

UNECE Task Force on the Role of NSOs in Achieving National Climate Objectives

Malgorzata Cwiek

Statistical Division

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

10th Meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics

3 October 2023



UNECE



UNECE and Conference of European Statisticians (CES)



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

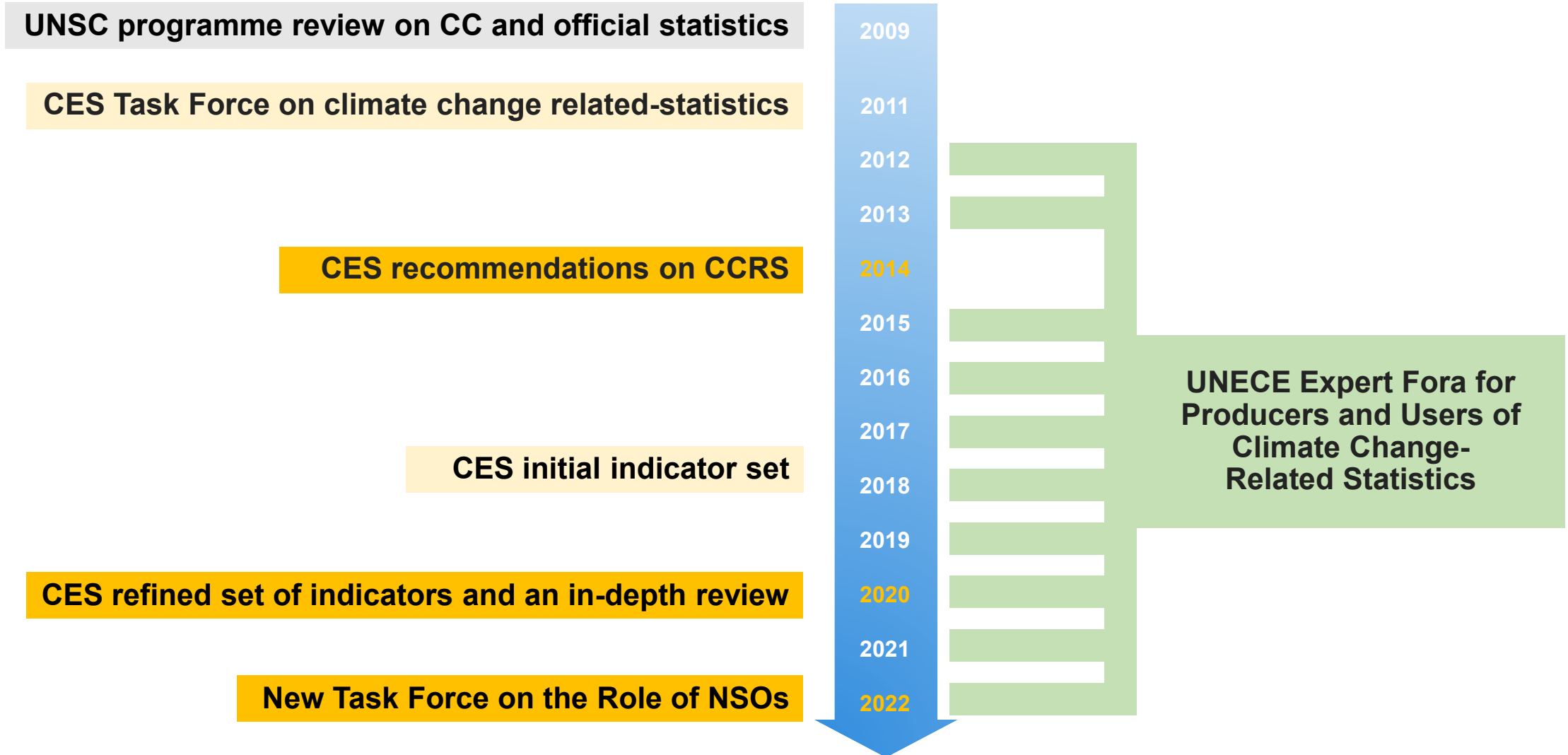
- One of five UN **regional commissions**
- Includes **56 member States** in Europe, North America and Asia
- Part of the **UN Secretariat**

Conference of European Statisticians (CES)

- **One of the oldest international bodies** on statistics
- Founded in 1953; stems from the first Conference of Statistics held under the League of Nations in 1928
- **Steered by the CES Bureau**, composed of Chief Statisticians from 8 countries and 6 international organizations
- In 1991 developed and adopted the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**



UNECE work on climate change-related statistics



Members and objective of the Task Force



UNECE

Active Members (± 30)

- **National statistical offices:** Netherlands (Chair), Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Serbia, Spain, Türkiye, United Kingdom, Ukraine, ...
- **Ministry of Environment / GHG inventory:** Armenia, Belarus, Poland, Costa Rica ...
- **International organizations:** UNFCCC, UNSD, UNEP, UNECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ECA, IMF, IEA, EEA, Eurostat, PARIS21, ...

Objective

Develop guidance on **how NSOs can contribute to achieving national climate objectives** – identify **concrete ways** in which NSOs can be involved and **showcase what the statistical system already offers** to support climate action.

Mission

To inspire and support people working in NSOs who want to start or develop their work in this area.

Guiding principles for the Guidance



Target audience

- **Primary audience: NSOs** who start or develop their working in this area
- Document may also be useful to **data users** (to inform about what NSOs can offer) and **international organizations** as custodians of the frameworks used in the context of CCRS.

The Guidance is planned to:

- **Showcase how NSOs can contribute through**, e.g.: producing data and indicators, helping standardize data produced by others, building up data inventories, coordinating within the statistical office and with other agencies and ministries, knowledge sharing, and improving the accessibility and use of data for informing the public
- Build on **existing resources and materials**
- **Define the main questions about the role of NSOs**, identify **differences** and **similarities** between countries, and the main **challenges**
- **Provide a portfolio of real country examples**, including **statistical activities and products**, **collaborations**, institutional arrangements etc.
- **Not:** Reinvent the wheel, develop new indicators, classifications or frameworks

Organization of work

- Parallel groups established to expedite the work on thematic chapters
- Most of the work carried out by e-mails and videoconferences
- Three in-person meetings

Timeline

- *Completed:*
 - **February 2022** – Task Force established by the CES Bureau
 - **September 2022** – presentation of the work plan and first findings from interviews with climate journalists to the 2022 Expert Forum
 - **August 2023** – presentation of the draft Guidance for consultation to the 2023 Expert Forum
- *Planned:*
 - **January 2024** – submission of the final draft to the CES Bureau
 - **March-April 2024** – consultation with CES member countries and international organizations
 - **June 2024** – endorsement by the CES plenary session

Content of the Guidance



1. Introduction
2. Institutional landscape and the role of NSOs
3. Reporting under the Paris Agreement
4. Meeting information needs of national policymaking on climate change mitigation
5. Meeting information needs of national policymaking on climate change adaptation
6. Data needed to support a just transition
7. Informing the public
8. Climate finance
9. Guidance on cross-cutting issues (coordination, engagement with policymakers, collaboration with researchers, use of geospatial data etc.)
10. Conclusions/recommendations and future work

Each chapter from 3 to 8 examines policy context and identify how NSOs can contribute

Chapters 1-5 and 7 largely completed. Work in progress on chapters 6, 8-10.

Draft Guidance presented to the Expert Forum is available [here](#)

Statistical frameworks and indicator sets



Frameworks

- **Framework for Development of Environment Statistics**
- **System of Environmental-Economic Accounting**
- **International Recommendations for Energy Statistics**
- **IPCC Guidelines for National GHG Inventories**
- **Disaster-Related Statistics Framework**

Indicator sets

- **CES Set of Core Climate Change-Related Statistics and Indicators**
- **Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators**
- **CES Set of Core Disaster-Risk-Related Indicators**
- **Sendai Framework indicators**
- **SDG Global Indicator Framework**

Examples of actors by main stakeholder group



2 (1.5)-degrees goal, adaptation goal and finance goal

Policy goals (e.g. reduction of 55% in 2030)

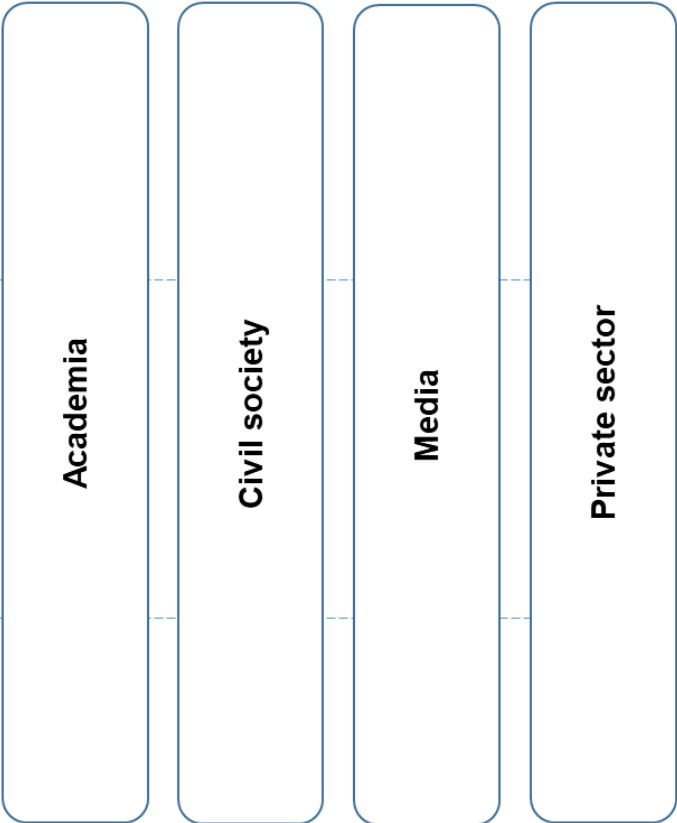
INTERNATIONAL



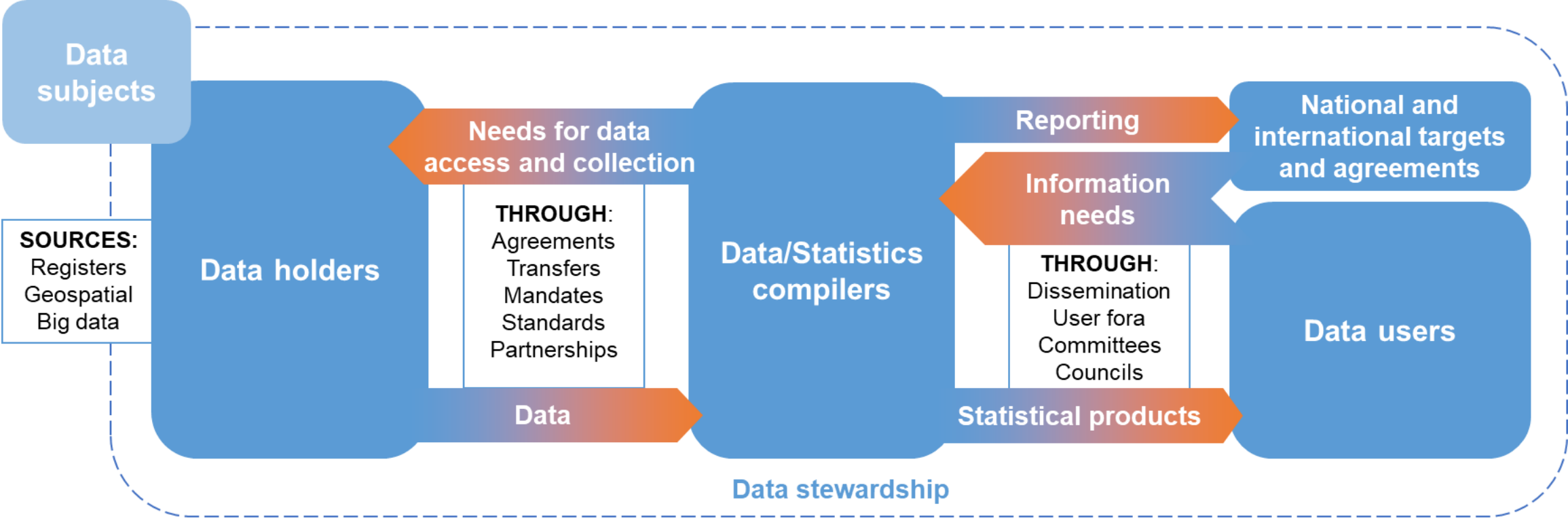
NATIONAL



LOCAL



Roles in producing statistics and data



2023 Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Climate Change-Related Statistics



Thematic sessions

- Producing, **disseminating and communicating** climate change-related statistics and indicators to policymakers and the public
- Informing climate change **mitigation** policies
- Informing climate change **adaptation** policies
- Data needed to support a **just transition**
- Measuring **climate finance** and economic aspects of climate change

In each session, a relevant chapter of the Guidance was presented. **Draft Guidance presented to the Expert Forum is available [here](#)**

Feedback on the Guidance

- The Expert Forum expressed support for the work by the UNECE Task Force on the role of NSOs in achieving national climate objectives completed so far.
- Some recommendations:
 - Develop **different forms of communication** to reach and be effective for the different types of users and accompany them by **user guidance**
 - Be aware and get involved in **the National Adaptation Plan process** in the country
 - A just transition requires statistics and (micro)data on **socio-economic and socio-demographic aspects, and living conditions**; cross-training between statistical domains is needed
 - **Short version** of the Guidance should be developed to accompany the full version
 - Strengthening of **data collection and access** is needed, showcasing policy applications can help justify
 - ... and more

All presentations and papers available on the Expert Forum [website](#)

Next Expert Forum is planned for 28/29-30 August 2024 in Geneva

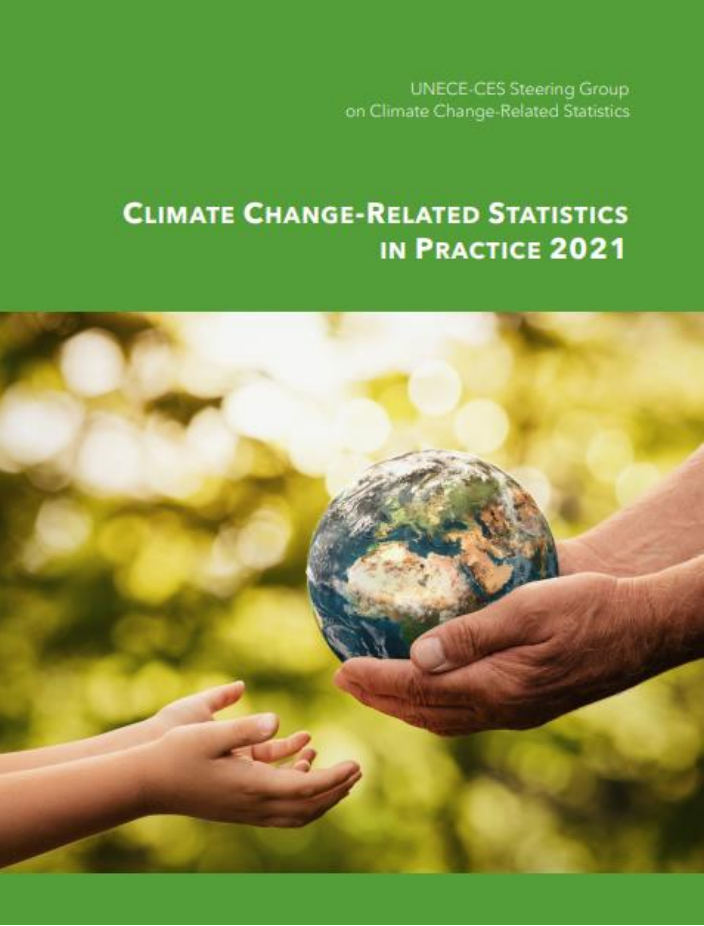
Questions to EGES



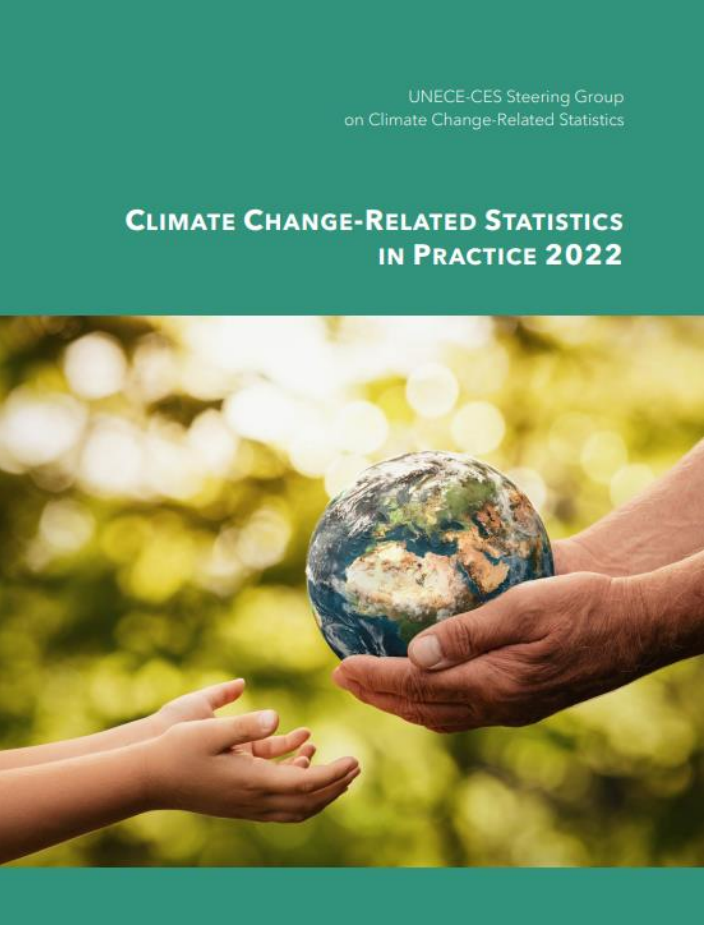
- Does the presented scope of the **Guidance on the role of NSOs** resonate with you and can be helpful for your work?
- Do you have any examples to share with the **Task Force**? In particular needed are:
 - **Linking data** from different sources or domains for climate change adaptation
 - **Geospatially enabled data**
 - **Sharing microdata for research purposes** and collaboration with researchers and academia
 - **Data for just transition**
 - **Climate finance**
 - Governance and coordination of climate change-related statistics
 - **Engagement with policymakers**
 - Policy impacts on the society, perceptions and behaviours
- What do you think are **the most important recommendations** concerning the role of NSOs in achieving national climate objectives?

You can also contact [the UNECE Secretariat](#)

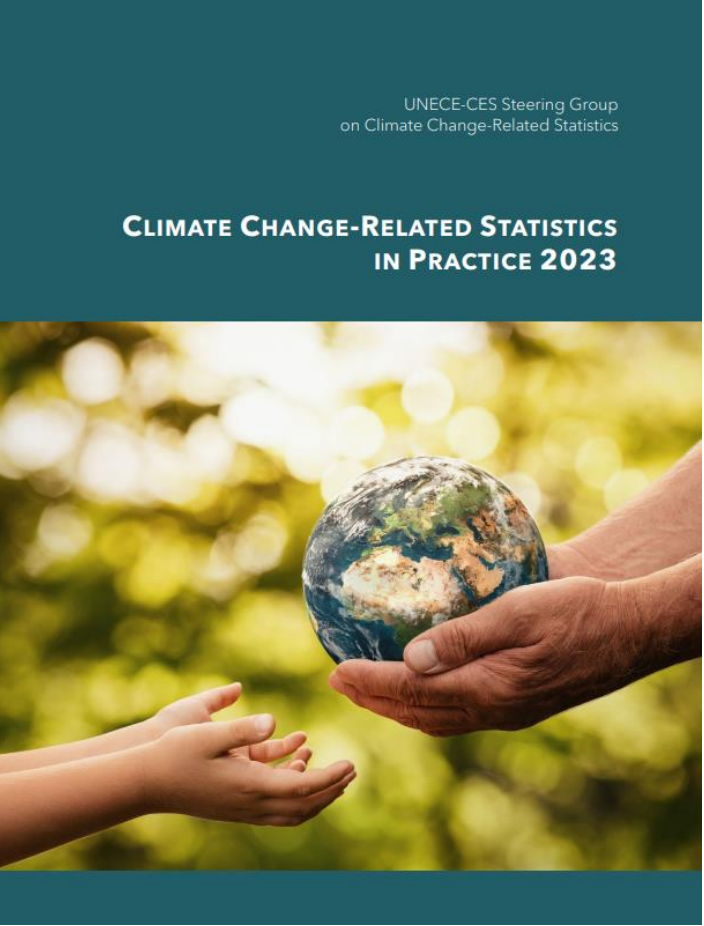
Climate Change-Related Statistics in Practice 2021-2023



[Link to the document](#)



[Link to the document](#)



[Link to the document](#)

Key resources



- [Pages of the past Expert Fora 2012-2023](#)
- [Climate Change-Related Statistics in Practice 2023](#) (August 2023)
- [Climate Change-Related Statistics in Practice 2022](#) (September 2022)
- [Climate Change-Related Statistics in Practice 2021](#) (August 2021)
- [CES Set of Core Climate Change-Related Indicators and Statistics Using SEEA](#) (August 2021)
- [Reporting on climate data and information under the Paris Agreement: A potential opportunity for national statistical offices to get involved](#) (UNFCCC, June 2021)
- [In-depth review on the role of the statistical community in climate action](#) (February 2020)
- [Road maps to improve climate change-related statistics](#) [Word](#) [Russian](#) (March 2017)
- [Leaflet summarizing the CES Recommendations](#) also in [Russian](#) (October 2016)
- [CES Recommendations on Climate Change-related Statistics](#) (December 2014)

All the resources available [on the web](#)

Thank you!

Malgorzata Cwiek
cwiek@un.org

3 October 2023

