



# Implementation of the SDGs and Review of Progress

## A Regional Perspective

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# Functions of the five UN Regional Commissions



## Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

(54 mS\* // Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)



## Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

(56 mS\* // Geneva, Switzerland)



## Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

(46 mS\* // Santiago, Chile)



## Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

(53 mS\* // Bangkok, Thailand)



## Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

(18 mS\* // Beirut, Lebanon)

*\*mS: member States*

- **Mandates and areas of work differ**
- **Three core functions in common:**
  - **Convening function**
  - **Think tank function**
  - **Operational function**
- **Policy integrators of the 2030 Agenda at the regional level**

# Regional Commissions' support to SDG implementation



## Examples:



### **Intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meetings**

(Regional Forums, meetings of parties to Conventions, technical working groups)



**Policy research** (new publication on 'promoting equality' led by ESCAP; economic surveys, transboundary nexus approach in river basins led by ECE; SDG baseline and progress reports)



**Operational activities** (SDG Help Desk in ESCAP, technical and advisory missions and training activities; capacity-building workshops)



**Development of norms, standards and conventions in ECE**



**Cooperation with partners at the national, regional and global levels**

# UNECE's role in SDG implementation



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**Alignment of work programme** with the SDGs



**Regional Forum** on Sustainable Development



**Technical cooperation** in 17 'programme countries'



**Statistical methodologies** for SDGs

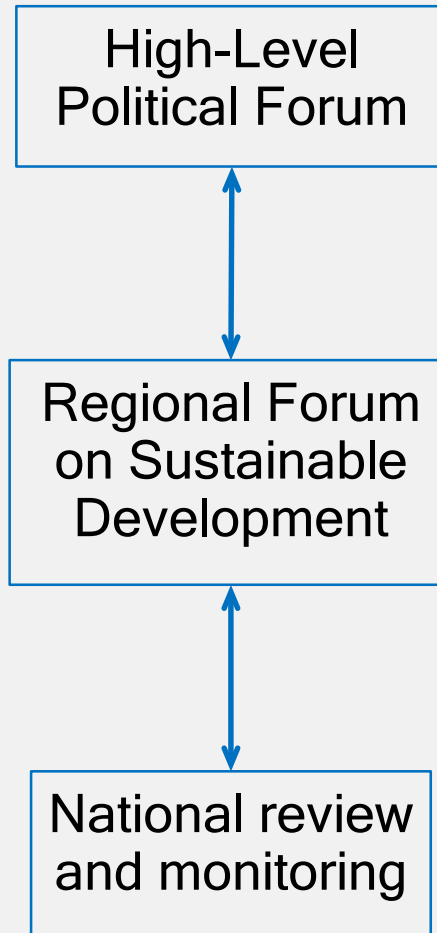


**Coordination** (subregional, regional, interregional)



Creating **new partnerships**

# SDG follow-up and review



# Initial steps and challenges in SDG implementation



## **Institutional and coordination structures**

(National Sustainable Development Councils, interministerial structures)



## **Integration in policy and legal frameworks**

(new or updated National Sustainable Development Strategies)



## **Assessment of SDG gaps**



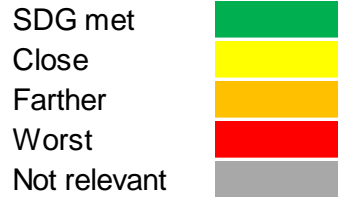
## **Challenges**

(SDG awareness, stakeholder engagement, policy integration and linkages, data, finance, structural challenges)

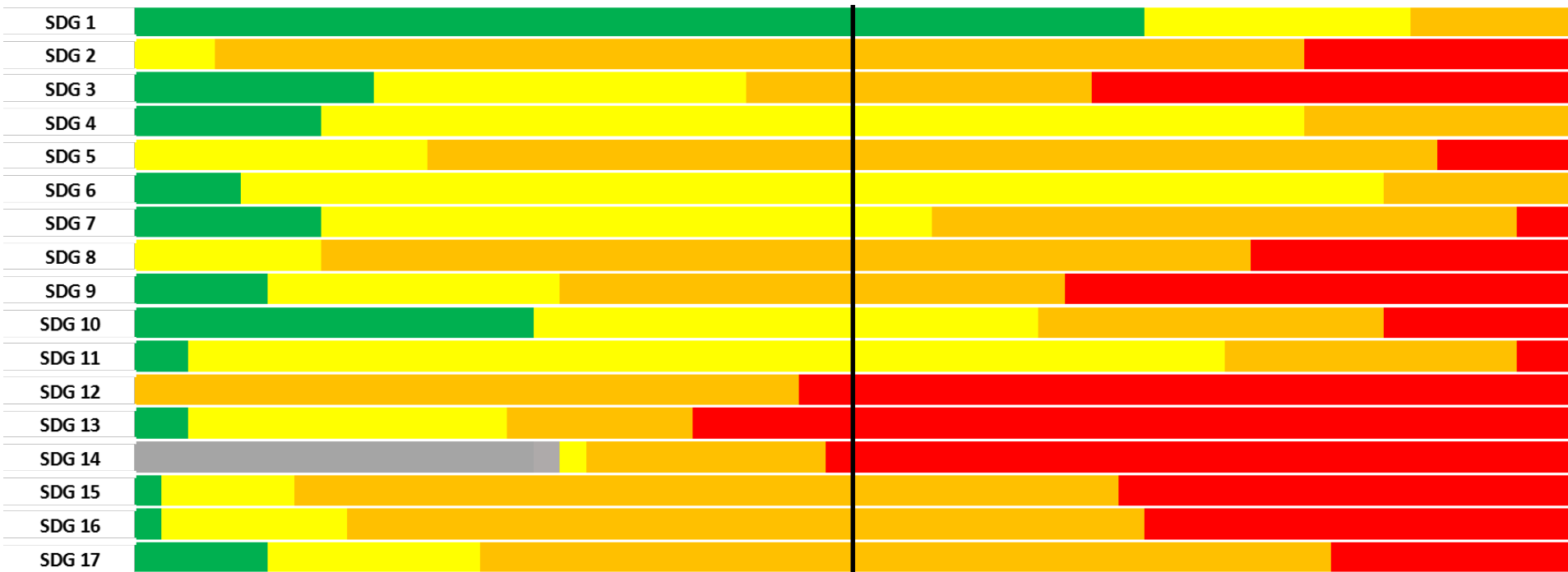
# SDG performance in the UNECE region at a glance



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Half of countries

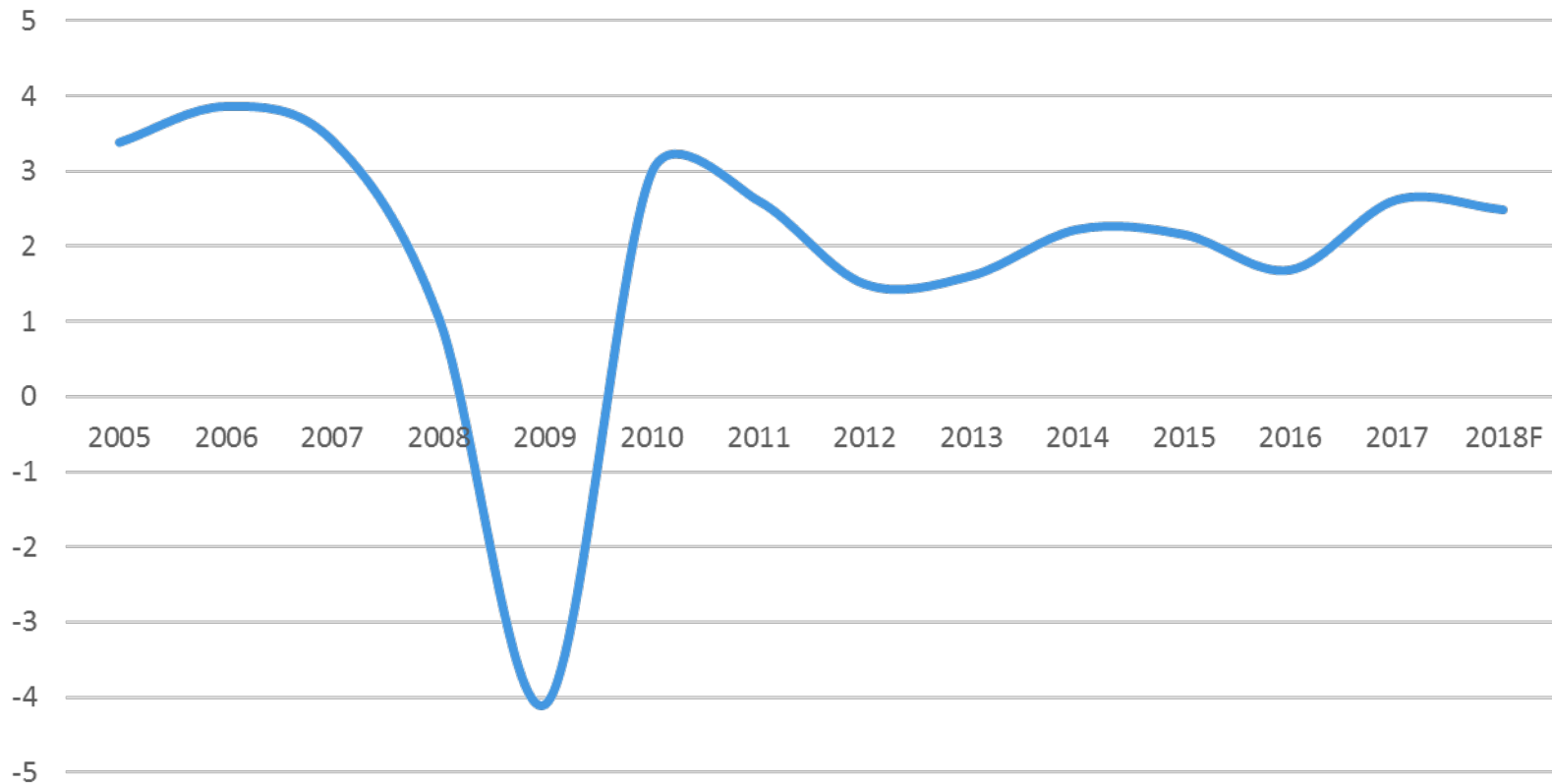


# Economic performance has improved but fragilities remain



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Annual GDP growth, percentages



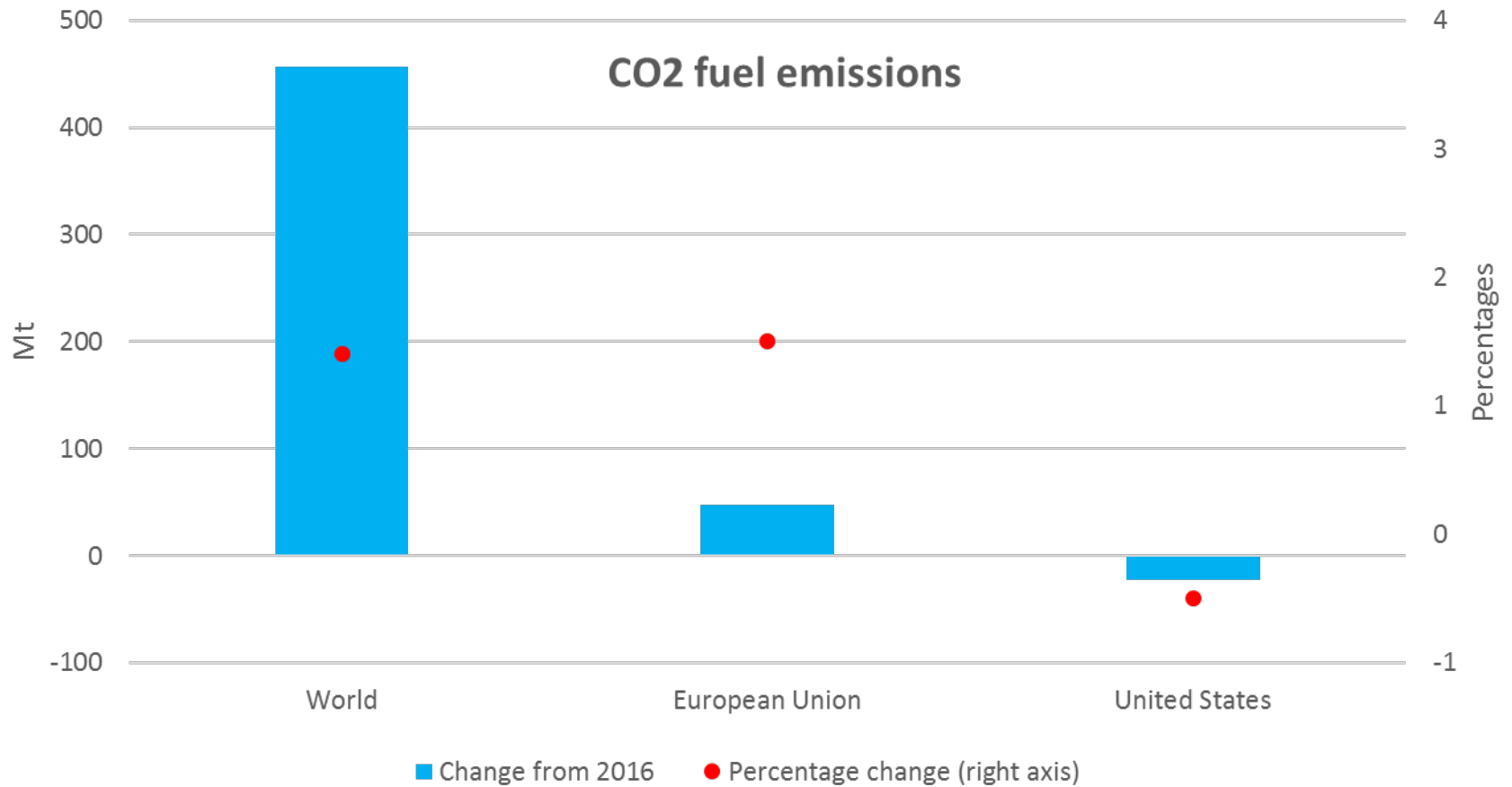
Source: IMF, UNECE



# Economic growth brings increased CO2 fuel emissions



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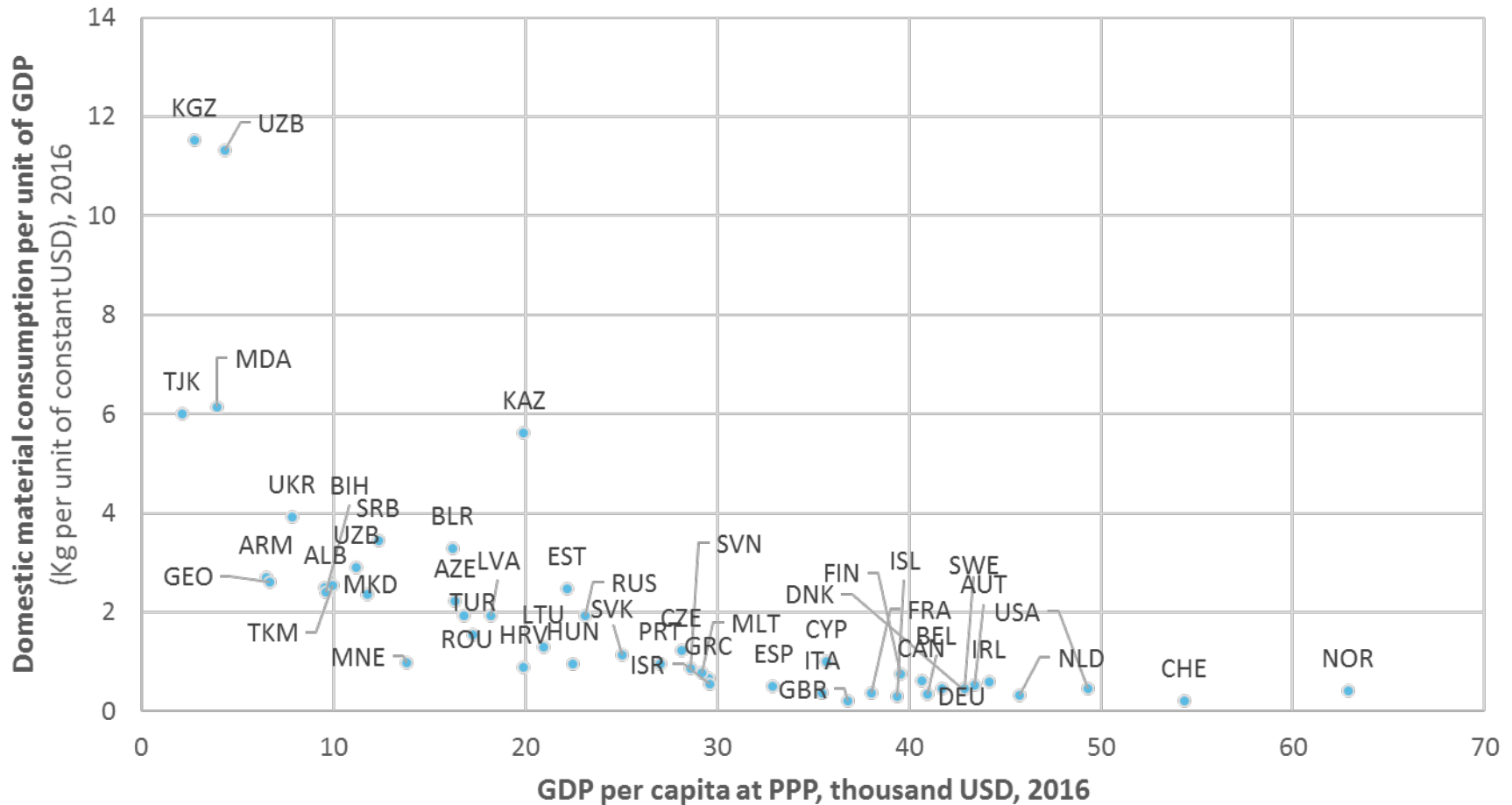


Source: International Energy Agency

# A “circular economy” can reduce high resource intensity



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Source: UN DESA, Global SDG Indicators Database, IMF

# Science-policy interface in UNECE areas of work



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## *Examples*

### ➤ **Multilateral Environmental Agreements**

Collaboration with research centers for data and monitoring; space for further analytical work



### ➤ **Policy reviews (environment, innovation, housing)**

Collaboration with National Research Institutes, scientific experts in intergovernmental working groups



## **REGIONAL FORUM**

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

Participation of Major Group «Scientific and Technological Community»

# Strengthening the science-policy interface in SDG implementation



- **Improve availability and accessibility of scientific input to governments and UN at all levels (national, regional, global)**
- **Reduce complexity to overcome lack of scientific literacy**
- **Enhance multi-disciplinary dialogue and research**
- **Provide evidence for decision-making and solutions**
- **Enhance participation of scientists in intergovernmental discussions**





Thank you!