

# 2025 GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK *A FUTURE WE CHOOSE* SEVENTH EDITION OF THE REPORT PUBLISHED BY UNEP

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In December 2025 the [United Nations Environment Programme \(UNEP\)](#) launched the [Seventh Edition of the Global Environment Outlook: A Future We Choose](#). Why investing in Earth now can lead to a million-dollar benefit for all.

[The Report, a product of 287 multi-disciplinary scientists from 82 countries, is a comprehensive scientific assessment of the global environment.](#) The Report calls on all actors to acknowledge the urgency of the global environmental crises, build on progress made in recent decades, and collaborate in the co-design and implementation of integrated policies, strategies and actions to deliver a better future for all.

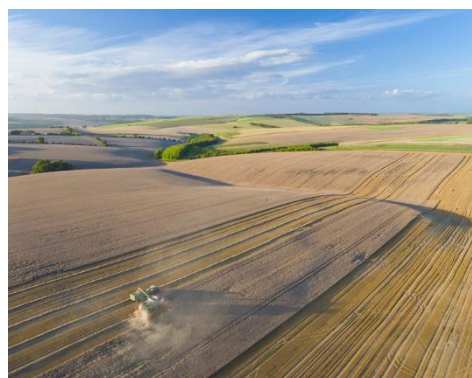
The GEO-7 Outlook brings together the voices of 287 experts from 82 countries, with contributions from over 800 reviewers worldwide. Authors met in Bangkok, Vienna, and Nairobi to prepare the groundbreaking assessment that compares the current trajectory of the global environment, one trending towards catastrophic climate change, the collapse of nature, and growing deadly pollution, with an alternative vision of the future.

For the first time, Indigenous Peoples and traditional knowledge holders from around the world have helped shape the report through a series of dialogues in Mexico, Thailand, and online. Their knowledge and experience, rooted in a deep connection with nature, complement scientific data and offer valuable insights into resilience, stewardship, and living in harmony with the environment.

GEO-7's findings highlight the risks of inaction, but also the enormous potential of sustainable policies, technologies, and community-driven change. Investing in a stable climate and healthy nature could prevent tens of millions of deaths each year and help hundreds of millions of people escape hunger and poverty. The good news is that the economic benefits of this critical transformation will outweigh the costs, with annual benefits projected to begin around 2050 and rise to approximately US\$20 trillion by 2070.

Achieving internationally agreed environmental goals, along with the social and economic benefits they would offer, is still possible, but the window of opportunity is closing fast. Governments and societies must implement transformative solutions across financial, waste, energy, and food systems, and prioritize sustainability and resilience in their approach to managing the environment.

Countries and communities around the world have already started to remake their economies and societies, with significant benefits for their people and the environment. However, much greater effort



is required to deliver solutions that work across all environmental crises at scale. While many forecasts of the GEO-7 report are dire, its authors say humanity has time to right the environmental ship, although the solutions will require a whole-of-society, whole-of-government effort the likes of which has never been seen before, one that protects the natural world while transforming five interconnected systems.

The Report calls on all actors to acknowledge the urgency of the global environmental crises, build on progress made in recent decades, and collaborate in the co-design and implementation of integrated policies, strategies and actions to deliver a better future for all. [The GEO 7 website summarizes the recommendations](#) for the implementation of the envisaged transformative solutions across five key areas, including:

1. Economic and Financial Systems. Countries need to realign their economic policies, spending habits and finance sectors so that they support the environment.
2. Materials and Waste System. Countries need to embrace circular economic models, keeping resources in use for as long as possible through practices like re-design, re-use, repair and recycling.
3. Energy System. The world must abandon fossil fuels and ramp up the production of renewable power, while scaling up energy efficiency.
4. Food System. Farming must become more efficient and less damaging to the environment, while the world needs to shift to sustainable diets and cut down on food waste.
5. Environmental System. The transformation of the four sectors above must be paired with a massive push to protect and restore the natural world.

The Report calls for the parallel co-development and co-implementation of such solutions. Considering diverse knowledge systems, especially Indigenous Knowledge and Local Knowledge, is crucial to just transitions that address both environmental sustainability and human well-being.

The Report calls on governments, non-governmental and multilateral organizations, the private sector, civil society, academia, professional organizations, the public and Indigenous Peoples to acknowledge the urgency of the global environmental crises, build on progress made in recent decades, and collaborate in the co-design and implementation of integrated policies, strategies and actions to deliver a better future for all.

The [Global Environmental Outlook \(GEO\)](#) is a series of reports that review the state and direction of the global environment. It is a global process spearheaded by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) at regional, national, and local levels all over the world. The process provides an assessment of the current state of the environment, an evaluation of the effectiveness of policies and actions taken to address environmental issues, and projections of future environmental trends.

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