

# Dr. Ludgarde Coppens – bio

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**Dr. Ludgarde Coppens is Head of the SDG and Environment Statistics Unit, Science Division, UN Environment.**

**Prior to joining UNEP, she worked in the University of Ghent, Belgium as a researcher and obtained a PhD in Botany in 1988.**

**From 1990, she worked as a civil servant in the Ministry of Public Health and Environment, Belgium, mostly on Multilateral Environmental Agreements.**

**In 2000, she joined UNEP in the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, first as regional coordinator for South Asia, and then as Enforcement and Policy Officer under the OzonAction Programme.**

**She started up the SDG and Environment Statistics Unit in the Science Division, established in 2015 in response to the demands for the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.**

# Panel Discussion – Impact of SWM Data in Developing Countries

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## How can we utilize waste reference to slide on challenges e data for policy intervention in SWM?

- **Why policy is needed: strengthen the evidence base for policy making and stakeholder action**
- **Policies responding to the issue: providing the necessary data and information to inform policies aiming at and reducing impact on the environment and human health**
- **Monitor results and take corrective action**
- **Improve the level and quality of reporting**

## What are the challenges to establish a system for appropriate monitoring and comprehensive analysis of SWM-related SDGs in Africa?

- **Refer to slide on challenges in Africa in the presentation: Intragovernmental communication gaps – lack of human and financial resources – infrequent data from national censuses - Compositional analyses of waste are rare – need for proxy indicators**