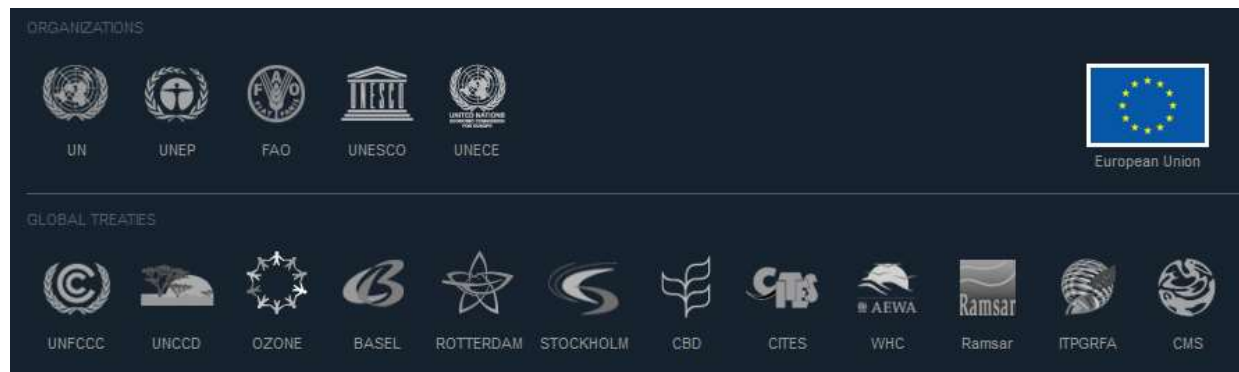


# InforMEA

Informal Advisory Committee to the CHM  
8 December 2017

[video introduction](#)



Promoting collaboration and exchange  
of expertise among MEAs

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# Presentation Overview

- The InforMEA Initiative:
  - who we are
- Inter-operability:
  - elements and prerequisites
- The InforMEA Portal:
  - inform-educate-engage
- Future priorities:
  - Working spaces for national reporters to BD-related Conventions (**DART**)



# The InforMEA Initiative

Participating MEAs jointly work towards sharing information through open access solutions and common standards. The Initiative benefits from an extensive network of partners and institutional support from UNEP and operates through virtual working sessions and annual SC Meetings. It is co-chaired by UNEP and CITES and strongly supported by the European Union.

- CBD (biodiversity)
- CITES (trade in species)
- CMS (migratory species)
- ITPGR-FA (plants & crops)
- Ramsar (wetlands)
- IPPC (plant protection)
- UNESCO-WHC (heritage)
- UNCCD (soil)
- UNFCCC (climate change)
- Montreal Protocol (ozone)
- Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (chemicals and wastes)
- Minamata (mercury)
- [SAICM]-chemicals management
- UNECE (5 MEAs)
- Regional Sea Conventions
- Further regional Conventions (Carpathian, Caspian Sea)

# Interoperability – elements and prerequisites

- **Technical interoperability** (schemas, formats, APIs)
  - Akoma Ntoso – piloting UN document standards for legislative documents
- **Semantic interoperability** – the negotiation of metadata standards
  - topics and concepts (LEO Thesaurus)
  - Future: potential pilot application for **national reports** to BD related MEAs
    - taxonomies,
    - goals and targets,
    - unique identifiers (organizations),
    - geo-reference
- **Managing Knowledge:** resource efficient tagging to metadata sets
  - Testing of (semi-) auto tagging solution piloted on LEO Thesaurus



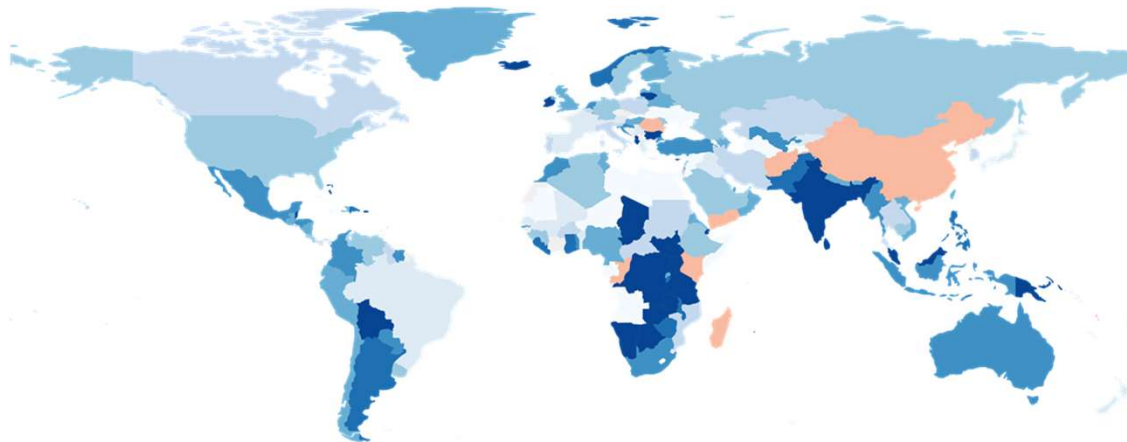
## a) InforMEA - INFORM

- **Party Profiles**
  - National focal points (3,000),
  - National reports (6,000) and National plans (600)
  - National legislation (145,000) powered by FAO/ECOLEX  
Example of a search result to [alien species](#)
  - Case Law (2,000) from UNEP/ECOLEX
- **Treaty Profiles**
  - Analyzed treaty texts (75)
  - governing body decisions (11,000) and videos
  - Joint calendar
  - news updates
- **Goals Section**
  - Aichi, SDGs (including indicators), Global Env. Goals “mapped” to MEAs
- **Document section** (literature, documents - MEAs/IUCN/ECOLEX)
- **LEO Thesaurus** of term concepts and definitions



## a) InforMEA - INFORM

- Usage increased including from developing countries
- Evolution of the number of Sessions from the 2015-2016 to the 2016-2017 periods



THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE  
EUROPEAN UNION



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## b) InforMEA E-learning: EDUCATE

The screenshot shows the InforMEA learning portal. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with the InforMEA logo, the text "InforMEA · learning", a "CONTACT US" link, a "Login" button with a user icon, and a language dropdown set to "ENGLISH". Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads "UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS". The central area features five circular icons representing different environmental topics, each with a corresponding course count in a colored box below it:

- Biological Diversity**: 9 COURSES (green icon of a DNA helix)
- Chemicals and Waste**: 4 COURSES (red icon of a flask)
- Climate, Atmosphere and Land**: 6 COURSES (light blue icon of a sun and clouds)
- International Environmental Law and Governance**: 6 COURSES (orange icon of a classical building)
- Oceans and Freshwater**: 3 COURSES (dark blue icon of waves and fish)

At the bottom of the page, a dark blue banner contains the text "Our courses".

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## c) InforMEA - INVOLVE



### Get Involved

Find out how you can **engage with InforMEA** and **take part** of the volunteers community.

#### ENGAGE WITH INFORMEA

You can give your views on our platform by [contacting us here](#).

Follow our social media channel



Subscribe to newsletter

#### TAKE PART

Do you want to bring valuable information on our platform? Tell us below:

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# Future priorities of InforMEA

The screenshot displays the InforMEA website interface. At the top, a blue header contains the word "header". Below it, a dark banner features the text ">>> Explore 9 FREE courses on Biodiversity . *Learn more*". The main content area has a green background with a search icon and the text "Discover the information in Biodiversity ▾". Below this, a white search bar contains the text "Search in InforMEA" and "in: ALL CATEGORIES", with a blue "SEARCH" button. A navigation bar below the search bar includes the text ">>> SEE GENERAL INFORMATION IN :" followed by buttons for "Global", "Africa", "Asia and The Pacific", "Europe", "Latin America and the Caribbean", "North America", "Polar: Arctic", and "West Asia". The main heading is "Treaties and MEAs". Under "GLOBAL TREATIES", two entries for "Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)" are shown, each with tags: "migratory species, wetland, waterbird". The footer contains logos for UNEP, UNEP-WCMC, and other organizations, along with the text "MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS".

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# I. Why DART - A common space for reporters ?

Reporting is time consuming:

- Involves search of relevant sources/documents
- for more and more detailed formats
- involves a significant number of experts and consultants
- In view of the different cycles and numbers of BD-related conventions, reporting is almost a continuous process at the national level



**Ramsar**  
Start Jan. 2017  
Submit Jan. 2018



**CBD**  
Start June 2017  
Submit End 2018



**AWEA**  
Start Dec. 2017  
Submit April 2018



# I. Why DART - A common space for reporters ?

Aichi Targets	MEA reporting processes									Assessment processes							
	CMS	CITES		Implementation report	ITPGRF A	Ramsar Convention		WHC		IPPC*	FAO				UNEP	IPBES	
	National reports	Annual Reports (illegal trade data)	Annual Reports (trade data)		National reports	Information sheets (RIS)	National reports	Periodic reporting	State of Conservation		SOW BFA	SOWAF A	SOWA QFA	SOWPF A	GEO-6	Global assessment	Regional/sub regional assessments
1	Green			Green			Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
2	Green			Green	Green		Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
3	Green			Green			Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
4	Green			Green			Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
5	Green			Green		Green	Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
6	Green			Green		Green	Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
7	Green			Green			Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
8	Green			Green			Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
9	Green			Green	Green		Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
10	Green			Green			Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
11	Green			Green	Green		Green		Green	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
12	Green	Green	Green	Green			Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
13	Green			Green			Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
14	Green			Green	Green		Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
15	Green			Green			Green			Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
18	Green			Green	Green		Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
19	Green			Green	Green	Green	Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			
20	Green			Green	Green		Green	Green		Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow			

\* IPPC work in progress/pending information

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# Targets – relevant “filter” for BD reports



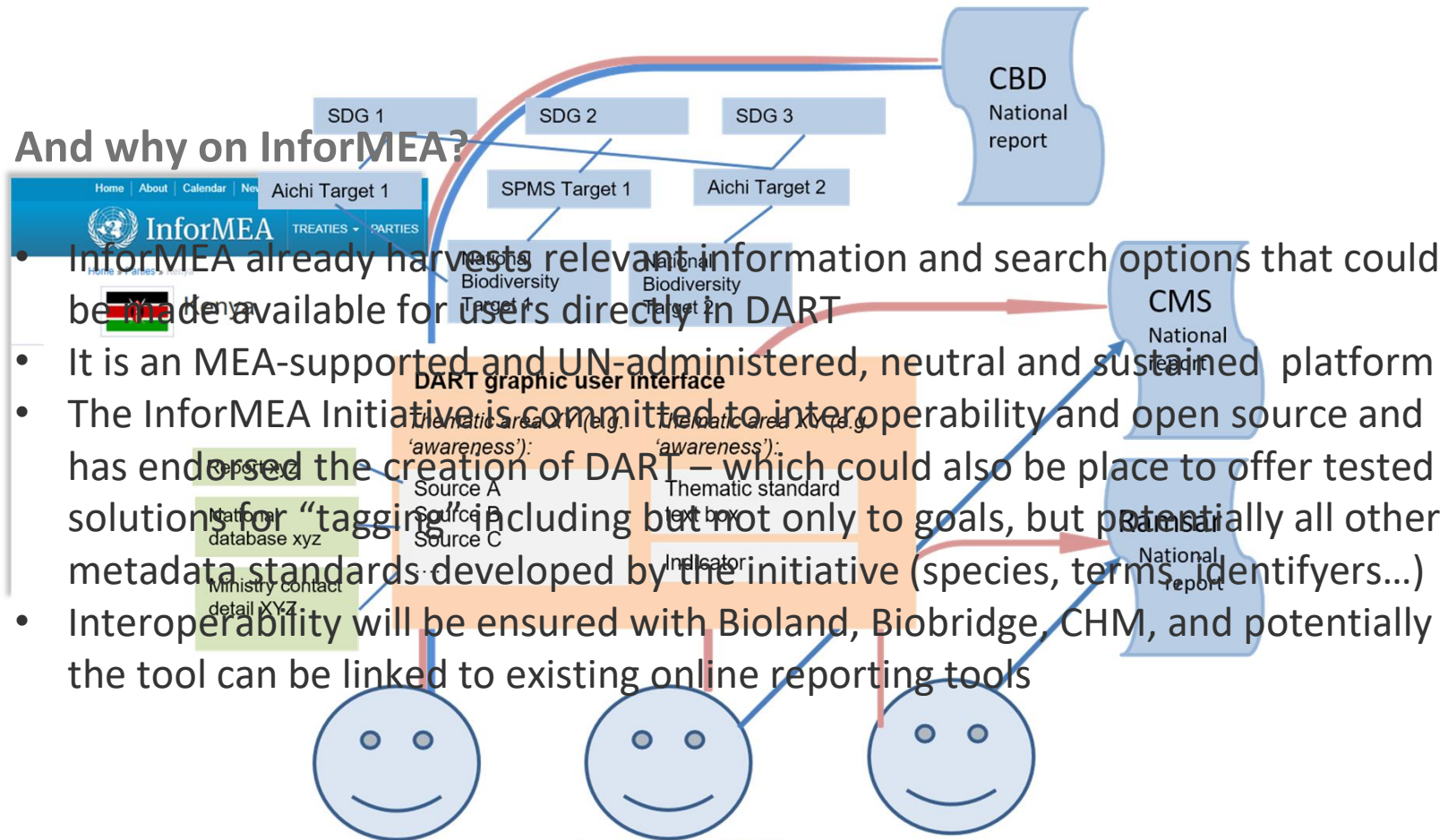
What about other filters:

- Species?
- Location?
- Term concept?

# How might DART work ?

## And why on InforMEA?

- InforMEA already harvests relevant information and search options that could be made available for users directly in DART
- It is an MEA-supported and UN-administered, neutral and sustained platform
- The InforMEA Initiative is committed to interoperability and open source and has endorsed the creation of DART – which could also be place to offer tested solutions for “tagging” including but not only to goals, but potentially all other metadata standards developed by the initiative (species, terms, identifiers...)
- Interoperability will be ensured with Bioland, Biobridge, CHM, and potentially the tool can be linked to existing online reporting tools



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Reporters to MEAS  
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# Thank you!

We look forward to your feed back

[www.Informea.org](http://www.Informea.org)  
[Eva.duer@un.org](mailto:Eva.duer@un.org)

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