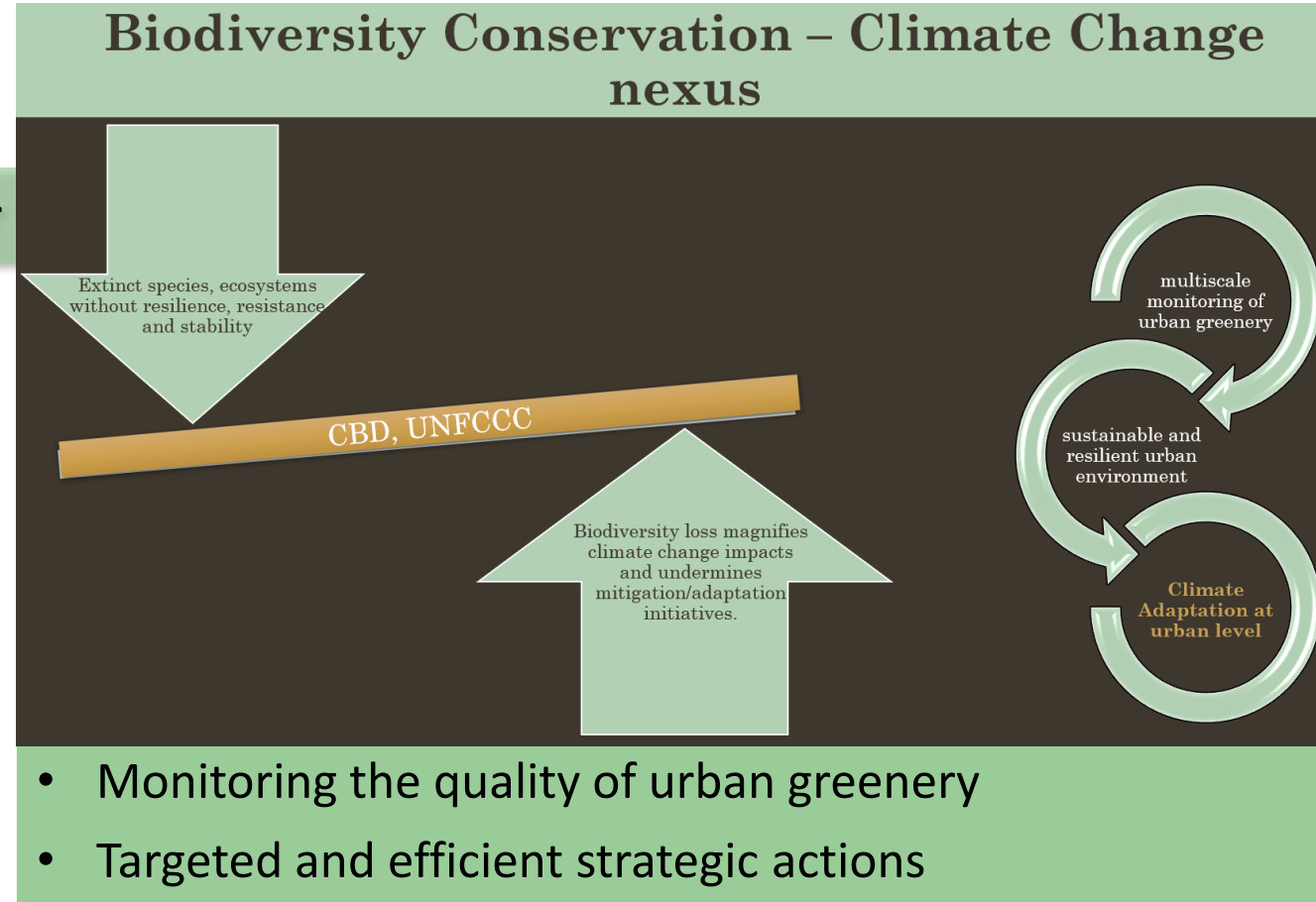
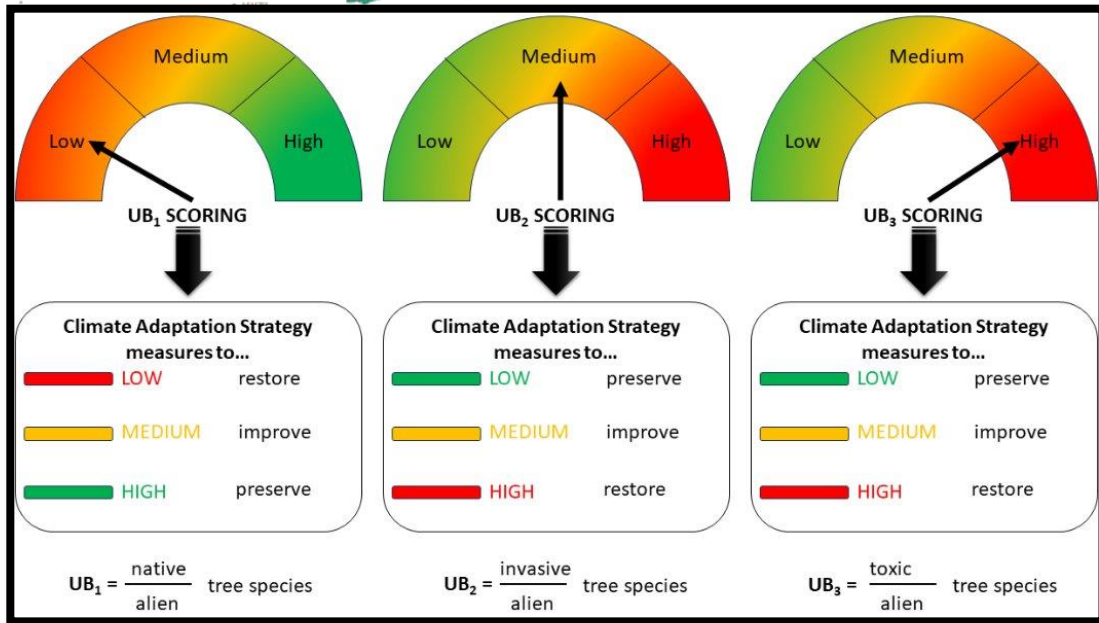
Athens, 26 - 27 March 2025



Growing collaboration – Urban Biodiversity Index for Trees for Climate Adaptation in cities (UBI4T)



Climate Adaptation Indicator

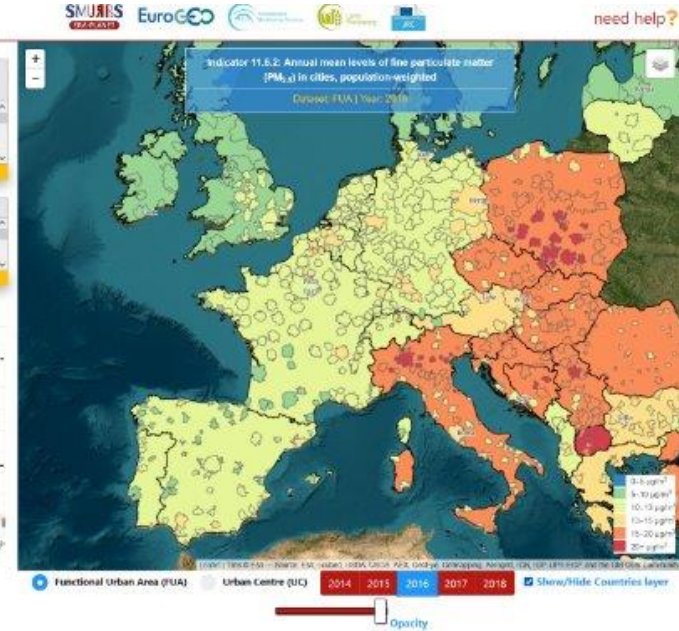
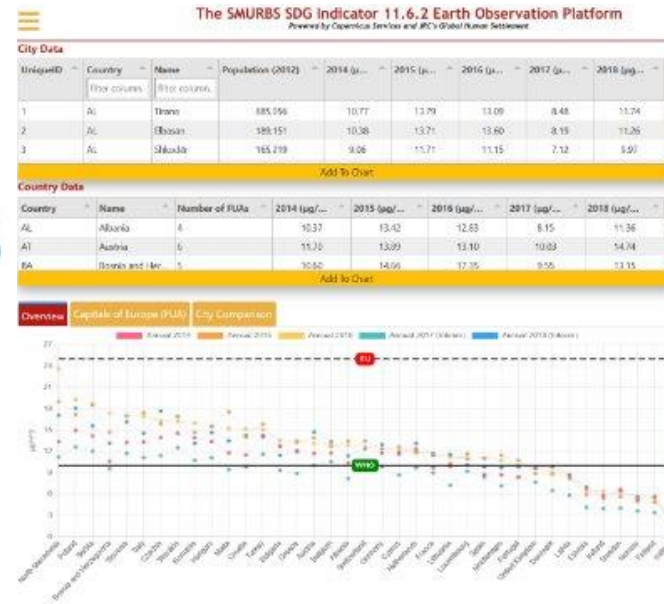


EO in support of SDGs

SMart URBan Solutions for air quality, disasters and city growth



SMURBS new online platform utilizing EO to calculate population weighted air pollution (SDG 11.6.2) over ca. 800 European cities!



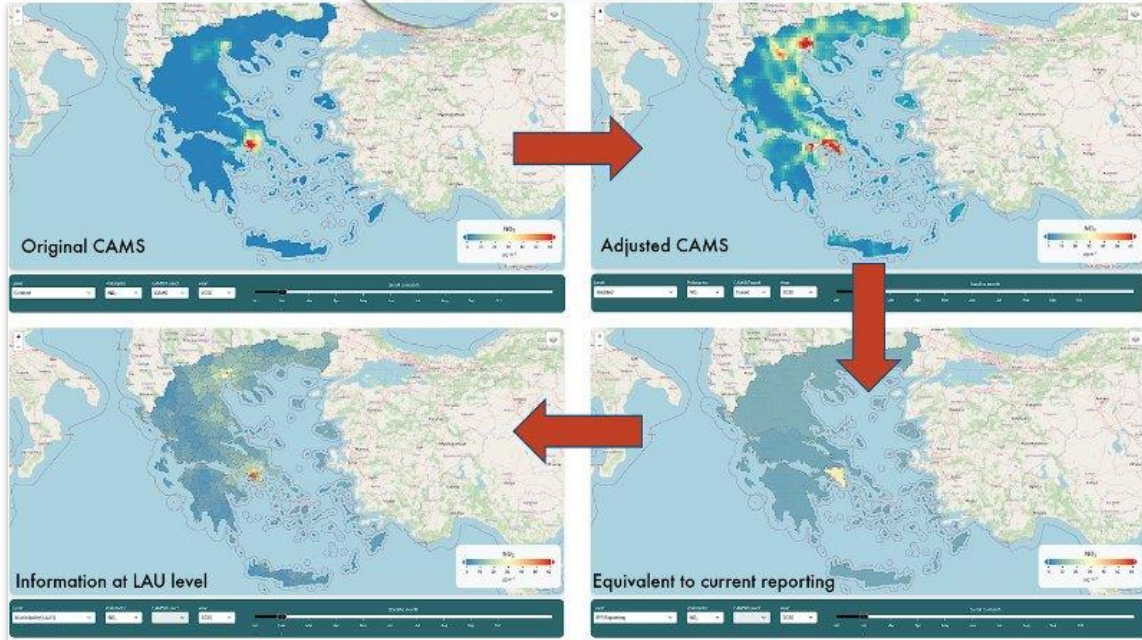
<http://apcg.meteo.noa.gr/sdg1162/>

SMURBS employs multiple EO platforms, augments cross-validated EO information and creates synergies among these platforms for city scale applications and solutions.

<https://smurbs.eu/>



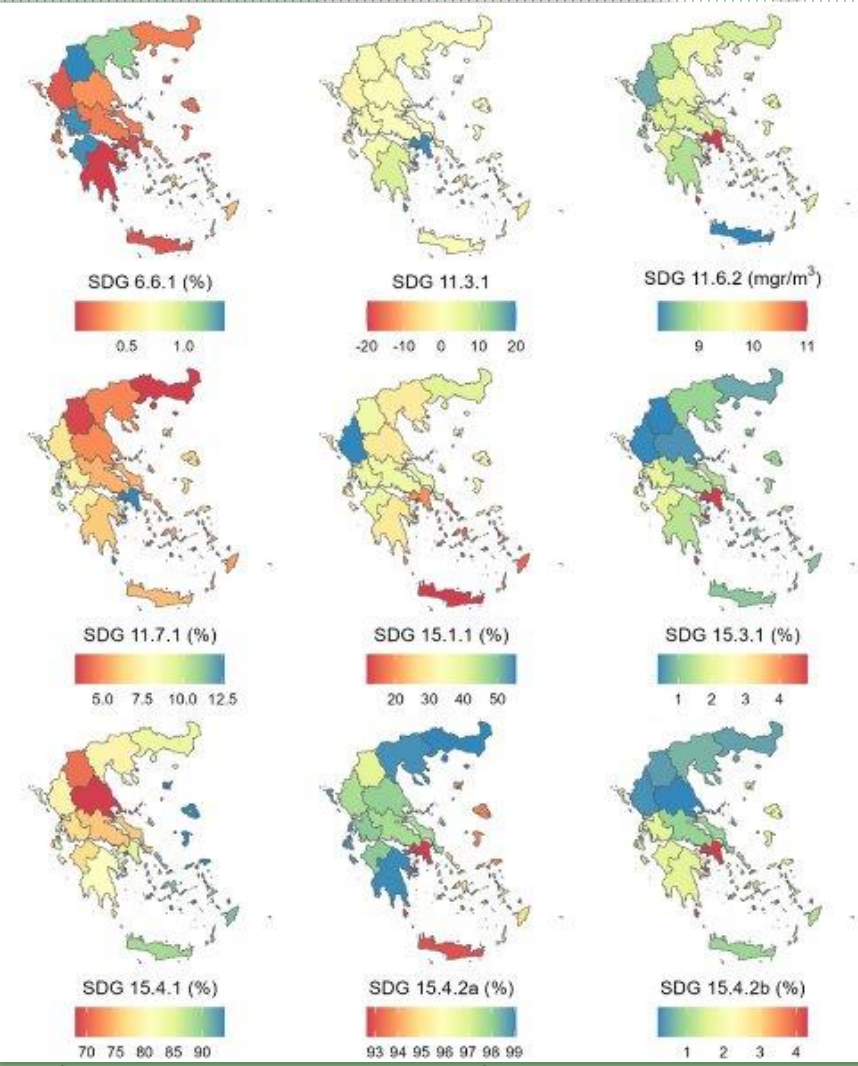
EO in support of SDGs



<https://gauss-aqgreece.ddns.net/>

EO data are an important part of such smart statistics, proving insights into land use, agriculture, urban planning, and air quality, as well as many other applications.

<https://eo4smartstats.com/>



National flagship project to assess the current situation regarding green and digital transition in Greece and develop public policy proposals to advance dual transition.



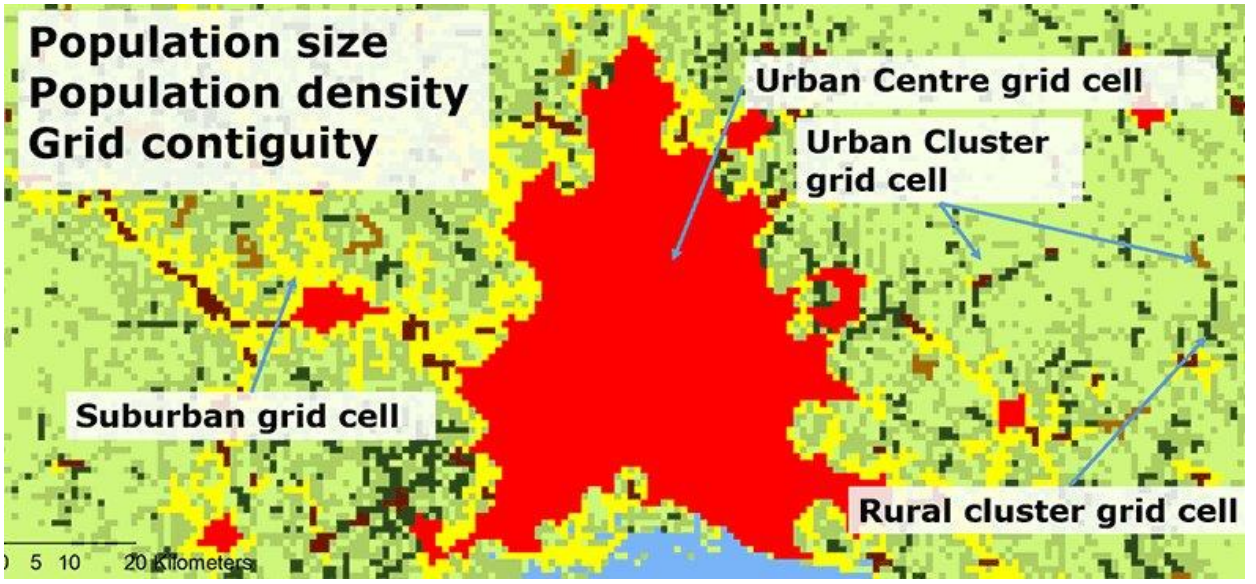
Official Convergence



At the 47th meeting of the European Statistical System Committee the Warsaw Memorandum on Earth Observation for official statistics was adopted.

WARSAW MEMORANDUM
 2021 DGINS Conference on Earth observation for official statistics
 Warsaw, Poland 27-28 October 2021

- Considering:**
1. Increasing needs of statistical information users, mainly resulting from issues that have been escalating in recent years, like climate change and growing devastation of the environment.
 2. Support needed for monitoring and reporting the SDGs indicators at national, regional and local levels, especially for those goals related to the environment and the environmental economic and ecosystem accounts.
 3. The necessity of data for data space initiatives in various fields, particularly the "Green Deal data space", the "Common European agricultural data space", the "Common European industrial (manufacturing) data space", the "Common European mobility data space" and the "Common European energy data space". This also applies to supporting the public administration in decision-making processes such as urban planning, emergency mapping and early warning systems, border and maritime surveillance.
 4. Further improving granularity and quality of statistical information and providing the up-to-date aggregations at the lowest possible levels and ad hoc estimations.
 5. The need to further reduce the burden on respondents, and survey costs by incorporating innovative data collection methods and new sources.
 6. The availability of, which is not equal to unlimited access to, big data, earth observation (including from the Copernicus program), geospatial information etc. allowing producing new and improved statistics.
 7. Strategic orientation of various statistical domains such as the Strategy on Agricultural Statistics 2020 and beyond, which promote new innovative techniques and data sources.
 8. The aim of the Single Market Programme¹ (including European statistics) 2021-2027 to provide timely and comprehensive statistical indicators on regions, including the Union outermost regions, cities and rural areas, and to increasingly use geospatial data and systematically integrate and mainstream geospatial information management into statistical production.
 9. The opportunity of using Earth Observation techniques in various statistical domains, enforcing to expand the knowledge and competence of statisticians, who will contribute to the development of innovative methods in statistics.
 10. Dynamic development of satellite remote sensing techniques, which is already used by many government and scientific institutions.
 11. The need to exploit the full potential of remote sensing data, which engenders the necessity to have access to frequently updated high-resolution data.
 12. That many Member States have already been using satellite data for statistical purposes and see the need for close cooperation and exchange of experiences.





THANK YOU!

***Dr Evangelos Gerasopoulos, Director,
Institute for Environmental Research and Sustainable Development,
National Observatory of Athens***

Athens, 26 - 27 March 2025

