

The United Nations Environment Programme

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is the overall coordinating environmental organization of the United Nations system. Its mission is to provide leadership and encourage partnerships in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and people to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations.

UNEP's Economics and Trade Branch (ETB) is one of the branches of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE). Its mission is to enhance capacities of countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and to integrate environmental considerations in development planning and macroeconomic policies, including trade policies. The work programme of the Branch consists of three main components: economics, trade and financial services. The Economics component of the programme focuses on enhancing the capacities of countries, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to develop and implement assessment tools and economic instruments.

UNEP's work on assessments includes the further development and promotion of environmental impact assessment as an effective tool to integrate environmental considerations at the project, programme and policy levels to achieve sustainable development.

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