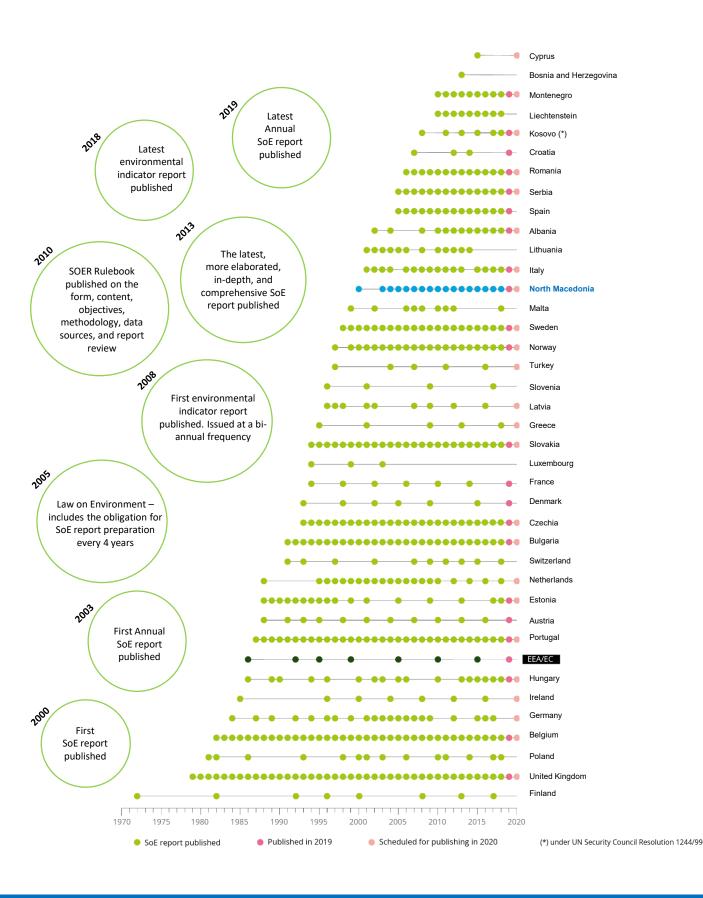
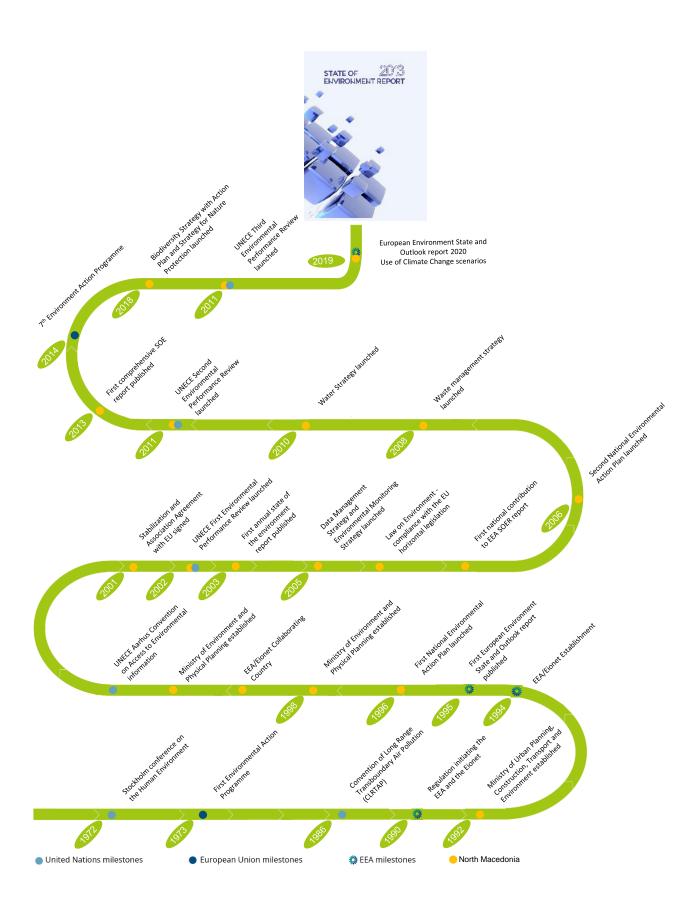
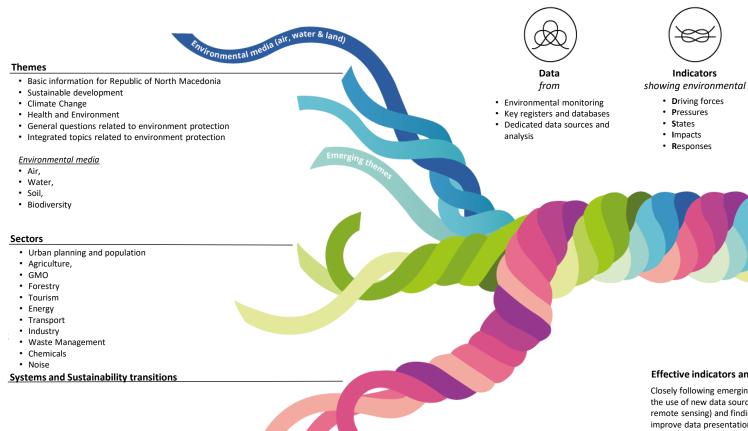
NORTH MACEDONIA

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING





State of the environment tools and building blocks





Scoreboards giving insight in

- · Environmental trends
- · Policy progress



Assessments providing knowledge on

- · State and past trends
- · Trends and forward looking
- Recommendations



Foresight processes providing insights from

- Projections
- · Environmental trends

Effective indicators and evidence base

Closely following emerging themes, applying the use of new data sources (citizen science, remote sensing) and finding ways to improve data presentation with latest available visualisation tools (infographics)

Open and accessible knowledge

Social media communication and outreach, aiming towards interactive data visualisation

Innovative sustainability assessments

Finding the pathways and models to link indicators to SDG's and better address long term systemic challenges

Moving towards Integrated Environmental Assessments by using climate change modelling, scenarios, forward-looking methodologies and foresight tools

Advances in national state of the environment reporting

20 years of State of the Environment reporting in Republic of North Macedonia

All state of environment reports are prepared in accordance with the obligations under the Law on Environment, whereby the Macedonian Environmental Information Center, a Department in the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, is responsible for collecting and processing data, as well as reporting and disseminating the state of environment reports.

In general, two types of State of Environment Reports can be distinguished in North Macedonia: indicator-based reports and thematic environmental assessments.

The Annual State of Environment Reports for the Republic of North Macedonia are produced and published annually, since 2003, only in Macedonian language. Also, a more in depth, elaborated and comprehensive SOER report is to be published every fourth year, but has only been produced in 2000 and 2013. The Environmental Indicator reports are being published every two years, since 2008 and the Environmental Statistic reports are also being published every two years, since 2007.

Aside from the Annual reports, all others are published in Macedonian and English language. The reports are focused towards the national policy making processes, aiming to support the strategic priorities and goals adopted by the national government, thus supporting the efforts to align with and implement the EU environmental agenda.

The character, form and content of the Annual State of Environment Reports is prescribed in the Rulebook for the form, content, targets, methodology, data sources, and report assessment. Usually the Annual State of Environment Reports is divided in 4 parts: General, Separate topics, Environmental media and Environmental impacts. Each section contains: introduction, state and trends, assessment and forward-looking aspects and recommendations.

Environmental reporting via indicators is an ambitious undertaking - to produce a report, a picture of the environment presented through quantitative data as much as possible, acquired through scientifically-based measurements and analysis, indicating the sources, causes, consequences and trends of specific conditions. All indicators in a set have been classified in accordance with the DPSIR framework, comprising the following concepts: Driving forces — Pressures - State — Impacts — Responses, where each phase transmits its own meaning.

I would certainly highlight the mutual efforts by our colleagues from our Ministry, who have assisted me in providing timely, reliable and quality assured information and data – relevant for producing a quality state of environment report in North Macedonia. Also, the last comprehensive State of Environment Report, covered all of the relevant environmental media for which reliable quality data and information could be found.

The long-term cooperation with the European Environment Agency and the Eionet countries has allowed us to move into a sufficient and effective capacity building process, with our aim to move towards full implementation of the defined thematic chapters, outlined in the SOER, and adopted under the national sub-legislation acts. This will complete the process, allowing the national experts to further move towards production of Integrated Environmental Assessments, whereby not only the state of environment is assessed, but also the outlook and prospects for the future state of environment.

Source: Macedonian Environmental Information Center