

Initiatives and updates from the PRTR Protocol Secretariat

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Process of ratification

- Latest three ratifications:

Malta, Ukraine and since October 2017

Montenegro became Parties to the Protocol on
PRTRs

International PRTR Coordinating Group

- Aim is to improve coordination between international organizations, Governments and other interested parties in their ongoing and planned efforts related to the further development and implementation of PRTR systems
- Current topics:
 - The scope of PRTRs in the context of **new developments with regard to use of chemical substances and further harmonization** of different PRTR systems and issues of data equivalence
 - Good practices for a successful **PRTR awareness campaigns** and interactive, data visualization options for communicating/presenting PRTR information
 - How to improve leverage of the existing online **PRTR-related websites** under the auspices of ECE, OECD and UNITAR / future architecture of the existing websites

Link with other MEAs and initiatives

- PRTRs develop their potential when used for multiple reporting obligations and across sectors making best use of synergies
- At the international level we promote the use of PRTR for the sound management of chemicals
- Strong linkage with other Multilateral Environmental Agreements and initiatives:
 - E.g. link with the Stockholm convention and its reporting mechanism
 - Also including Minamata Convention and UNFCCC Climate Change related

Sustainable Development Goals

- Protocol is a fundamental tool for fact-based, informed SDG-related decision-making and for tracking success in achieving SDGs



- PRTRs have a twofold role as (a) reporting tool and (b) source of pollution-related data
- The Protocol contributes to the prevention and reduction of pollution by increasing transparency and by encouraging improvements in environmental performance in production and consumption

Role of Protocol on PRTRs in implementing SDGs

- Monitoring pollutant releases to water, air and land over time
- Providing electronic tool with information that decision-makers need to identify and scale up possible actions in their field of authority
- Making information on pollution releases and waste transfers public has lead to companies reducing their pollution and identifying smarter production methods
- Making PRTR data more useful through combination with other types of information (e.g. health, infrastructure, demographic and economic data)



EU shows diffuse pollutant emissions to water through electronic maps as part of their E-PRTR



Israel used PRTR air emission data to account for health risks at the planning stage of an industrial zone



Sweden makes available emission data on air quality for easy use by pupils

Norway added energy consumption, production volumes and data on emissions from consumer products to their PRTR



Serbia made reporting data to the government more easy and better quality by using its PRTR as a modular device for reporting on different international reporting obligations

Sustainable Development Goals

- Budva declaration
(https://www.unece.org/env/pp/aarhusprtr/mopp6mopp3_hls.html)
- OECD's Framework on the Application of PRTRs to Global Sustainability Analyses
- SDGs also a focus of upcoming GRT-3
- PRTRs link e.g. with Goals 3, 6, 9 and 12 but also including 16.10

Up-coming meetings

- Third **Global round table on PRTRs** in Geneva, 7-8 November 2018
 - Exchange of good practices
 - Share knowledge
 - Discuss challenges and how to overcome hurdles
 - Focus on SDGs and knowledge sharing and communication strategies
- Next session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2021

Protocol's strategic plan

- Progress in implementing the strategic plan for 2015–2020
- Possible future strategic plan for the period of 2021-2029 and development of the Protocol

Evaluation of the success of the Protocol

- Evaluation of the success of the Protocol and the development of indicators

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/prtr.html>

<http://www.prtr.net/>



Thank you for your attention!